

has also suggested to the State Governments that the subject of "Environmental Studies" which includes a number of agricultural topics, be introduced in schools at the primary level.

(b) Under the scheme of vocationalisation of higher secondary education, it is proposed to introduce agriculture related courses as a very important stream of vocational education throughout the country.

### Shortcomings In the Operation of IRDP

2050. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Integrated Rural Development Programme has failed to make any dent on poverty and the changes it has brought in the lives of the rural poor have been only marginal and short-lived according to a study conducted by the Centre for IRDP, Banaras Hindu University (Statesman, New Delhi dated 12 July, 1984); and

(b) if so, his reaction there to and the steps being taken to remove the various shortcomings found in the operation of this programme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI): (a) and (b) Govt. have seen the Press report published in the Statesman, New Delhi, dated 12 July, 1984 regarding study conducted by the Centre for IRDP, Banaras Hindu University. According to the Press report, this study is reported to have covered three blocks of a district. This is too small a sample to make any generalisation on the impact of the Integrated Rural Development Programme.

The progress achieved in the implementation of the IRD Programme during the first four years of the Sixth Plan shows that the per capita investment, which is an important indicator of the assistance provided to the families, has been increasing over the years.

Detailed guidelines have been given for the implementation of the IRDP. Whenever any shortcoming is noticed, specific steps are taken to overcome the same.

### बिहार में सिंचाई के लिए गंगा के पानी का उपयोग

2051 श्री विजय कुमार यादव : क्या सिंचाई मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को सूखा प्रवण इलाकों की जानकारी है जो लगातार सूखे से प्रभावित होते हैं ;

(ख) क्या बिहार सरकार ने 1967-69 के दौरान ऐसे इलाके में गंगा के पानी से सिंचाई करने का एक प्रस्ताव भेजा था ; और

(ग) क्या सरकार का विचार उपरोक्त इलाकों में सिंचाई के लिये गंगा के पानी का उपयोग करने के लिये कोई केन्द्रीय योजना तैयार करने का है और यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है ?

सिंचाई मन्त्रालय के राज्य मन्त्री (श्री हरिनाथ मिश्र) : (क) बिहार के सात जिलों का सूखा-प्रवण होने का अभि-निर्धारण किया गया है।

(ख) ऐसी कोई परियोजना रिपोर्ट विचारार्थ प्राप्त नहीं हुई है।

(ग) सिंचाई एक राज्य विषय होने के कारण सिंचाई परियोजनाएं संबंधित राज्य सरकारों द्वारा तैयार की जाती हैं और कार्यान्वित की जाती हैं।

#### **Assistance to Small Farmers to Purchase Agricultural Inputs**

2052. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have extended facilities to small and marginal farmers in rural areas by granting short term financial assistance for purchase of agricultural inputs for the current year ;

(b) if so, the details of the procedure adopted in this regard ; and

(c) the amount granted to Tamil Nadu alongwith the guidelines for the distribution of the loan to the small and marginal farmers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) :

(a) to (c) There is no scheme for extending short-term loan assistance separately to the small and marginal farmers for purchase and distribution of inputs. The Central Government, however, provides short-term loan assistance to the States seasonwise for purchase and distribution of agricultural inputs, namely fertilisers, seeds and pesticides. The repayments of this loan by the States is required to be made in a single instalment after expiry of six months from the date of its drawal, with the specified rate of interest of 6 1/4% per annum with 1/4% per annum as rebate for prompt repayment/interest payments and 8.3/4% per annum as penal rate of interest in event of

default in repayment/interest payment. For Tamil Nadu short-term loan of Rs. 4.35 crores has been sanctioned for Kharif 1984 season.

However, during the current Kharif 1984 season, an amount of Rs. 5.00 crores has been separately sanctioned as short-term loan to the six rice growing States namely Assam, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal for meeting the need for distribution of agricultural inputs in the identified blocks covered under the Special Rice Production Programme in these States and particularly for assisting the small and marginal farmers.

#### **Self Sufficiency in Foodgrains Production**

2053. SHRI NAVIN RAVANI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the States which are not self-sufficient in foodgrains production and have to depend on other States and the Centre ; and

(b) the steps being taken to make these States self-sufficient in regard to foodgrains production ; and

(c) whether provision is being made in the Seventh Five Year Plan to increase the foodgrains production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) :

(a) The concept of self-sufficiency in foodgrains production has relevance mainly for the country as a whole. So far as the constituent States are concerned; they contribute to the Central Pool through procurement from out of the available marketable surpluses of foodgrains. Allocations of foodgrains are made from the Central Pool to the States according to their requirements after taking into account various relevant factors. The quantum of supplies from the Pool varies from