

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI MOHAMMED USMAN ARIF) :**

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A letter from the Chief Minister of Kerala [dated the 21st October 1982 was received by the Housing Minister requesting a total special assistance of Rs. 130 crores for the implementation of two programmes for covering coastal areas and Harijan and Girijan populations in the State by the end of the Sixth Five-Year Plan.

Drinking water supply is a State subject and funds required for the programme are to be found from the States budget. Central assistance under the Centrally sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme is, however, provided to augment the State resources to cover identified problem villages. The allocation for Kerala under this programme for the Sixth Plan is Rs. 27.22 crores which has already been communicated to the State Government. The Government of Kerala was informed that there was no other programme under which special assistance, as requested, could be given.

**Central Assistance for Vizhinjam Fishing Harbour**

6684. SHRI A. NEELALOHITHA-DASAN NADAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Kerala have requested the Central Government for 100 per cent Central assistance for Fishing Harbour at Vizhinjam in Kerala ; and

(b) if so, the details of the request and the action taken by the Central Government thereon ?

**THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (RAO BIRENDRA[SINGH) :** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The request of Kerala Government was for 100% Central assistance for the second and third stages of fishing harbour at Vizhinjam. This has not been agreed to since Vizhinjam is a "minor harbour" and is eligible for 50% grant from the Centre as per the approved pattern of assistance under

Centrally Sponsored Scheme during the Sixth Plan period.

**Import of Edible Oils**

6685. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that prices of edible oils in some countries are substantially lower in the current year due to good crops ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether edible oils will be imported from those countries ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD) :** (a) and (b). The prices of edible oils in the international markets vary from time to time. Purchases are made by STC on the basis of internationally competitive offers received against STC's tenders from registered suppliers all over the world, on principal to principal basis. The supplies are normally made from those countries wherein export surplus are available and prices are comparatively lower.

**Visit of Central Team to Drought Hit Ramanathapuram Distt., Tamil Nadu**

6686. SHRI K.T. KOSALRAM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Team visited Ramanathapuram district in Tamil Nadu where 1417 villages, out of the total 1512 villages, have been declared as drought-hit by the district authority ;

(b) the details of memorandum submitted by the State Government to the Central Team ; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken thereon ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) :** (a) Yes, Sir,