

**Irrigation under 20-Point Programme**

1942. SHRI N. E. HORO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bihar State has registered a 15 per cent increase in the irrigation potential during 1975-76 under the 20-Point Programme; and

(b) what are the facilities extended through four major projects of the Gandak, the Kosi, the Sone high level canal and the Chandran reservoir, in hectares alongwith their targets?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH): (a) The increase in irrigation potential created in Bihar during 1975-76 through major and medium schemes was about 5 per cent.

(b) The potential targetted and that achieved on these schemes is as under:

	Ultimate Benefits Benefits Achieved	
	('000' ha.)	km
1. Gandak . . . . .	1151	435
2. Kosi (including Western Kosi and Rajpur Canals) . . . . .	873	410
3. Sone high level Canal . . . . .	161	110
4. Chandran Reservoir . . . . .	63	63

**Enquiry into Malpractices in Imports of Foodgrains from U.S.A.**

1943. SHRI R. K. SINHA:

SHRI HUKAM CHAND  
KACHWAI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the investigations into malpractices committed by U.S. grain companies in exporting grain to India

have been completed; if so, the findings thereof;

(b) whether Government propose to claim any compensation for these malpractices; and if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) the position regarding some court cases filed in U.S. courts by the Food Corporation of India against some U.S. grain exporters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) The investigations by U.S. Government into the malpractices committed by U.S. grain companies in the export of grain to various countries, including India, are still in progress

(b) and (c). Government have recently filed preliminary claim against five US grain supplying firms in the first week of May in the federal District Court for Southern Region in New York claiming damages in respect of grain shipments during the period 1961 to 1975. Details are being processed and the whole matter is sub-judice.

**Central Body on Technology for Rural Areas**

1944. SHRI R. S. PANDEY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a central body on technology for rural areas; and

(b) if so, the functions of the proposed body?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a. No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.