

ing to open a visa office in Tel-Aviv, Israel;

(b) whether Government also propose to upgrade its relations with Israel; and

(c) the broad outlines of the discussions held in this regard with Mr. Stephen Solarz, U.S. Congressman during his recent visit to this country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K.K. TEWARY): (a) and (b). There is no proposal under consideration either to open a visa office in Tel-Aviv or to upgrade relations with Israel.

(c) The subject of relations with Israel was incidental to other substantive discussions on regional issues with Mr. Stephen Solarz Chairman of the US Congressional Sub-Committee on Asia and the Pacific. Our consistent and principled policy on the Palestinian question and the related issue of relations with Israel was explained.

Crop Insurance Scheme

235. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE:
SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether review of Comprehensive crop Insurance Scheme undertaken by Government to make it financially viable has been completed;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the time by which the revised scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF

AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) to (c). A Group to conduct an indepth and critical review on the functioning of the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS), was constituted under the Chairmanship of an Additional Secretary in the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation with a review to suggesting policy changes therein. The Group has since submitted its Report to the Government which is under consideration.

[*Translation*]

Amount spent under Mini Technology Missions to Solve the Drinking Water

236. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent district-wise in different States under Technology Mission on drinking water and the achievements thereof;

(b) whether the achievements made by the above Mission in the desert areas of Rajasthan are in sufficient;

(c) whether Government propose to solve the drinking water problem in these areas by taking special interest in the implementation of the above Mission; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a). A Statement showing the amount spent in mini mission project areas (districts) in various States/UTs under the National Drinking Water Mission is given below. Out of 13084 hard-core villages in these mini