

(b) whether any efforts has been made to identify the factors responsible for the unabated rise in the land prices;

(c) if so, details thereof stating whether rise in prices is due to DDA's land auction policy and its single agency approach for the development of Delhi;

(d) whether Government are also aware that the multi-agency approach and encouraging the private sector in the building activity in the capital would check the land speculations and step up developmental and house building activity; and

(e) if so, steps proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

**THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-  
TARY AFFAIRS AND WORKS AND  
HOUSING (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN  
SINGH):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e). A Committee has been set up by the Lt. Governor, Delhi under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary, Delhi to examine these matters. The Report of the Committee is still awaited. On receipt of the Report of the Committee, the Government will consider further course of action to be taken, to meet the situation.

#### Functioning of AARRO

94. **SHRI G. NARSIMHA REDDY:** Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Afro-Asian Rural Reconstruction Organisation does not possess agricultural experts to help member nations to augment agricultural production and its main-function has come to be confined to holding meetings and seminars;

(b) whether the Afro-Asian Rural Reconstruction Organisation is seeking

to duplicate what the Ministry is doing already; and

(c) whether Government consider it necessary to keep this Organisation going when the benefits are not adequate either for India or its member countries?

**THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH):** (a) and (b). The Afro-Asian Rural Reconstruction Organisation is an inter-governmental organisation for rural development which provides a forum, to the representatives of the member Governments, etc. to jointly discuss their problems and exchange views, ideas, information and experiences and to formulate plans and devise means and take necessary action for the achievement of the above objectives. Accordingly the question of duplicating the work of Ministry does not arise.

(c) The Government of India is only one of the 28 members of AARRO and its existence is not at the pleasure of the Government of India. Government are, however, of the view that the organisation has the potential to assist in the promotion of rural development in the member countries.

#### Drought Situation in Maharashtra

95. **SHRI A. T. PATIL:**

**SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE  
PATIL:**

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the gravity of the drought situation in the State of Maharashtra; and

(b) the measures taken by Government to assist the State Government to face the drought situation?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN  
THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICUL-  
TURE AND RURAL DEVELOP-  
MENT (SHRI R. V. SWAMINA-  
THAN):** (a) The State Government

have reported the following damage caused by drought:

No. of districts affected	. . . 10
Population affected	46.94 . . .
Cattle wealth affected	. . . 36.72 lakhs
Cropped area affected	. . . 22.84 lakhs ha.

(b) The Government of Maharashtra have sent a Memorandum seeking Central assistance to the extent of Rs. 131.14 crores. A Central Team to make an on the spot assessment of the drought situation is likely to visit the State shortly.

#### ICAR Buffalo Research Projects and their Expenditure

96. SHRI B. D. SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the States in which ICAR Buffalo Research Project has been in operations and centre-wise and year-wise total expenditure made, expenditure on feed & fodder and correspondingly year-wise and unit-wise revenue receipts accrued;

(b) whether similar programmes are also operating at Central & State Farms; and if so, the annual expenditure and annual expenditure on feed-fodders and corresponding annual revenue receipt since 1976-77 at each farm;

(c) the existing number of female buffaloes, separately for adults and young since 1974-75 to 1981-82 at each centre of ICAR Buffalo Project; and

(d) the number of adult female buffaloes specified unit-wise, when project began and if there is a short-fall reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. V. SWAMINA-

THAN): (a) An All India Coordinated Research Project of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research on Buffalo Breeding is in operation in five states viz. Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, Karnataka and Gujarat at (i) National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal (ii) Punjab Agricultural University Ludhiana (iii) University of Udaipur, Vallabh Nagar (iv) University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwar, and (v) Gujarat Agricultural University, Anand respectively. The first four centres started functioning during the Fourth Five Year Plan while the fifth centre in Gujarat started during the Fifth Plan period. The main objective of the project is to make genetic improvement in important buffalo breeds through progeny testing, and to produce buffalo bulls with high genetic potential for milk yield. The centre-wise and year-wise total expenditure on feeding and upkeep and correspondingly year-wise and unit-wise revenues receipts accrued, except at NDRI, Karnal is given in statement-1 (attached). The budget of the unit at NDRI, Karnal is being met out of the budget of the Institutes a whole as the project is an integral part of the Institute research activity and on separate accounts are being maintained .

(b) No research programmes similar to (a) above are in operation at Central and State Farms.

(c) The number of breedable and young female buffaloes at the five centres mentioned in (a) are given in statement II (attached).

(d) The Project envisages keeping of 250-300 breedable adult female buffaloes at each of the four centres viz. Ludhiana, Dharwar, Udaipur and Karnal. Presently all the centres have specified breedable females. At the Anand centre since the programme relates to studies on reproduction, the number of buffaloes would differ from time to time according to the experimental needs, but there is no short-fall in numbers.