

indomitable courage he has shown in the face of crisis. The D.D.A. Administration has also decided to pay an amount of Rs. 3,500/- towards expenses on his medical treatment, etc.

Implementation of I.R.D.P.

2337. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Integrated Rural Development Programme, in so far as it relates to the weaker sections, has been a failure and declared so by numerous official agencies ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BALESHWAR RAM):

(a) and (d). The International Rural Development Programme was introduced in 1978-79 in selected blocks. Only in 1980-81, the programme was extended to all the blocks in the country. No evaluation of the programme on All-India basis has so far been made but some studies conducted in Gujarat and Rajasthan show that the programme is proceeding on intended lines.

Effect of Rain on Rabi Crop Production

2338. SHRI B.V. DESAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state whether the loss of the standing rabi crops and foodgrains during the rains in April and May, 1982 had caused setback to farm production and even rains in the month of August and September have also affected this ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R.V. SWAMINATHAN): The unseasonal rains during the latter part of April and first fortnight of May, in 1982 affected the standing and harvested rabi crops to

some extent in the States of Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. In spite of this, the foodgrains production in 1981-82 was an all-time high.

The rains in the months of August and September, 1982 have been beneficial to the crops. However, some areas mainly in the States of Orissa, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh have had floods which affected the standing crops.

Inflation due to Increase in Procurement Price for Paddy

2339. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA:

SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARULEKAR :

SHRIMATI PRAMILA DANDAVATE :

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAIN SINHA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that increase in the procurement price for paddy has resulted in the cost push inflation in the country ; and

(b) if so, what were the reasons for increasing the paddy price to Rs. 122 per quintal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R.V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) No, Sir. There is no evidence of rise in general price level.

(b) The procurement price of paddy has been raised from Rs. 115/- per quintal for 1981-82 season to Rs. 122/- per quintal for 1982-83 season with a view to take care of higher cost of production per quintal of paddy and to provide an incentive to the cultivators for augmenting production and for maximising procurement for meeting the increased requirement of public