

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE):**

(a) and (b). To make up for the shortfall in kharif 1972 production, an Emergency Agricultural Production Programme was drawn up for Rabi-Summer, 1972-73, and the State Governments were approached to bring additional areas under wheat, rabi jowar and summer rice and to increase production of gram by adoption of package of practices. The salient features of the programme are given below:—

- (a) **Wheat:** It was programmed to increase the total area under wheat from the level of about 19 million hectares in 1971-72 to 23 million hectares in 1972-73, with the adoption of optimum doses of fertilisers and irrigation and foliar application of urea over 2 million hectares of unirrigated wheat.
- (b) **Summer rice:** The area under summer rice which stood at 2 million hectares during Summer 1972, was proposed to be extended to 3 million hectares. To achieve this, financial assistance has been granted to the State Governments for the development of minor irrigation facilities.
- (c) **Rabi Jowar:** It was programmed to extend the area under rabi jowar from the normal area of about 6 million hectares to 6.5 million hectares during the rabi season.
- (d) **Gram.** Gram is another important crop which has potential of increasing its production by adoption of package of practices. It was proposed to bring about 4 million hectares of gram area under package of practices, which would yield an additional production.

**Financial assistance to States for Emergency Agricultural Production Programme:**

To help the State Government in the implementation of their Emergency Agricultural Production Programme for Rabi-Summer 1972-73, loan assistance to the extent of Rs. 148 crores has been provided for minor irrigation and other programmes. Besides, a short term loan of Rs. 100 crores has also been sanctioned to State Governments for purchase of agricultural inputs such as fertilisers, seeds, pesticides etc.

**Health Centres in Digha in Midnapore District**

8577. SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE:  
SHRI R. N. BARMAN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a Health Centre in Digha in District Midnapore; if not, when it is proposed to be opened; and

(b) whether the hospital is 25 miles away from this area?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. KISKU): (a) Yes, there is a subsidiary Health Centre with two non-dieted beds at Digha. The Government of West Bengal have sanctioned its upgradation with 6 beds till its conversion into a Primary Health Centre.

(b) A Sub-divisional referral hospital is functioning at Contai about 22 miles away from this Centre.

**Role of Central Government in creation and maintenance of Universities**

8578. SHRI S. C. SAMANTA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 7068 on 16th