

this period have helped the areas in West Bengal in mitigating the flood damages by withholding waters behind the dams.

(c) The four storage reservoirs of the Damodar Valley Corporation afford reasonable protection to the areas in West Bengal to the maximum extent possible. Besides, the moderation of the floods by the reservoirs of the Damodar Valley Corporation, restrictions on the encroachment of the flood plains and also tackling the acute drainage congestion require consideration by the Government of West Bengal.

Facilities for Production of Cereals

1095. SHRI G. BHOOPATHY :
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Government are affording any facility/facilities for increasing the production of cereals in the country, in the shape of subsidy, irrigation facilities and cultivation on scientific basis; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) For increasing production of cereals in the country, Government is giving various facilities to the farmers under different Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

(1) A large number of minikits of rice, wheat and coarse cereals are distributed free of cost to the farmers.

(2) Subsidy of Rs. 1500 per hectare is given for raising rice community nurseries and sharing the seedlings amongst the farmers not having their own irrigation resources.

(3) With a view to popularising improved method of cultivation of maize in tribal areas, farmers are given assistance of Rs. 815/- per hectare for taking maize demonstrations.

(4) A large number of extension officers from various States are trained every year in improved production technology of cereals who in turn train the local farmers.

(5) Under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Pest Control subsidy is given to the farmers for taking pesticides application against insect—pests, diseases and weeds.

(6) Subsidy is provided under "Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Small and Marginal Farmers for increasing agricultural production" for minor irrigation scheme as per IRDP pattern. Subsidy on minor irrigation works varies from 25 per cent to 50 per cent.

For assisting small and marginal and other farmers, for encouraging the use of non-conventional sources of energy through lifting devices, subsidy varying from 20 to 75 per cent is provided.

Abolition of Lease System in Delhi

1096. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR :
Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are seriously considering a proposal to abolish land lease system in Delhi and make the entire land in the Union Territory of Delhi free from lease system;

(b) if so, action taken by Government on the proposal and the details thereof; and