

Central Aid to Haryana for Schemes under Ministry of Agriculture

2727. SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of financial assistance given to Haryana Government for various schemes under the Ministry of Agriculture during 1980; and

(b) the amount to be given during 1981 (scheme-wise)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) The Central assistance is given to the States for various Plan schemes with reference to the financial year and not with reference to calendar year. During the financial year 1980-81 (from 1-4-80) the financial assistance totalling Rs. 23.97 lakhs has so far (upto 28-2-81) been sanctioned to the Government of Haryana for various Plan Schemes under the Ministry of Agriculture.

(b) The amount to be given during the financial year 1981-82 will be determined after the financial year starts keeping in view various factors like funds voted by the Parliament, requirements of funds furnished by Haryana Government, progress of Plan Schemes, pace of expenditure thereon and the unspent balance lying with the State Government out of amounts released in earlier years.

Tobacco Cultivation in Haryana

2728. SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total area under Tobacco cultivation in Haryana; and

(b) what special incentives are likely to be made available for Tobacco growers in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) The total area under tobacco cultivation during 1979-80 was 200 hectares.

(b) There is no proposal under consideration to provide special incentives to tobacco growers in the State of Haryana.

Sputing of prices of Foodgrains and Vegetables

2729. SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of vegetables and foodgrains have shot up considerably during the last three months; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for such a sudden increase in price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) As is evident from the figures given below the all India index numbers of wholesale prices of vegetables show a decline of 28.2 per cent in the last 3 months, while in the case of foodgrains the index has risen by 1.5 per cent.

Item	Indices as on week ending		% variation on 21-2-81 over 22-11-80
	22-11-80	21-2-81	
Foodgrains	232.7	236.1	(+)1.5
Vegetables	223.0	160.1	(-)28.2

(b) Some increase in the prices of foodgrains has resulted partly from rise in cost of fertilisers, diesel and some other inputs, the general inflationary pressure in the economy, lean season in respect of rabi foodgrains and after effects of the sharp fall in foodgrains production which took place in 1979-80 due to wide-spread drought.

Lead Colleges Selected by Berhampur University

2730. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the lead colleges selected by the Berhampur University in the tribal district and recommended to the University Grants Commission for assistance under the lead colleges scheme and the assistance provided by the Commission to the colleges in the year 1980-81 therefor; and

(b) the different developmental measures undertaken by the University Grants Commission for development of colleges in tribal areas?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission, the Berhampur University had recommended Government Women's College, Berhampur, Aska Science College, Aska, Government Science College, Phulbani, D. A. V. College, Koraput and Rayagada College, Rayagada for consideration under the Scheme of Lead College. None of these colleges, however, fulfilled the criteria laid down by the Commission for assistance under the scheme of lead colleges. In fact, the scheme was not implemented in the Fifth Plan.

(b) The Commission has agreed to provide special assistance to colleges which are located in tribal areas and in which the number of students belonging to Scheduled Tribes is 1/3rd of the total strength, or a minimum of 100, whichever is less. The assistance available to such colleges is for exchange of teachers, organisation of re-

medial programmes and extension activities, besides, construction of classrooms, libraries, laboratories, hostels, etc., within a ceiling of Rs. 5.00 lakhs per college.

STD Link of District Head Quarters with Capital in Orissa

2731. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry have a plan of connecting all the district headquarters with the State Headquarters through Subscriber Trunk Dialling (S.T.D.) system in Orissa in Sixth Plan period;

(b) if so, the district headquarters so far having the STD facilities and the programmes prepared for the year 1981-82 for STD connection in the State;

(c) the districts and the big industrial towns particularly of tribal districts of the State selected for the financial year 1981-82, the names therefor; and

(d) whether the district headquarters, Koraput, and industrially important town Rayagada has been selected for STD facilities with Bhubaneswar keeping in view the growing demand due to huge industrial complex in that District?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KARTIK ORAON): (a) No, Sir. However this is included in the Long-term plan.

(b) The District Headquarters of Orissa at present having STD facility with the State Headquarters is Cuttack. The existing STD facilities from Cuttack, Bhubaneswar and Rourkela are proposed to be extended to more cities during 1981-82.

(c) Rourkela, an important steel town of Sundergarh district is expected to have its STD facility extended to more cities in 1981-82.