

(c) Bulk of the *technical and material help* was received from the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and its research Institutions particularly Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Central Soil Salinity Research Institute, National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning; and the All India Soil Survey Organisation of the Department of Agriculture, Government of India. Some help was also received from the Agricultural Universities and the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT).

Major share of *financial assistance* came as a grant from the Department of Agricultural Research and Education, Government of India and through registration fees of delegates to the Congress. Some financial assistance is reported to have been received from Indian National Science Academy (INSA), Fertiliser Association of India (FAI), Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), United Nations Developmental Programme (UNDP), and Committee on Science and Technology for Education and Development (COSTED).

(d) The total number of participants who attended the congress was 1016, out of which 576 were Indians and 440 were foreigners from 74 countries and a dozen regional and international organisations.

Functions of Fresh Water Agriculture Research and Training Institute

7554. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the functions of the Fresh Water Aquaculture Research and Training Institute located at Kausalyaganj near Bhubaneswar in Orissa;

(b) to what extent his project is assisted by UNDP; and

(c) whether he will consider making this Centre an independent institution on the lines of the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute at Barrackpore so that it can play a bigger role in fresh water

aquatic research and training in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) The functions of the Fresh Water Aquaculture Research and Training Centre is to develop technologies for intensification of fresh water fish culture especially of carps, and to impart training to extension workers and fish farmers. The Centre also functions as Carp Lead Centre for the region under the net-work of Aquaculture Centres in Asia.

(b) UNDP assistance in the project is in some selected areas like fish genetics, fish nutrition, fish disease, fish feed formulation etc. through provisions of fellowships and equipments. Overall UNDP inputs in financial terms amount to US Dollars 582509.

(c) The Freshwater Aquaculture Research and Training Centre at Dhauli has been set up after three decades of concerted research efforts on various aspects like, breeding, hatchery development, seed production, raising of table size fish, pond management, water management and fish farm designs etc. As such, Dhauli Centre is organically an inseparable part of the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute, at Barrackpore where Institute's other activities like Cat Fish Culture, Freshwater Aquaculture and Air-breathing Fish Culture etc. are being pursued both on basic and applied aspects. Therefore, it is felt that any proposal of separation of the Centre from Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute would render both the Dhauli Centre and the Institute at Barrackpore ineffective.

Committee to suggest Avoidance of Loss in FCI

7555. SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Food Corporation of India incurred a loss worth Rs. 75.33 crores during 1980-81 in transit as against Rs. 41.26 crores during 1978-79;

(b) if so, the reasons as to why Government have failed to reduce the loss during the last two years and whether Government will constitute a committee to suggest means and ways to avoid losses; and

(c) whether during the last two years any person was suspended or punished for his involvement in pilferage or theft and if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The increase in the amount of transit losses during the last two years is not entirely on account of pilferage or theft of foodgrains, fertilizers etc. The increase in the movement and turnover of stocks, as also the increase in support/procurement prices of different cereals, during these years, have also significantly contributed towards the increase in the total amount of the losses. While, at present, there is no proposal to constitute any Committee to go into the matter, all possible steps are being taken by the Food Corporation of India to minimise the losses. As and when lapses are found on the part of the FCI staff/loading agencies, suitable action is taken against them. The details of action taken against the staff in some of the cases of shortages detected during 1980-81 are given in the statement which is laid on the Table of the House.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT—3889/82].

Food for Work Programme

7556. SHRI A. K. ROY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made a detailed evaluation of the Food for Work Programme with particular reference to the amount of food and money spent, durable asset created employment generated in terms of man-days, facts in details with State-wise and year-wise break-up;

(b) reasons for discontinuing Food for Work Programme; and

(c) whether Food for Work Programme could be made anywhere economically viable one instead of a relief measure; facts in details?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BALESHWAR RAM): (a) Yes, Sir. An evaluation of the Food for Work Programme was conducted by the Programme Evaluation Organisation of the Planning Commission in 1979-80.

(b) With a view to remove the defects/shortcomings noticed in the implementation of the Programme it was thoroughly reviewed and restructured. The programme has not been discontinued but has been renamed as National Rural Employment Programme.

(c) The programme now forms regular part of the Sixth Five Year Plan and it is not a relief programme at all.

Development of new wheat by Hissar Agricultural University

7557. SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are discouraging the sowing of Kalyana Sona (wheat) which was responsible for green revolution; and

(b) whether a new strain of wheat which is better than Kalyana Sona has been evolved in Hissar Agriculture University.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Cultivation of Kalyan Sona is discouraged in the northern States like Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Bihar, northern Rajasthan, Jammu and Kashmir etc., where it has become susceptible to new races of brown and yellow rusts. The variety, however, is still cultivated on large scale in Madhya