

Development Corporation because the Pant Nagar University and the National Seeds Corporation are shareholders in the Tarai Development Corporation; and

(b) if so, the steps his Ministry propose to take in this matter.

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) :** (a) The National Seeds Corporation has been notified as the Seed Certification Agency under the Seeds Act by the Government of Uttar Pradesh. As such the Corporation has been certifying wheat seeds produced by the tarai Development Corporation during Rabi 1970-71 also. The National Seed Corporation certifies only such seeds as conform to the minimum seed certification standards, prescribed by the Central Seeds Committee, in respect of germination, moisture, freedom from seed-borne diseases, and genetic and physical purity.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Difficulties In Implementation of Crash Plan for Removing Rural Unemployment**

**3603. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government's Rs. 500 million programme against rural unemployment had run in to difficulties and had only a poor start;

(b) if so, the reasons for this; and

(c) the steps the centre now proposes to take the successful implementation of this Scheme ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHER SINGH) :** (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Question does not arise.

#### **Fishing Operations by Foreign Vessels off West Coast of Gujarat**

**3604. SHRI JADEJA :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the large-scale fishing operations off the Indian West Coast of Gujarat State by the foreign vessels;

(b) whether it is because of the non-existence of any Central Fishing Project or the State Fishing Project in that area;

(c) whether being a non-meat eating State Gujarat has never taken any initiative for the development of fishing on its coast; and

(d) whether Central Government propose to start a project on the Indian West Coast of Gujarat, if so, the main feature of the project and estimated cost thereof ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHER SINGH) :** (a) The existing limit of the exclusive fishing zone, which is coterminous with the territorial sea, is 12 miles from the coast line. Foreign vessels do not fish within this zone. Government is aware that foreign vessels conduct fishing operations on the high seas in the Indian Ocean. No report indicating special activity by foreign fishing vessels off the West Coast of Gujarat has been received.

(b) and (c). Gujarat has a well developed fishing industry. In the Fourth Five year plan of Gujarat, provision of Rs. 350 lakhs has been made for further development of fisheries. More than 20% of the mechanised fishing boats introduced in the country are operating from the Gujarat Coast. These boats operate in the coastal belt, but largest vessels with a wider range of operation are being gradually introduced.

(d) There is no proposal under consideration for establishment of a fishing project by the Central Government in Gujarat or any other State. The programme of mechanisation of small fishing vessels is in the State sector. So far as deep sea fishing is concerned, the Central Government is providing the infrastructure. A jetty has already been constructed at Kandla under the State Plan in 1965 and it is capable of handling deep sea fishing vessels. The Government of India has provided harbour facilities for fishing vessels at Veraval at a cost of Rs. 26 lacs. About 260 mechanised boats are utilising these facilities. In addition, in May, 1971 approval was issued by the Government of India to the deepening of the entrance channal at Veraval at a cost of Rs. 16.49 lacs to enable larger fishing vessels to utilise the harbour. The Central Government has also sanctioned funds for fishing harbour facilities for mechanised boats at nine other ports in Gujarat at a cost of about 30 lacs.

The Central Government has been carrying out intensive surveys of fish resources of the Gujarat coast for several years. The survey programme is being strengthened by the addition of bases at Veraval and Kandla from which five new vessels will carry out exploration for demersal as well as pelagic fisheries.

#### Meeting of Indian Board of Wild Life

3605. SHRI JADEJA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of sittings of the Indian Board of Wild Life that took place during the last two years;

(b) the recommendation made by the Board; and

(c) the suggestions accepted and implemented by Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHER SINGH) : (a) Two meetings of the Indian Board for Wild Life took place during the last two years for the VII and VIII Session on (i) 8th and 9th July, 1969 and (ii) 24th October, 1970 respectively.

(b) Recommendations are available in the Minutes of the 7th & 8th Sessions of the Indian Board for Wild Life held on 8th & 9th July, 1969 and 24th October, 1970 respectively which are available in the Parliament Library.

(c) The recommendations have been accepted by the Government of India.

Forest and Wildlife being State subjects under the constitution, the recommendations have been forwarded to the State Governments.

Summary of the follow-up action by the State Governments on the recommendations of the VII Session may be seen in the Notes on Agenda items for the 8th Sessions of the Indian Board for Wild Life held on 24th October, 1970 at New Delhi which is available in the Parliament Library.

Recommendations of the 8th Session have been forwarded to the States for implementation.

Constitution of Flora Wing recommended as per Item 3 of the Agenda is underway in the Ministry with the Director, Botanical Survey of India as Convenor. Most of the important recommendations of the Expert Committee discussed at Item No. 6 of the Agenda have been accepted by the Executive Committee and forwarded to the States for implementation.