

Parties/Organisations being helped by F.C.I in securing loans to construct Warehouses

9130 SHRI S S LAL Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that under the guarantee scheme some private parties and organisations are being helped by Food Corporation of India in securing loans from banks and other financial institutions, to construct warehouses;

(b) if so, the number of parties/organisations so involved and in which States;

(c) the quantum of financial help sought and the nature of F.C.I's role in securing it for the parties, and

(d) whether the required capacity of warehouses will be achieved before the onset of the monsoon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH) (a) Yes Sir

(b) A total number of 541 parties are involved in the States of Assam, Bihar, West Bengal NEF Region, Orissa, Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, and Maharashtra

(c) The quantum of financial help sought is based on a unit of 5 000 tonnes godown which is estimated to cost Rs 8 lakhs 75 per cent of the total cost of construction can be availed of by the parties by way of loan After inspection and negotiation an agreement is signed between the party and the FCI agreeing to take over capacity constructed Based on this agreement the party is able to obtain loans from the banks The loan bears a concessional rate of interest as Agricultural Refinance Development Corporation (ARDC) refinancing is available

(d) Majority of the contracted capacity is likely to be delivered before the on-set of the monsoon However, some parties may not be able to complete their construction in time

Losses by Irrigation Projects

9131 SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state

(a) the losses incurred by the various irrigation projects during the last three years and

(b) the reasons for these losses?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJEET SINGH BARNALA): (a) The losses on commercial and non-commercial irrigation works and multi-purpose river valley projects in 1976-77 is reported to be Rs 244.24 crores The State-wise break-up is given in the attached statement Losses incurred by the various irrigation projects during 1977-78 and 1978-79 are not available The water rates are fixed by the States, the revenues are collected and the accounts maintained by them

(b) The water rates at present being charged by the States are low and are not adequate to meet the total working expenses and interest charges.