

run-ways, vast open land, roads in the depot compounds, etc. Despite all precautions like use of proper dunnage and covering the stacks with poly-the covers, damage to stocks could not be avoided mainly on account of unprecedented, incessant, heavy rains, cyclones, floods, etc. In a few cases where the damage has occurred due to negligence of staff, necessary enquiries have been instituted by the F.C.I.

Supply of Seeds and Fertiliser in Chidambaram, Tamil Nadu

4701. SHRI A. MURUGESAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the difficulties experienced in Chidambaram and South Arcot Districts of Tamil Nadu in getting regular supply of fertilisers and seeds at reasonable rates; and

(b) whether Government propose to review the distribution system so as to bring the supply within easy reach of the users?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) The supply of fertilizers and seeds within a State is organised by the State Government. The Central Government are not aware of any difficulty experienced in Chidambaram and South Arcot Districts of Tamil Nadu in getting regular supply of fertilizers and seeds at reasonable rates.

(b) In view of (a) above, the question does not arise.

Scarcity of Water in Tamil Nadu

4702. SHRI A. MURUGESAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the acute scarcity of water in Tamil Nadu particularly in Chidambaram and South Arcot Districts; and

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to ensure availability of the minimum volume of water for drinking and irrigation purposes?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) and (b). A number of medium and major irrigation Schemes were taken up during the various Plan periods; as a result of which more than 6000 hectares of area has been provided with irrigation facilities in South Arcot District. Recently a scheme for excavation of Right Bank Canal from Sathnur Pick-up Anicut has been sanctioned to irrigate about 5000 hectares. No scheme for irrigation in Chidambaram District has been received from the Tamil Nadu Government.

Settlement of Inter-State Water Dispute

4703. SHRI S. R. DAMANI:
SHRI P. S. RAMALINGAM:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) how many inter-State water disputes are pending settlement and the names of States involved in each case;

(b) the cases which are likely to be settled by mutual discussions between States and those referred to Tribunals;

(c) the schemes that are held up as a result of the disputes; and

(d) what steps are taken by the Centre to speed up settlements?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) to (d). 18 major and 14 medium irrigation schemes in the major river basins are pending clearance because of the inter-State differences. Of these, one major and one medium irrigation schemes are in the Godavari Basin and four major and six medium irrigation schemes in the Narmada Basin.