

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS, IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) ; (a) DDA has reported that no system has been evolved for repairs for its allotted flats.

(b) Does not arise, in view of (a) above.

Set Back to Aus Crop in West Bengal

1119. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Aus crop in West Bengal has suffered a great set back this year;

(b) whether the main cash crop jute has been the worst affected by the early floods this year because all the districts where the crop is planted have been inundated;

(c) whether as a result of this, scarcity situation in raw jute is likely to continue throughout in 1984-85; and

(d) if so, the assistance which Government have rendered and propose to render to West Bengal to tide over the difficult situation.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b) According to information made available by the State Government, some area under 'aus' crop and jute are reported to be affected by recent floods in the State.

(c) Extent of damages to jute crop is yet to be assessed by the State Govt. It is too early to estimate the size of jute crop production during 1984-85. However, the raw jute production during current year is expected to be of the order of last year.

(d) No request for Central assistance from the State Government of West Bengal has been received so far. The State has a margin money of Rs. 13.60 crores to meet the natural calamities. The State, has, however been advised to take up crop rehabilitation measures with the help of margin money at their disposal.

Development of Fisheries in West Bengal

1120. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has lately been a decline in fish production and a rise in its demand ;

(b) whether fish, recognised as a highly desirable and nutritious food can play a crucial role in future in feeding the hungry and undernourished people, particularly in the coastal areas in the country ; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to develop fisheries, particularly in West Bengal and also to produce fish at a price that people can afford ?

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

(a) Instead of fall there is an increase in Fish Production in 1983 as compared with that in 1982. Figures of Annual fish production in India in the last two years available with the Ministry, as computed from the data received from the State Government, are as follow :

Year	Fish production (lakh tonnes)
1982-83	23.35
1983-84 (Estimate)	26.04