

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b). Drought Prone Area Programme is already in operation in Madhya Pradesh. The main programme components are irrigation, soil conservation, animal husbandry afforestation and agriculture. This programme would be continued in the next Plan subject to modifications considered necessary in the programme itself and the changes that may be brought about by the new approach to Integrated Rural Development.

Rural Indebtedness in States

3558. SHRI SUKHENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of peasants and other rural poor people who were given credits by the Nationalised Banks during the Emergency in order to save them from the hands of money-lenders;

(b) how many States have already wiped off rural indebtedness; and

(c) its progress State-wise, particularly in the State of Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH): (a) The nationalised banks maintain data of agricultural advances which are compiled on a quarterly basis. Direct advances by the State Bank of India Group and Nationalised Banks to persons owning land upto 5 acres for agriculture (outstandings) by September, 1976 amounted to Rs. 248.93 crores against the total direct advances of Rs. 813.23 crores for agriculture. Similar figures for subsequent periods are yet to become available.

(b) and (c). So far 11 States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tri-

pura Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal and the Union Territories of Chandigarh, Delhi Pondicherry Andaman & Nicobar Admn. Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Lakshadweep have taken complete legislative action for removal of rural indebtedness to private money-lenders by imposition of moratorium on recovery of debts and total discharge of debts of marginal farmers, agricultural labourers and rural artisans having an annual income upto 2,400/- and scaling down of debts of small farmers. The States of Assam, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab and Kerala have taken action for imposition of moratorium and total discharge of debts. The Gov. of Bihar have taken action for total discharge of debts of farmers having land upto 4 acres. The States of Manipur, Maghala -
laya and Orissa and the Union Territory of Goa, Diu and Daman have taken action for imposition of moratorium on recovery of debts. The Govt. of Jammu & Kashmir had enacted the Jammu & Kashmir Debtor's Relief Act, 1976 to provide relief to agriculturists. The problems of rural indebtedness is reported not to exist in Nagaland and the Union Territories of Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh.

In the case of Madhya Pradesh, the Madhya Pradesh Gramin Rin Vimukti Thatha Rin Sthagan Adhiniyan, 1975 (as amended on 13-5-1976, 7-10-76 and 24-11-76) provides for total discharge of debts of landless labourers, marginal farmers and rural artisans and moratorium on recovery of debts of small farmers. The Act. provides for adoption of double the land holding norms in the case of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Lessons on Nandhiji in Secondary Schools

3559. SHRI B. K. NAIR: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any proposals under consideration to introduce in

the curriculum of secondary schools, lessons on Gandhiji's life and death and his teachings; and

(b) if so, whether separate books on the life of Mahatma Gandhi will be prescribed in the curriculum for compulsory study?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER): (a) and (b). The life and teachings of Mahatma Gandhi are adequately emphasised and given due place in the syllabi and textbooks developed by the National Council of Educational Research and Training for primary middle and secondary classes. As such there is no proposal to prepare separate books on the life of Mahatma Gandhi and prescribe them in the curriculum.

Supply of Paddy Seed at Price below procurement price

3560. SHRI B. K. NAIR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that whereas the cultivators of paddy in Kerala get only Rs. 110/- to Rs. 120/- per quintal of paddy in the open market the procurement price is only Rs. 25/- per quintal; and

(b) whether the National Seeds Corporation of India is charging Rs 225 per quintal of paddy seed and whether Government would arrange for the supply of seed at a price not exceeding the procurement price, the processing charges being borne by the Government itself?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) The procurement price of coarse variety paddy has been fixed at Rs. 77/- per quintal for 1977-78 Kharif marketing season. The procurement price for other varieties of paddy has also been raised correspondingly by Rs. 3/- per quintal over those fixed for 1976-77. With the removal of zonal restrictions on movement of paddy and rice, the farmers may get higher price for their produce. The current market price is Rs. 110 to 120 per quintal in Kerala.

(b) The sale price of NSC paddy seed ranges between Rs. 180/- to Rs. 222/- per quintal depending on variety. The Government at present have no proposal to subsidise the sale price of paddy seeds by meeting the processing charges.

सेन्ट्रल स्कूल में पदोन्नति

3561. श्री दयाराम शाक्य : क्या शिक्षा, समाज कल्याण और संस्कृति मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि केन्द्रीय विद्यालयों में नियुक्ति की तारीख को ध्यान में रख कर वरिष्ठता के आधार पर पदोन्नति नहीं दी जाती है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं और इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार द्वारा क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है ?

शिक्षा, समाज कल्याण तथा संस्कृति मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती रेणुका देवी बड़कटकी) : (क) और (ख) केन्द्रीय विद्यालय संगठन नियुक्ति, पदोन्नति, वरिष्ठता इत्यादि नियमावली, 1971 के अनुसार, शिक्षण पदों पर निम्नलिखित ढंग से पदोन्नति की जाती है :—

(1) गैर प्रवरण पदों के मामले में, वरिष्ठता के आधार पर, बशर्ते कि जो अयोग्य हों, उन्हें न लिया जाए ।

(2) प्रवरण पदों के मामले में, वरिष्ठता का सम्यक् ध्यान करते हुए