

year in the State of Mysore has been received from the State Govt. However, some parts of State were affected by drought last year.

(c) Central assistance to the extent of Rs. 26.50 crores has been released to the State Govt. for relief measures undertaken on account of last year's drought.

Training Centres for Sports

4446. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sports Training Centres are likely to be established during the next three years; and

(b) if so, the number of such Centres and places where they are likely to be situated?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b). Provision has been made in the draft of the Fifth Five Year Plan for establishment of additional Regional Coaching Centres. On finalization of the Plan, additional Coaching Centres will be opened upon request by the State Governments in the States where such a Centre does not exist. Number and Places will be determined after requests from State Governments have been received.

Steps taken to De-Hoard Hidden Foodgrains

4447. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE:
SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what further steps have been taken to de-ward the hidden foodgrains in the various States;

(b) whether instructions have been issued to the various State Governments in this regard; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) to (c). The State Governments have been advised to fix the maximum statutory limits regarding the quantities of wheat and other foodgrains that might be held in stock by producers, traders and consumers and to undertake appropriate de-warding operations. In view of the present difficult conditions created by high prices and shortages of essential commodities and artificial bottlenecks in their distribution, the Government of India have also advised the State Governments to invoke the provisions of the Defence of India Rules, 1971 for regulating various matters relating to essential commodities, including foodgrains, and to use the powers under the Maintenance of Internal Security Act, 1971 against persons indulging in hoarding, black-marketing and other anti-social activities prejudicial to the maintenance of essential supplies.

Provision of a Tunnel through Khambataki Hill (Maharashtra)

4448. SHRI ANNASAHEB GOKHINDE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed by the Government of Maharashtra to cut a tunnel through Khambataki hill to avoid steep climb;

(b) the estimated expenditure thereof; and

(c) when the proposal is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI M. B. RANA): (a) to (c). A proposal for improvement of Khambataki Ghat portion of Poona-Kolhapur Section of National Highway No. 4 has been received from the Government of Maharashtra. The proposal, among other things includes provision of a Tunnel

190 meters long at an estimated cost of Rs. 19.00 lakhs. As a result of joint site inspection by the Officers of the Government of India and the State Government, certain further surveys are being carried out by the State Government. The proposal would be examined further on receipt of the results of these surveys.

Scheme sent by Maharashtra Government for Major Ghats of Katraj and Khambataki

4449. SHRI ANNASAHEB GOT-KHINDE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has sent proposals for the works of two major ghats of Katraj and Khambataki;

(b) the estimated expenditure thereof;

(c) whether the works are held up pending the approval by the Centre; and

(d) the time by which the proposals would be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI M. B. RANA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Proposals for the improvement of national highway going over Katraj and Khambataki Ghats have been received from the Government of Maharashtra which would roughly cost Rs. 169.18 lakhs.

(c) and (d). The position in respect of each of these proposals is given below:

(i) *Katraj Ghat*: The improvements proposed by the State Government were inspected at site by an officer of the Government of India and certain modifications were suggested. The modified proposals were received from the State Government recently and the same are now under examination.

(ii) *Khambataki Ghat*: As a consequence of joint site inspection conducted by an officer of the Government of India and the State Chief Engineer, certain further surveys along the road are being carried out by State Government Officers to examine the feasibility of the proposed improvements. The proposals would be examined further on receipt of the results of these surveys.

Failure of Kharif Crop in Allahabad, U.P.

4450. SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made an assessment of the situation arising out of the failure of Kharif Crop in Allahabad District, U.P.;

(b) if so, the extent of loss thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to help the people there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Kharif crops have suffered to some extent due to delayed rainfall but it is early to assess the losses if any because these crops are expected to recover with good rains received later.

(c) Following steps have been proposed by the State Government for helping the people.

(i) Distribution of inputs by advancing short term loans.

(ii) Programme to save standing Kharif crops by ensuring irrigation.

(iii) Plant Protection measures.

(iv) Programme for substitute cropping by arranging seed supply of the alternative crops.