

recommendations made at these meetings would help in augmenting agricultural production including that of cereals, pulses and oilseeds.

Agency to Monitor Working of Rural Water Scheme

1314. SHRI B. V. DESAI: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of India has set up a National Environmental Engineering Research Institute at Nagpur based on national laboratory of the CSIR as the sole agency to monitor the working of the rural water supply schemes being constructed all over the country under various programmes;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that on the governing board of the NEERI, the public health department of the States and Union territories have been directed to furnish to NEERI the particulars of rural water supply projects in their areas for monitoring; and

(c) if so, to what extent this institute has helped in the early implementation of the rural water supply schemes and what is the latest progress in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

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

Measures taken for Enhancing production of Edible oil

1315. SHRI B. V. DESAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have initiated a package of measures to ensure short-term availability of edible oils and higher production in the long term so as to reduce dependence on imports;

(b) if so, whether under the scheme the area under Soyabean in the States is proposed to be raised to 1.8 million hectares;

(c) if so, whether the Centre had decided that it will bear the entire cost;

(d) if so, whether the project is likely to yield a production of 1.44 million tonnes of Soyabean and make a significant contribution to the edible oil production in the country;

(e) is it also a fact that high level inter-Ministerial coordination committee has been constituted a look into the various aspects of the setting up of processing facilities; and

(f) what are the other main points of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. The Question presumably refers to the Five Year Soyabean Project (1981-86) which has been sanctioned for implementation in Madhya Pradesh. The project aims at extending the area under soyabean from 4.50 lakh hectares in 1980-81 to 18 lakh hectares by the end of 1985-86 and is likely to yield a production of 14.40 lakh tonnes. The cultivation of soyabean under the project is proposed to be extended mainly to fallow lands. The project, *inter alia*, provides for financial assistance on seeds, demonstrations, rhizobium culture training of farmers and extension workers, publicity etc. The total cost of the project for the period of five years is estimated to be Rs. 15 crores which will be met in full by the Government of India.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) As indicated in reply to parts (a) to (d).