

Plan for Integrated Rural Development

120. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of RURAL RECONSTRUCTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since formulated a comprehensive plan of action for the Integrated Rural Development; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. The various on-going programmes viz. Small Farmers Development Agency, Integrated Rural Development, Special Livestock Production Programme, Training of Rural Youth for Self-Employment (TRYSEM) etc. have been amalgamated into a single comprehensive programme of Integrated Rural Development, and the new programme has been extended to all the blocks in the country.

(b) The programme envisages assistance to about 3,000 families per block during the current plan period for enabling them to raise their incomes above the poverty line. The assistance will be in the form of subsidy @ 25 per cent to the small farmers and 33 1/3 per cent to marginal farmers 50 per cent to tribals and the balance amount of the cost of investment will be met through institutional finance. The programme will be implemented by District Rural Development Agencies, on the lines of the existing SFDA/DPAP agencies which will be set up in all the districts in the country. An allocation

of Rs. 5 lakhs per block is being made in the current year which will be shared by the Centre and the States on a matching basis.

Allotment of Foodgrains to West Bengal

121. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that allotment of foodgrains for the public distribution system in West Bengal has recently been reduced;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the actual deliveries against the monthly requirements for the State for the last six months; and

(d) the steps taken to improve the supply position?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) & (b). Allotment of wheat has been rationalized keeping in view the overall stock position with the Government, offtake in the State and the movement constraints. The reduction in the wheat allotment is being compensated by increased allotment of rice to the extent necessary.

(c) A statement is attached.

(d) To ensure sufficient supplies the movement of foodgrains to West Bengal has been geared up. As compared to 1979, the average monthly movement of foodgrains during the current year has been higher by about 42 thousand tonnes per month.

Actual deliveries against the monthly requirements for West Bengal for the months of April-November, 1980

(In thousand tonnes)

Month 1980	Demand		Allotment		Supplies	
	Rice	Wheat PD	Rice	Wheat PD	Rice	Wheat PD
April	150 0	250 0	150 0	150 0	71 4	40 0
May	150 0	250 0	150 0	150 0	63 7	42 2
June	156 6	250 0	156 0	150 0	61 4	44 8
July	150 0	250 0	150 0	150 0	99 6	67 9
August	150 0	250 0	175 0	100 0	79 7	63 5
September	150 0	250 0	175 0	100 0	93 0	77 2
October	175 0	250 0	175 0	55 0	NR	NR
November	175 0	150 0	175 0	55 0	NR	NR

N.R. — Not reported.

Stoppage of Food for Work Programme in West Bengal

122. SHRI CHITTA BASU:

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN:

Will the Minister of RURAL RECONSTRUCTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of schemes under the Food for Work Programme in West Bengal have been kept in abeyance for want of foodgrains; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have so far taken to ensure the steady supply of foodgrains for the continuance of the programme?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO): (a) and (b). There is no problem in regard to the allocation of foodgrains for West Bengal. This State had an unutilised balance of 95,000 tonnes of foodgrains on 1-4-80. During 1980-81, the additional quantity allocated so far is 1 lakh tonnes. Thus the total availability of foodgrains during the current

year is 1,95,000 metric tonnes. The quantity actually utilised in the State is very much less than even 50 per cent of the allocated quantity. Hence, the question of non-availability of foodgrains does not arise and there is no reason by a large number of schemes need be kept in abeyance.

Fixation of Procurement Price of Paddy

123. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently fixed the procurement price of paddy;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the considerations on which the procurement price of paddy has been fixed; and

(c) the reaction of the farmers with regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.