

during 1988-89 to meet the requirements of the industry. About 1.5 million tonnes of scrap, including hot briquetted iron, has already been imported. Further imports are being made during the current year.

Import of Seeds

2905. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of seeds imported during the last three years;

(b) the amount spent on the import of seeds annually and the names of the countries from which seeds are being imported;

(c) the details of amount spent annually on Agricultural Research Institutions and Universities which are engaged in developing better quality of seeds in the country; and

(d) Government's policy to produce better quality seeds in the country and save foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) and (b). The details of seeds imported during 1983-84, 1984-85 and 1985-86, as available, are as under:-

| 1983-84 | | 1984-85 | | 1985-86 | | Source |
|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|--|
| Qty. | Value | Qty. | Value | Qty. | Value | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 303 | 21.82 | 64 | 28.42 | 33.172 | 30.16 | Japan, U.S.A., Nepal, Australia, Netherland, Singapore, Zimbabwe, Denmark, German F. Republic, Italy, Thailand and Guinea. |

(c) Year-wise expenditure on crop Institutes, National Research Centres, Project Directorates and all Agricultural Universities for 1985-86 to 1987-88 are as follows:-

| Year | (Rs. in lakhs) |
|---------|----------------|
| 1985-86 | 8886.80 |
| 1986-87 | 8941.00 |
| 1987-88 | 10026.05 |

(d) Government of India is giving highest priority to the development of improved varieties/hybrids of various crops and production of breeder seeds and has a policy to evolve and multiply high quality seeds of hybrid varieties of various crops. The quality

seed produced indigenously is expected to meet the requirement of the country.

Holding Company Concept for Reorganisation of Major Ports

2906. DR. B. L. SHAILESH. Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for a holding company concept for reorganisation of major ports;

(b) if so, the modalities thereof; and

(c) the extent to which it is likely to im-