

और देश में बाढ़ नियंत्रण की समस्या के प्रति एक समन्वित, एकीकृत और वैज्ञानिक कार्य पद्धति का विकास करने के लिए राष्ट्रीय बाढ़ आयोग की भी स्थापना की है ।

Expenditure on agriculture and allied research work

4393. SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount spent on agriculture and allied research work in the current year;

(b) whether any new inventions have been made and, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the manner in which their applications is likely to strengthen the country's agricultural economy?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research is likely to spend an amount of Rs 62 65 crores during 1977-78. In addition, the research on agriculture and allied field is also carried out under the auspices of State Governments in their Agricultural Universities and State Research Stations, for which allocations are made from State Budgets.

(b) Yes, Sir. The research on agriculture and allied fields is pursued by the I.C.A.R. through 31 Central Institutes, 4 Project Directorates, 51 All-India Coordinated Research Projects and 21 Agricultural Universities besides a few public, quasi-public and private Institutions in the country. The new research inventions made in the field of crops, commodities, animal sciences and farming systems, etc. are published annually in the form of

Research Reports, Research Highlights, bulletins and books on specialised subjects. A few of the important findings during the last year are mentioned below:

A number of high yielding varieties of rice, namely 'Akashi' and 'Rasi' were released for problem soils specially those with low phosphate and for rainfed upland conditions of U. P., parts of M.P., Bihar, Orissa, West Bengal and Karnataka. A short duration variety CRM 30 maturing in 70 to 75 days was also identified for rainfed—upland areas. For low land areas where the submergence does not exceed 50 cms, CR 1006, CR 1009, CR 1012, CR 1014 were identified as promising varieties. These varieties are expected to stabilise rice production in problem areas during kharif.

Research programme in wheat achieved significant success in terms of production and gaining confidence of farmers. Six new varieties were recommended viz. HD 2204 and IWP 72 for North-Western Plain zone including Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Western UP and J&K; K-7410 and HUW-12 for North-Eastern Plain zone including Bihar, West Bengal, Assam, Orissa, Manipur, Tripura and Meghalaya; HW 657 for Penninsular India including Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu; and VL 421 for Northern Hill areas of U.P., Jammu and Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh.

In pulses two high-yielding varieties of gram BG 203 for North Plain West Zone and K-468 for North Plain East Zone and one variety of Kharif Moong ML 5 and two Lentil varieties Panth 209 and Panth 406 were released.

In National Demonstrations conducted in farmers' fields, it was possible to obtain a total foodgrain production of 10 tonnes or more per hectare per year with assured inputs and improved technology, by growing two to three crops in rotations. Rice-Rice-

Rice, Rice-Wheat-Rice, Rice-Maize-Rice and Rice-Wheat are some of the rotations found profitable.

Azolla, a water fern, has been found to be a good source of bio-fertilizer in rice fields as it contains nitrogen-fixing blue-green algae on its leaves.

Mixing of powdered groundnut shells and rice husk in Red Chalka Soils of Andhra Pradesh improved the soil physical condition and yields of groundnut, bajra and wheat.

Considerable progress has also been made in animal sciences and fisheries research. A Purse Seine has been developed to increase marine fish catch especially of varieties like sardine and mackerel from small class fishing vessels.

(c) The agricultural economy of the country is under-going transformation as a result of the introduction of new agricultural technology. The production of wheat alone during 1966-67 to 1976-77 has increased to nearly two and a half times its initial value. The country has now stopped importing foodgrains and has built up a comfortable buffer stock.

Schemes under Rural Employment Projects

4394. SHRI S R DAMANI Will the minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state

(a) what are the schemes adopted under the Rural Employment Projects;

(b) how much money was spent during the current year on these schemes in each State and the new employment generated thereunder; and

(c) what further schemes are thought of for the coming years together with their employment potential?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH). (a) to (c). With a view to creating additional employment in the rural areas by utilisation of stored foodgrains, a scheme has been taken up with effect from April 1, 1977. Under this scheme wheat and/or milo is made available to States to pay part or full wages to labourers in kind for creation of durable assets. During the current year foodgrains worth Rs. 25.70 crores have been released to the State Governments of Assam, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Maharashtra, Orissa, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. A statement showing the quantity of wheat and milo allocated to different States is enclosed.

During the year 1978-79, it is proposed to take up 2,000 out of the 3,000 blocks already covered by one or more of the special area development or beneficiary oriented programmes for intensive coverage. In addition, 300 blocks per year will be taken up for detailed area planning for full employment. A budget provision of Rs 20 crores has been made for the next year for block area planning.

These Central Schemes are in addition to the various special programmes that are going on the States which are also generating rural employment.