

dollars for Gujarat Medium irrigation Projects signed on 17th July, 1978, the Government of Gujarat has proposed to take up 30 medium projects for IDA credit assistance which is effective from October, 1978 and would be available upto June, 1984. Under another agreement or credit assistance of US \$ 175 million for Gujarat Composite Irrigation Projects which was signed on 12-5-1980, and which would be available upto April, 1986, Gujarat Government have proposed to take up Damanganga, Heran, Karjan and Modernisation of Ukai Kakrapar Projects.

Development of Tribal population alongwith Development of Forest

2007. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry and the States have surveyed the forest areas;

(b) if so, State-wise, the number of villages situated in the forest and the tribal population in the forest village and the number therefor;

(c) whether his Ministry issued guidelines to the States regarding the development of the tribal population alongwith the development of forest and to evolve the plan, programmes and schemes to achieve the co-equal goal;

(d) if so, what are the proposals and under the execution by different States to preserve the forest to protect the tribals from exploitation; and

(e) whether census of the tribal population has been separately conducted by the forest department of the States to add in the Forest Development Department?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI): (a) This Ministry has not made survey of the forest areas. As regards the States, the information is being collected from them and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

(b) The information is being collected from the States and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e). The information is being collected from the States and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

National Programme to Combat Rat Menace

2008. SHRI A. NEELALOHITHA-DASAN NADAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is at present any National Programme to combat the rat menace to food crops and if so, the details of such programme;

(b) the estimated rat-population of 1980-81; and

(c) the estimated number of rats destroyed in the above year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of "Control and Eradication of pests and diseases of Agricultural Importance, including weed Control in Endemic Areas", central subsidy is released to the States and Union Territories for rodent control also. The central subsidy is admissible to the extent of 25 per cent of the cost of pesticides provided the State Government also releases matching subsidy. In case of Union Territories, the Central subsidy is released at the rate of 50 per cent of the cost of pesticides.

(b) and (c). Such estimates based on comprehensive surveys are not available.