

### Encouragement of Agriculture in Tribal Areas

949. SHRI BHEEKHABHAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any special scheme for encouraging the agriculture amongst tribal people in tribal areas of various States;

(b) whether Government have sent abroad tribal employees for training; and

(c) if so, the names of the States from which they were selected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) Programmes for the development of Scheduled Tribes are being implemented as part of the Tribal Sub-Plans. Such programmes being implemented by the States are included in the State Plans. So far as the Central Plan is concerned, a number of specific schemes have been identified in the Central and Centrally Sponsored Sectors for the development of Scheduled Tribes. Some of the important schemes taken up specifically for the benefit of scheduled tribes are given in the Statement laid on the table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1416/80].

(b) and (c). Under the Poultry Development Programme, one officer from Manipur belonging to scheduled tribes has recently been deputed for training in U.K. in the field of Duck-Breeding. Under the Feed and Fodder Development Programme, another officer belonging to scheduled tribe from Tamil Nadu was deputed for training in Australia under the UNDP Grassland and Fodder Development Project. An officer from Nagaland participated in FAO/Finland Training Course on farmented milk held in Finland.

### Houses for Economically Weaker Sections

950. SHRI BHEEKHABHAI: SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI:

Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme has been framed for housing of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe and weaker sections in rural areas;

(b) if so, the names of such areas;

(c) whether Government contemplate to launch any housing scheme in these areas; and

(d) to what extent the Central Works and Housing Ministry is particularly in the development of tribal sub-plan areas of various States?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH): (a) to (d). Housing is a State subject and is primarily the responsibility of the States to cater for the specific needs of the different categories of people. All the social housing schemes, except the Subsidised Housing Scheme for Plantation Workers, are in the State Sector. The role of the Central Government is confined to financial assistance to the States in the shape of 'block loans' and 'block grants' without their being tied to any particular scheme or head of development. Further, social housing schemes introduced by this Ministry are based on income criterion and not on caste, creed or community.

### Reconstitution of Central Social Welfare Board

951. SHRI BHEEKHABHAI: Will Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Social Welfare Board has been constituted;