

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to remedy the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV) : (a) to (c). No, Sir. During the course of scrutiny of indemnity claims under the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme in Gujarat and Maharashtra, certain procedural and other irregularities in the loaning operations by the loan disbursing agencies have been noticed. The State Governments concerned have been advised to take necessary action in the matter.

Tea Plantations in Forest Land

2429. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Union Government that Orissa Government is permitting tea plantations by some private firms on the forest lands in Thuamula-Rampur area in Kalahandi district of Orissa ;

(b) whether it violates the provisions of the Forests (Conservation) Act, 1980 ;

(c) whether prior approval of Union Government was given for this project ; and

(d) if not, the steps taken to prevent felling of trees in Orissa ;

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Instructions have been issued to the Government of Orissa not to divert any forest land nor to fell any trees in these areas for raising commercial crops, without prior approval of Government of India as required under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Navodaya Vidyalayas and Operation Black-Board

2430. DR. A.K. PATEL :
SHRI JANAK RAJ GUPTA :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to

state :

(a) whether some difficulties have been reported by various States about the implementation of Navodaya Vidyalaya Scheme ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the Operation Black-Board suffered any shortage of funds due to this Scheme ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Keeping in view the fact that the Navodaya Vidyalaya Scheme is in its formative stage and the Vidyalayas are mostly located in the remote rural areas in buildings offered temporarily by the State/Union Territory Administration, certain shortages in suitable teaching staff and availability of physical facilities have been brought to our notice.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Production of Kharif Crops in Maharashtra

2431. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to inadequate irrigational facilities in certain districts of Maharashtra the plantation of Kharif sown during 1987-88 was very less as compared to the corresponding period during 1986-87 ; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to overcome such situations in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV) : (a) The area sown under some Kharif crops during 1987-88 in several districts of Maharashtra was less as compared to 1986-87 largely due to inadequate rainfall.

(b) In order to overcome the situation, the steps taken include the following :