

### Acute shortage of Foodgrains

2822. SHRI D. P. JADEJA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country is facing an acute shortage of wheat and other foodgrains;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to solve the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) and (b). No, Sir. Owing to the wide spread drought during 1979-80, while the off-take from Government stocks increased substantially in Public Distribution System as well as under Food for Work Programme, the decline in production of foodgrains led to lower procurement. Wheat stocks have depleted to some extent, but rice stocks are adequate.

(c) In order to conserve wheat stocks, allotment of wheat from Central Pool to States has been rationalised. As a result of this policy, the wheat allotments had been reduced keeping in view the pattern of off-take and more rice in lieu of wheat is being allotted. The procurement of paddy and other Kharif grains has been intensified.

### Memoranda prepared on each State Under U.N.D.P. W.H.O. etc.

2823. SHRI K. T. KOSALRAM: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of sector memoranda for each State and Union Territory prepared under the Co-operative Programme of U.N.D.P., W.H.O., and World Bank for providing basic in-

formation needed for planning the drinking water supply;

(b) the suggestions made in this respect at the conference organised recently at the National Environmental Engineering Research Institute Nagpur; and

(c) the names of States that have finalised detailed planning in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH): (a) The Sector Memoranda prepared with the co-operation of UNDP and W.H.O. contain details such as institutions, manpower training, service levels, operation and maintenance facilities, financial resources etc. Sector Memoranda for some of the States and Union territories have already been finalised and are under finalisation for the rest.

(b) Some of the important suggestions are:

(i) an organisation should be created at the National level to co-ordinate the efforts of the States and formulate national policies;

(ii) the Work Plan for Water Supply and Sanitation should be taken on priority basis during the International Decade on Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation.

(iii) Organisations at the National level should Coordinate Research and Development Programmes with States, Universities, etc.

(iv) A part of the total investment should be earmarked for strengthening infrastructural facilities of research institutions.

(c) All the States and Union territories have furnished the details which will be finalised at the national level shortly.