

(c) whether the Government have discussed this issue with the Government of Pakistan;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the action being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Due to construction of flood exbankments and spurs on the Pakistan side, due to general country slope from north-west to south-east and also due to meandering of river Ravi, there is more concentration of flow of river Ravi towards Indian side causing soil erosion and damages to crops and other border installations. But for marginal shift due to meandering action of the river, there is no major shift in the course of the river during the current year.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Counter protective works are undertaken by Government of Punjab as and when needed from their own financial resources as well as from the financial assistance provided by Government of India. A "Committee on Special Remedial Works for Flood Protection Embankments on Ravi and Sutlej" constituted in 1989, examines the proposals of the Government of Punjab and recommends specific works to be executed after visit of the affected areas since 1990.

[*Translation*]

Production of Fruits

1654. DR. RAM VILAS VEDANTI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the largest fruit producing State in the country;

(b) whether the Government are taking any step to increase the fruit production in other States also; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) As per the latest production figures of fruits available for the year 1995-96, Bihar is the largest fruit producing State in the country with an annual production of 5.47 million tonnes.

(b) and (c) The Government is implementing a Central Sector Scheme on Development of Tropical, Temperate and Arid zone Fruits covering all States and Union Territories in the country. The outlay for the scheme during 1997-98 with an outlay of Rs. 17.00 crores. The scheme is being continued in 1998-99 with an outlay of Rs. 25.00 crores. Under this scheme assistance is being provided for establishment of nurseries and tissue culture units for distribution of quality planting material, area expansion, rejuvenation of senile orchards, training of farmers and taking up publicity measures.

Water Management Programme

1655. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA:

SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have approved some sub-schemes for implementation under the National Water Management and Command Area Development Programme;

(b) if so, the estimated cost likely to be incurred thereon; and

(c) if not, the time by which the schemes are likely to be approved and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes, Sir. The Union Government has approved a number of schemes under the World Bank assisted National Water Management Project (NWMP) and Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development Programme (CADP).

(b) and (c) The NWMP has closed on March, 1995. An expenditure of Rs. 504.11 crores was incurred under the project till its closure, out of which Rs. 359.8 crores were reimbursed by the World Bank. The CADP is a continuing scheme. A Central assistance of Rs. 1814.68 crores has been released to the States upto March, 1998 under CADP since its inception in FY 1974-75.

[*English*]

Command Area Development Programme

1656. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:

SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds released by the Union Government to State Governments under the Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development Programme during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the details of the target fixed and achievement made by the Government in this regard during this period;

(c) whether several State Governments have sent any suggestion to the Union Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) The details of funds released State-wise during last three years as central assistance by the Union Government under the Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development Programme, are given in the attached statement-I.

(b) The details as received from State Governments in respect of targets fixed and achievements made by them under Core items of On-Farm Development works i.e. construction of field channels, warabandi, construction of field drains and land levelling are given in the statement-II enclosed.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.