

producing areas have been advised to improve production by overcoming disease menace by adopting early sowing, roguing out of diseased plants and using only fresh & certified seeds. Gujarat State has covered nearly 80 per cent of the area under hybrid Bajra. It has released two hybrids, HB 2 & HB 3 particularly suitable for drought prone areas.

(c) No special assistance is proposed to be given.

Funds to use Waste Land for Agricultural purposes in Gujarat

4666 SHRI D D DESAI Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state

(a) whether there is large area of waste land which can be used for agricultural purpose in the State of Gujarat,

(b) if so, whether due to shortage of funds Gujarat Government has not been able to make it fit for agricultural purposes,

(c) whether any funds have been allotted to Gujarat during the Fifth Plan for the development of waste land, and

(d) if so, facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) (a) According to the Land Utilisation Statistics for the year 1970-71 (the latest available), there are about 5,43,000 hectares of culturable waste land in Gujarat.

(b) to (d) During the Fifth Plan period the Government of Gujarat has made a provision of Rs 190 crores for the reclamation of culturable waste land.

A Central Sector Pilot Project for Protection of Table Lands and Stabilization of Ravinous Areas is under operation in Gujarat during the Fifth

Plan. A tentative outlay of Rs 74.00 lakhs has been made under the scheme. A sum of Rs 11.25 lakhs has already been released to the Government of Gujarat for the year 1974-75.

In the draft Fifth Five Year Plan under the Drought Prone Areas Programme, the Government of India have proposed to provide an assistance of Rs 1900 crores for 7 districts (Panchmahals, Kutch, Jamnagar, Rajkot, Amreli, Banaskantha and Sundernagar) and five continuous talukas falling in 3 districts (Ahmedabad, Mehsana and Bhavnagar). The allocation of the Government of India will be equally matched by the State Government. Part of the work will be done on culturable waste lands.

Power Houses under Gujarat Circle of CPWD.

4668 SHRI D D DESAI Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state

(a) the number of Power Houses under the Gujarat Circle of the Central Public Works Department Division-wise, and

(b) the number of workers employed in each power house, category-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Funds for Research and Development in Universities and Institutions of Technology

4669 SHRI P M MEHTA Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state-

(a) whether reluctance of his Ministry to provide funds for Research