

Benefit of bank Loans to Small Farmers

1035. SHRI K. MALLANNA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that though banks are giving loans to the small farmers to select dairies, poultries, digging wells etc. large number of them are not getting any profits;

(b) if so, whether Government are also aware that it is all due to lack of scientific approach in rearing milch animals or running poultries; and

(c) if so, the steps taken or arrangements made by Government to guide and protect the interest of people in rural areas in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) to (c) Loans under the project approach followed by the banking institutions for digging wells, dairy, poultry and similar purposes, technically viable schemes are prepared on scientific basis to ensure reasonable return on investment to borrowers. The success of the programme depends on the aptitude of the borrower, extension, supervision and availability of infrastructural facilities. The studies conducted by National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development, State Governments, banking institutions and other agencies show that the borrowers are, by and large, getting benefits from programmes like digging of wells, poultry, dairy etc.

Tissueculture Technique to Grow Rice plants Developed by Scientists of Colorado State University

1036. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a new technique called tissue culture has been developed by the scientists of Colorado State University (CSU) in the United States to grow rice plants;

(b) whether any experiment has been made in India, if so, the result achieved; and

(c) if successful, what steps are being taken to popularise it in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE : (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) ; (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In India, Research on tissue culture has been going on at a number of places. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research had sponsored research schemes at the Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack; Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi and Bose Institute, Calcutta on tissue culture of rice. The work conducted so far in the country has led to the standardization of the tissue culture technique. Further research work is in progress to perfect this technique and make it applicable to the plant improvement programmes. If the results are promising, steps would be taken to integrate the tissue culture technology in practical rice improvement programmes.

Meeting of Consultative Committees

1037. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of meetings of different Consultative Committees held during the past six months till June, 1984; and

(b) the number of participants in each meeting ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, SPORTS AND WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) A total number of 60 meetings of Consultative Committees attached to various Ministries were held during the period from 1-1-1984 to 30-6-1984.

(b) A statement showing the names of Consultative Committees, dates of