

teachers is far less than in other fields;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to raise it to bring it at par with awards in other fields; and

(c) whether any representations have been received to this effect from teachers Association and the action taken on them?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) and (b). National Awards to teachers are only tokens of appreciation intended to encourage teachers and give them public recognition. It will not be correct to assess them only on money value. In any case, if the number of awards is also taken into account, there can be no question of disparity.

(c) No, Sir.

Dissatisfaction amongst scientists of Central Tuber Crops Research Institute Trivandrum

2846. SHRI A. K. SAHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the dissatisfaction amongst the scientists of the Central Tuber Crops Research Institute, Trivandrum, on account of the mismanagement of the Institute by the Director;

(b) whether any enquiry has been instituted in the matter; and

(c) if so, the result thereof and what action has been taken or is proposed to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Some of the Scientists and other staff of the Institute had some complaints and grievances against its Director.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Two Deputy Directors General from the Headquarters of the ICAR were deputed to the Institute in October, 1979, to look into the complaints and grievances of the Scientists and other staff. In view of the recommendations made by these Deputy Directors General, the Director General, ICAR, and the Secretary of the Council, made a personal visit to the Institute between the 28th and 30th April, 1980 to make an on-the-spot assessment of the situation. Director General's visit and advice had a salutary effect on the situation and, by and large, normalcy in the working of the Institute, which had been affected because of the agitation by some of the Scientists and other staff against the Director has now been restored.

In order to find a long-term solution to the problems in the Institute the Director of the Institute has been transferred to another Research Station under the Council. Three Scientists, whose performance was not upto the desired level and who were playing the role of the ring leaders to keep the agitation going against the Institute's management, have also been transferred to other Institutes.

Illegal fishing by Thai fishing vessel on Orissa coast

2847. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:

SHRI K. A. SWAMI:

SHRI C. CHINNASWAMY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Thai fishing vessels with crew of 36 was recently apprehended off the Orissa coast, catching fish illegally in Indian waters;

(b) whether the arrested crew have claimed that they were fishing under authority of an Indian charter order;

(c) whether any investigation has been made into the matter and the outcome thereof; and

(d) whether it is a fact that a large number of Thai, Korean, and Taiwan fishing vessels are regularly poaching in Indian waters without any action being taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN):

(a) Yes, Sir. But the number of crew is 35 as reported to us by the Government of Orissa.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The charter period of the detained vessel was found to have lapsed in August, 1980. An advice was given to have 50 per cent of the catch confiscated as fine. However, on a Writ application by the foreign collaborator, the High Court of Orissa has ordered that the catch should not be confiscated until the adjudication is made under the statute.

(d) No, Sir.

Rs. 4.5 crore programme for fuel wood Plantation

2848. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Rs. 4.5 crore programme of rural fuel wood plantation had been launched by the Central Government in order to provide for greater need of fuel wood in the country;

(b) whether any amount has been made available to the Government of West Bengal for expenditure towards the fuel wood plantation in the hill districts of that State; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN):

(a) An amount of Rs. 4.5 crores is provided in 1980-81 budget for fuel-wood plantation Scheme but the scheme is still to be launched.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The question does not arise.

Establishment of head post Office at Ichalkranji, Kolhapur and Gadhinlaj

2849. SHRI R. S. MANE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) by what time the additional Head Post Office, already sanctioned for Ichalkranji will start;

(b) by what time work of the building of the additional Post Office already sanctioned will start;

(c) whether the demand of the additional Head Post Offices at Kolhapur and Gadhinlaj will be sanctioned; and

(d) if so, by what time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KARTIK ORAON): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d). Additional Head Post Office at Kolhapur has since been sanctioned and has been functioning with effect from 1st October, 1980 as Kolhapur City Head Post Office. Additional Head Post Office at Gadhinlaj is not justified at present in accordance with the Departmental norms.

New Authority to Protect Fishing Operations

2850. SHRI K. A. SWAMI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new authority is being contemplated to protect the