

[Translation]

National Seeds Project Phase-III

2156. SHRI RUDRASEN CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the achievements made so far under the National Seeds Project Phase-III;

(b) the future plans under the project;

(c) whether farmers have also been covered under the Seeds Production Programme; and

(d) if so, the number of the farmers and the extent of area covered under the Seed Production Programme, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The National Seeds Project Phase-III, a 64 years Project was cleared in March, 1990. So far, National Seeds Corporation, State Farms Corporation of India and State Seeds Corporation of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh have been taken up for consultancy study. Agreed Action Plan for Andhra Pradesh State Seed Development Corporation has been finalised. Proposals for strengthening of Varietal Development Programme in 52 ICAR projects have been sanctioned. The proposals for strengthening of A.P. State Seed Certification Agency and Assam State Seed Certification Agency at a cost of Rs. 110 lakhs and Rs. 71 lakhs respectively have been sanctioned. Under the Project, NABARD has so far sanctioned investment credit proposals for an amount of Rs. 757.06 lakhs in the private sector.

(b) All project components are to be implemented within the given time frame.

(c) No, Sir, only seed producing agencies are covered for availing investment credit facilities from NABARD.

(d) In view of (c) above, question does not arise.

[English]

Message to African National Congress Conference

2157. SHRIMATI BIBHU KUMARI DEVI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister had sent any message to the recently concluded Conference of African National Congress;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have any information about the outcome of the Conference;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have proposed to render any effective help and aid to the planned struggle there; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Prime Minister sent two messages to the African National Congress Conference held in Durban from July 2-7, 1991—one in his capacity as Prime Minister and the other as President of the Indian National Congress (I). In these messages the Prime Minister reiterated India's support to the ANC and to the quest for the creation of a non racial, democratic and unitary South Africa, based on universal suffrage.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The ANC Conference consolidated Nelson Mandela's leadership of the Movement by electing him President of the African National Congress and prepared the organisation for negotiations with the South African