

Malpe Fishing Harbour

7493. SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the progress of the construction of Malpe fishing harbour;

(b) when the harbour is likely to be commissioned;

(c) whether the harbour is large enough to meet the traffic in the area;

(d) if not, whether Government are considering for taking up the construction of the second stage of the harbour; and

(e) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) About 85 per cent of the harbour works has been completed. The details of progress of individual items are as follows:

Break waters	85%
Quays and Jatties	85%
Dredging	85%
Slipway	70%
Auction hall	98%
Other facilities	90%

(b) The harbour has already become operational since October, 1981. It is likely to be commissioned by June, 1982.

(c) The harbour was designed to provide landing and berthing facilities for about 280 vessels of different sizes. Director of Fisheries, Karnataka has informed that the landing and berthing facilities during the peak period is required for about 400 vessels and thus the harbour may become inadequate during the peak season.

(d) The Central Government has not received any scheme for taking up the second stage of the harbour. The question of proposal of construction of the second stage of the harbour is under consideration of the State Government.

(e) Since the proposal has not been received by the Government of India, the question does not arise.

Development of hybrid rice

7494. SHRI A. C. DAS:
SHRI ARJUN SETHI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken up the proposal for the development of hybrid rice;

(b) if so, the name of the country from which such hybrid rice production programme has been followed; and

(c) the progress achieved so far in yielding the above type of hybrid rice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The hybrid rice production programme is being followed by China. Basic seed material in the form of male sterile lines from China has been made available through the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Manila.

(c) Research for exploring the possibilities of using hybrid vigour in rice has been conducted since more than a decade back. However, it has been very recently that increased attention has been focused, mainly because of its successful exploitation in China. The research programme in India has been initiated in a systematic way. Three scientists were deputed to China for studying the feasibility of similar approach in our country. Cytogenic male sterility sources which form the basis of commercial hybrid seed production have been procured from IRRI, Manila and the work of transferring these to genetic background of our high-yielding varieties, is in progress. Our rice scientists are working in close collaboration with IRRI, Manila so as to harvest the benefit of any development in hybrid rice without losing any time. A special project from ICAR Cess Funds is also being formulated which is likely to support hybrid rice programme at 5-7 centres in the country.