

facing a lot of difficulties due to short supply of high quality seeds by Government;

(b) if so, the efforts Government propose to make to augment the supply of high quality seeds and financial credit to the Jute growers; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Import of foodgrains

2312. SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the quantity of import of foodgrains during the last three years (year-wise)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): Purchase of cereals from abroad had been discontinued since June, 1976 onwards. However, against the import arrangements made prior to June, 1976, a quantity of 1.79 lakh tonnes of wheat was received as aid in 1977-78. There has been no import of cereals during 1978-79 and 1979-80.

Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for development of Indian Languages

2613. SHRI GIRDHAN GOMANGO: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the financial assistance provided by his Ministry to different voluntary organisations for the development of Indian languages in 1979-80 and 1980-81;

(b) the names of organisations and the quantum of assistance released in these years;

(c) the languages covered under this scheme for the development and promotion of languages therefor;

(d) the steps taken by his Ministry to preserve the oral languages so far; and

(e) the funds provided to the tribal voluntary organisations or the promotion, propagation and preservation of the script invented by them of their language so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): (a) to (e). Under the scheme of "Assistance to Voluntary Organisations/Educational Institutions for promotion of Indian languages" grants are given to Voluntary Organisations which are registered under the Societies Registration Act, in all languages, (other than Hindi and Sanskrit for which there are separate schemes) as set out in the VIII Schedule to the Constitution of India and other recognised languages, including tribal languages used in India.

A statement containing a list of Voluntary Organisations to whom grants have been given during 1979-80, 1980-81 is attached No. grant has so far been given to any Voluntary Organisation for the development of script. The Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore has been working on 40 tribal and border languages. The institute has published a number of phonetic readers, grammars, dictionaries, school primers, adult literary primers etc. in some of these languages. As regards the scripts, the Government is of the view that matter of choosing the script for a language should be left to the people who speak that language.