

terms of cleaned rice) is estimated at 45.8 million tonnes 1982-83 as compared to 53.6 million tonnes each in the previous two years.

(c) The scope for the increase in area under paddy cultivation is limited. However, with the increase in area under irrigation, there may be some diversion from other crops to rice depending upon the availability of water. It is too early to indicate the additional acreage brought under paddy during 1983 and 1984 because it fluctuates according to rainfall pattern.

The main thrust in the increase in paddy production is through increase in productivity per unit area. To achieve this objective, measures are being intensified to ensure larger plant population, right time of sowing and transplantation, balanced application of fertilisers, weeding, availability of improved seeds, credit and plant protection materials.

#### Central Aid for Flood Control in Gujarat

25. SHRI BHEEKHABHAI : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any memorandum from Gujarat State asking Central aid for flood relief/flood control/establishment of weather observatory/meteorological centres in Saurashtra region of Gujarat ;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon ; and

(c) the measures taken or suggested by Central Water Commission on his Ministry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) to (c). The Government of Gujarat has not so far furnished any memorandum for Central Assistance for flood relief. However, the State Government has sent a memorandum seeking Central Assistance of Rs. 106.00 lakhs for tillage operation and input subsidy. The Government of India has approved a ceiling

of expenditure of Rs. 97.75 lakhs against this request. In addition, Rs. 20.00 crores has been sanctioned as ways and means advance to the State Government. Rs. 4.00 crores has also been released for resowing of groundnut crops in the affected areas.

On request from the State Government, the Government of India have already approved establishment of a Cyclonic Detection Radar in Gujarat and the radar equipment has been ordered in May, 1983.

A team of officers from Central Water Commission has also visited some of the affected dams in Saurashtra region and recommended the review of hydrology and designs, increase in spillway capacity, provision of adequate free board and guidelines for emergency measures.

#### Release of New Varieties of Crops by I.C.A.R.

26. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that each year ICAR organises a number of workshops which release various new varieties for different crops and if so, details of such varietal release made for last three years ;

(b) how many of these releases have found practical application in the field and led to increased productivity ;

(c) how many of these released varieties were found to be unacceptable for use and given up ;

(d) how many of the scientists who developed the successful varieties were rewarded and how many of the scientists responsible for unacceptable varieties were also rewarded ; and

(e) whether Government will withdraw recognition from a large number of scientists who were rewarded undeservingly ?