

near Cuttack.

Orissa II Irrigation Project envisages completion of 18 on-going major projects included under Part A and commencement of works on 6 new medium irrigation projects and substantial completion of 3 on-going MIPs.

The Subernarekha Irrigation System includes construction of Chandil Dam and Left Canal ; (ii) The Galudih Barrage and Canals ; (iii) Ichha Dam and Canals ; and (iv) the Kharkai Canals This Project will provide reliable water supply to 2,53,600 ha. of cultivable land of Bihar, Orissa and West Bengal and will also provide water for industrial and municipal use in Bihar and reduce flood damage in Orissa and West Bengal.

(b) The progress on the Mahanadi project suffered a set back in the first year of its implementation and is likely to slip by one year.

(c) No change in the estimated expenditure has been reported so far.

Denudation of Forests

3640. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK :
SHRI ARJUN SETHI :
SHRI CHINTAMANI PANI-
GRAHI :
SHRI HARIHAR SOREN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the efforts made by Union Government towards fighting against large scale denudation of forests, during 1983-84 renewal of forests and conservation of natural vegetation during the last two years with targets fixed and achieved ; and

(b) how far it has made progress under the 20-Point programme and to what extent (hectares) area has so far been covered in view of the targets fixed to be achieved, particularly in Orissa ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Efforts made to arrest the denudation of forests and conservation of natural vegetation are :

- (i) Development of forests by undertaking afforestation including extension programmes outside forests.
- (ii) Enforcement of Indian Forest Act, 1927, Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
- (iii) Ban on fellings in critical areas and clear felling of natural forests.
- (iv) Elimination of contractors system in the working of forests.
- (v) Establishment of bio-sphere/genepool reserves, national parks and sanctuaries.

Targets fixed and achievements made during last two years and 1983-84 under renewal of forests are :

Item	(No. of seedlings planted in crores)		
	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84
Targets	135.38	195.55	225.00
Achievements	131.88	207.85	229.93 (Uptodate)

(b) Total number of seedlings planted under afforestation and area covered under

social forestry in Orissa under the 20 Point programme are as under ;—

	1982-83		1983-84	
	Targets	Achievements	Targets	Achievements
Afforestation				
Number of seedlings in crores	9.50	10.38	10.00	10.68
Social Forestry				
Area in hectares	20000	18006	26000	22514

Losses due to Forest Fire

3641. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any assessment has been made regarding the loss to national economy of the country due to forest fire every year ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; State-wise ; during the last three years ;

(c) whether Government of India have sought the co-operation of U.N.D.P., in this regard to save our forest wealth ; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) No assessment has been made regarding loss due to forest fire every year.

(b) National Commission on Agriculture have calculated fire damages in some States which are given in the attached statement.

(c) A project on Modern Forest Fire Control has been signed with UNDP and FAO recently.

(d) The project worth about Rs. 12.7 crores will be implemented in Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra during April, 1984 to March, 1989, to devise and demonstrate techniques for prevention of forest fire in mountain, sal and man-made forests including areas under Drought Prone Areas Programme and the Guaranteed Employment Scheme.

Statement

State/Union Territory	Average for 1960-61 to 1964-65			Average for 1968-69 to 1972-73		
	Number of fires	Area burnt (ha)	Damage value (Rs.)	Number of fires	Area burnt (ha.)	Damage value (Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	321	25280	—	275	68878	—
Assam	20	28772	—	6	127	96900
Bihar	572	42975	—	445	15660	—