

**INTENSIVE AGRICULTURE PROGRAMME IN BIHAR**

309. SHRI KAMESHWAR SINGH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Bihar had, some time back, prepared a crash programme for intensive agriculture;

(b) whether it is a fact that the programme was sent to the Central Government for perusal, approval and additional financial assistance;

(c) whether any financial assistance has been granted for the same; and

(d) if so, what worthwhile gains have been obtained ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) and (b). No proposal involving intensive agriculture and of the nature of a 'Crash Programme' has so far been received from the Government of Bihar, apart from the normal plan schemes like the High-Yielding Varieties Programme, which are received and considered from time to time.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

**POST AND TELEGRAPH OFFICES IN BHUTAN**

310. SHRI J. N. HAZARIKA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Post and Telegraph Offices opened so far in Bhutan under the agreement entered into by our country with that country;

(b) whether training facilities for technical know-how have been provided to the Bhutanese personnel of the Communication Service;

(c) the present strength of the local personnel in the Department; and

(d) to what extent telephone system has been developed there ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a) Under the Postal Arrangements made with Bhutan, no Post or Telegraph Office is required to be opened in Bhutan by India. That arrangement merely relates to exchange of mails between the Indian & Bhutanese Postal Departments.

(b) Yes.

(c) In view of reply to (a) the issue is not within the purview of the Indian Posts & Telegraphs Department.

(d) The telephone system in Bhutan has not been developed by the Indian Posts and Telegraphs.

**SENDING OF INDIAN TELEPHONE EXPERTS TO IRAQ**

311. SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Iraq have requested the Indian Government to send Indian experts to extend telephone lines in their northern area; and

(b) if so, the detail of the proposal and the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a) Demand was received from Iraq Government for two experts for extension of telephone networks in Baghdad and other parts of Iraq.

(b) Experts are required for designing and planning of automatic telephone exchanges and supervision over installation. Two experienced officers of P & T Department have been sponsored for deputation to Iraq. A further communication from Iraq Government is awaited.

**IMPORT OF RICE**

312. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Centre has entered into several agreements in res-