

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL): (a) A statement is given below:—

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Scheme/Years	Amount of Central assistance released for development (Rs. lakhs)	
	Kerala	Karnataka
1. Fish Farmers Development Agencies		
1972-73	Nil	Nil
1973-74	Nil	1.05
1974-75	Nil	4.41
2. Landing & berthing facilities at minor ports		
1972-73	29.14	1.96
1973-74	28.87	6.33
1974-75	Nil	Nil
	(Rs. 14 lakhs proposed)	

(b) Assistance is given to States for Centrally sponsored schemes in fisheries.

Since the expenditure incurred by the Karnataka State in respect of items eligible for Central assistance was low in comparison to that Kerala, Karnataka received lower Central assistance. At present there is a balance of Rs. 12.94 lakhs for Kerala and Rs. 47.70 lakhs for Karnataka out of the administrative sanctions issued in respect of landing and berthing facilities at minor ports. Besides, Malpe fishing harbour costing Rs. 217 lakhs is also awaiting approval.

Bonus to Paddy Growers

1847. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to give bonus to the paddy-growers in the country;

(b) if so, when the final decision is likely to be taken;

(c) whether most of the states have agreed to this proposal; and

(d) whether the Punjab Government has already given the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNAS-AHEB P. SHINDE): (a) to (c): A scheme for the payment of bonus to the State Governments for being passed on to the paddy growers is under consideration of Government.

(d) No, Sir.

Fixation of Proportion of Levy Sugar and Non-levy Free Market Sugar

1848. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have revised their policy with regard to the fixation of proportion of levy sugar and non-levy free market sugar;

(b) whether the proportion of free market sugar has been raised by 5 per cent under pressure from sugar mill owners;

(c) whether this change in proportion has been suggested by sugar mill owners as a substitute for increase in prices of levy sugar which they had been at first vociferously demanding; and

(d) if not, the main reasons for introducing this change?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNAS-AHEB P. SHINDE): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). No, Sir.

(d) It became necessary to do so in order to maintain the retail issue price of levy sugar in the country unchanged.