

(a) whether Government have sent a study team to Tripura to assess the damages caused due to the recent flood and determine the Central assistance;

(b) if so, the details of the report of the study team; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI): (a) No, Sir. It has been decided to invite the officers of the State Government to Delhi on 14th October for a discussion with the Inter-Ministerial Group which will suggest Central assistance to the State.

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

**Grant of diesel subsidy to coastal mechanised fishing industry**

1213. SHRI NAVIN RAVANI;  
SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA;  
SHRI V. S. VIJAYRAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assurance has been given to the All-Kerala Federation of Mechanised Fishing Boat Owners Association by him for the grant of diesel subsidy to coastal mechanised fishing industry;

(b) if so, what has been done in this respect;

(c) whether it will be done only for Kerala or for coastal mechanised fishing industry in other States also; and

(d) when the final decision is likely to be taken for the safeguard of fishermen and for the benefit of Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The Federation submitted a Memorandum in September, 1982 emphasising the need for exemption on excise duty on

High Speed Diesel (HSD). They have already been informed that a proposed scheme providing exemption on excise duty on H.S.D. is being examined at inter-Ministerial level.

(c) and (d). Final decision on the scheme will be taken as soon as the examination of various aspects of the scheme is completed at inter-Ministerial level.

**Setting up of regional applied research stations in States**

1214. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Regional Applied Research Stations are expected to be set up in different States where training and visit extension programme has been introduced; and

(b) what other steps are proposed to be taken to undertake relevant research work on agriculture in various States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) Regional research stations are being established under National Agricultural Research Project launched by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. The training and visit extension programme has been introduced in 13 States (Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka, Tamilnadu, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Haryana, West Bengal, Bihar and Assam). However, the programme of establishing regional research stations under N.A.R.P. is open to all the State Agricultural Universities. So far 43 research sub-projects have been sanctioned to establish regional research stations in 10 States (Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamilnadu, Assam) and the proposals in respect of the other States are being processed. These regional research stations are established/strengthened based on the agro-climatic zones identified in each State to conduct research on the specific problems of the area (zone).