

Execution of Lift Irrigation Projects under Minimum Needs Programme in Orissa

1002. SHRI MANMOHAN TUDU: Will the Minister of RURAL RECONSTRUCTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the execution work of lift irrigation projects have been taken up in some districts of Orissa under the minimum needs programme;

(b) if so, the name of the districts where such work have been started under the Minimum Needs Programme,

(c) how many of them are expected to be completed during the current financial year; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI BALESHWAR RAM): (a) to (d) Lift Irrigation Projects do not form part of the Minimum Need Programme.

Availability of Improved Technology to Small and Marginal Farmers

1003. SHRI DAULATSINHJI JADEJA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that I.C.A.R. has initiated a nation-wide programme to make available to the rural poor the technology for improving their products;

(b) if so, when that programme was initiated and what is the result achieved; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to ensure that this new programme should reach the small and marginal farmers throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION

(SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research initiated a Lab-to Land Programme, as part of the celebrations of the Golden Jubilee Year, in May, 1979. Under this programme, nearly 47,000 families have already been adopted by 85 Technology Transfer Centres including Agricultural Universities I.C.A.R. Research Institutes, State Departments of Agriculture and voluntary organisations etc. The programme mainly aims to improve the income and the employment of small and marginal farming families as well as landless agriculture labour.

The programme was initially for one year but it was later extended for another two years by the Governing Body of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. In this programme, the scientists directly work with the poorer sections of the farming community. The programme, apart from giving technical advice, also envisages provision of critical inputs to the extent of Rs. 500/- per family. The country, for the purpose, has been divided into 8 zones and in each of these zones, there is an Advisory Committee to advise about the content of the programme.

The programme has helped small farmers, particularly in improving production from their lands and livestock.

In addition to the above, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research also has a National Demonstration Project which was initiated in 1969 with the objective of demonstrating the potentialities of high yielding varieties with improved management practices to the farming community. The key note of the demonstrations laid down under the project is multiple cropping where two or more than two crops are grown on the same piece of land in the same year. The expected yield targets of these demonstrations are 9 tonnes and 11 tonnes per hectares from two crops and three crops, respectively. The project is in operation in 47 districts, each having 25 demonstrations in the

Sixth Five Year Plan. The districts covered under the project are primarily those where agricultural technology had not any significant impact. Under this project also, the scientists of Agricultural Universities, I.C.A.R. Research Institutes and the State Departments of Agriculture themselves lay out demonstrations in the farmers fields. In addition, 2-3 Field Days are organised at each demonstration site during the year, where neighbouring farmers witness the technology demonstrated, thereby with a wider disseminating effect.

The data obtained from these demonstrations indicates that it is feasible to obtain 2-3 times more yields of the major food crops than what are obtained by farmers themselves on their fields.

(c) The Lab to Land Programme is primarily meant for small and marginal farmers and landless agriculture labour and other weaker sections of the farming community. At present, the number of families adopted under the programme is only 47,000 and this forms a very small fraction of the total number of small, marginal and landless farmers. But it is hoped that the technologies demonstrated through this programme and through the National Demonstration Project will have multiplier effect

DDA Flats of S. Cs. and S.Ts.

1004. SHRI R. R. BHOLE: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes undertaken by the Delhi Development Authority to provide houses to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Delhi since January, 1980;

(b) the number of houses actually allotted to persons belonging to these communities since January, 1980; and

(c) the details of the schemes D.D.A. propose to undertake to provide houses

to SC and ST during the Sixth Plan period and the amount earmarked for the same?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH): (a) No separate scheme for allotment of houses to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has been undertaken by the DDA since January, 1980. However, a quota of 25 per cent is reserved for SCs/STs in the allotment of DDA flats in all its housing schemes.

(b) 1937 flats of various categories have been allotted to SCs and STs by the Delhi Development Authority since January, 1980.

(c) As part of its normal programme the DDA proposes to construct 20,000 dwelling units per year during the Sixth Five Year Plan period 25 per cent of these houses would be reserved for allotment to the SCs/STs.

Supply of Drinking Water to Villages of Orissa under Minimum Needs Programme

1005. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages of Orissa that have been supplied with potable drinking water under minimum needs programme during the year 1980-81;

(b) whether Government have a proposal to supply potable drinking water to some additional number of villages during the Sixth Plan period;

(c) if so, the number of villages from Dhankhat district Orissa that will be extended with facilities during that period; and

(d) the details thereof?