

Air dropping of foodgrains in N.E. States

4986. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether foodgrains were recently air dropped in the North Eastern States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) and (b). During the period from 1st April to the 16th July, 1980, a total of 6,42,054 kgs of foodgrains were air-dropped by the IAF at the following places in Mizoram:—

Farakwan, Tawanklang, Mamit, Sangpphulien, Thingsei, Khawdungsi, Khawallan, Phaibung, South Phullen, Phuldongsi, North Helimen Area, Vangawng, Pukpui, Mimbuc Sangau, Chwangte, Vambuk, Kharwdungjea, Phulleng, Vanvayang, Diltang Sunwpho, Vanvwary, Diltalong, Lunpha, Yambuk, Bipui, Kwalben and Nagopa.

Release of advance plan assistance for scarcity affected areas

4987. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to release advance plan grants for the relief work in the scarcity affected areas in the country.

(b) if so, the details regarding the amount provided to each State so far in this regard; and

(c) the procedure adopted by Government while releasing these grants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) The present policy and arrangements for financing the expenditure necessitated by drought through revised am-

ounts of margin money and advance plan assistance have been adopted on the recommendations of the 7th Finance Commission. These arrangements mark a considerable liberalisation of the previous arrangements and do not call for any change.

(b) As per the existing pattern, the amount provided to each drought affected State is as under:—

Name of the State	Rs. in lakhs	
	Approved ceiling of expenditure	
	1979-80	1980-81
Andhra Pradesh	2205	1964
Bihar	1182	2482
Gujarat	Not requested for	612
Himachal Pradesh	370	1001
Mahya Pradesh	2280	4790
Maharashtra	854	Not requested for
Orissa	1405	1739
Rajasthan	1875	2010
Uttar Pradesh	3491	4752
West Bengal	1304	Not requested for
Haryana ¹	450	-do
Jammu & Kashmir	279	-do-

(c) The quantum of assistance to be given to each State is determined on the basis of the expenditure assessed by the Central Team and the High Level Committee having regard to the circumstances of each case. The extent of population affected, particularly small and marginal farmers, landless labourers and other weaker sections needing relief is taken into account