

land has to be categorised and an assessment of the culturable area of waste land has to be made. Such assessment is currently in progress in all the States except Andhra Pradesh under a centrally sponsored scheme.

(b) So far an area of 3.8 million acres has been located which can be economically reclaimed and cultivated.

(c) Maximum extent of waste land is likely to be available in Rajasthan State.

(d) Out of the areas so far surveyed and found fit for reclamation and cultivation as stated at (b) above, most of the area is Government owned waste lands, except 1.63 lakhs acres which are privately owned.

Pilot Projects for Planning

4763. Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Bhagwat Jha Asad:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri P. C. Borooah:

Will the Minister of **Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one or two Districts in each State were taken up as pilot projects for planning from below:

(b) the Districts in each State which have been taken up for this purpose; and

(c) the nature of success achieved?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shinde): (a) to (c). Under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme each State has been asked to select two or three districts (one in each of the principal regions of the State) for preparation of integrated area plans on the basis of field surveys. The list of districts where the surveys have been taken

up is as in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-6211/66]. The districts have been selected recently and the surveys are still in progress. It is too early to indicate results.

Movement of Paddy from West Bengal to Bihar and Bihar to U.P.

4764. Shri Madhu Limaye:
Shri Yashpal Singh:

Will the Minister of **Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is an absolute ban on the movement of paddy from West Bengal into Bihar and from Bihar into Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether Government are aware that large number of agricultural labourers go from Uttar Pradesh to the adjoining districts of Bihar at the time of harvest and are often paid their wages in the form of paddy;

(c) whether Government are also aware that after the reorganisation of the State borders many residents in the Kishanganj of Bihar found that these farms were now in areas which have been transferred to West Bengal; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to relieve acute distress caused by the ban on movement of Paddy for these people?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Govinda Menon): (a) Each of the States of West Bengal, Bihar and U.P. is constituted into a separate rice zone and movement of paddy from and into these States is not allowed except under permits and subject to certain exemptions.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Bonafide agricultural labourers of U.P. are allowed to take paddy