

(Rs. in crores)

<i>S.No. Name of the Scheme</i>	<i>Allocation for 1992-93</i>
18. Share capital to Starts Tribal Development Co-operative Corporation for MFPs.	2.00
Total:	103.87
19. Special Central Assistance for Tribal Sub-Plan.	250.00

* N.B. The Schemes are both for SCs and STs.

Flood and cyclone Relief

*521. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andaman and Nicobar Administration has sent any proposal to the Union Government for grant of Flood cyclone relief to the left-out cases as per the review list; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) A proposal has been received from the Andaman and Nicobar Administration for reconsidering Government of India's earlier decision on Inter sectoral changes in the ceilings of expenditure approved for flood/cyclone relief in 1988-89 and provision for payment of relief to 3058 leftout cases.

(b) The matter is under consideration of Government of India.

[Translation]

Pakistan Propaganda on Muslims in India

*522. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan is spreading false propaganda regarding Muslims in India;

(b) if so, the reaction of the government thereto; and

(c) the steps taken to counter this propaganda?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Pakistan's statements on the conditions of the Muslim community in India constitute an interference in our internal affairs and are unwarranted and unacceptable. Government's regret and concern at these statements have been conveyed to the Government of Pakistan on a number of occasions.

Indian's secular and democratic policy which guarantees the rights and welfare equally of all communities is universally recognised. Information in this regard is disseminated in other countries through the media and through diplomatic channels.

[English]

Cotton Production

* 523. SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the production of cotton during the Eighth Five-Year Plan;

(b) if so, the strategy proposed to be adopted for this purpose;

(c) the schemes submitted by the Government of Madhya Pradesh for increasing the production of cotton;

(d) the decision taken thereon; and

(e) the financial assistance proposed to be provided to Madhya Pradesh for the purpose during 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) The strategy is to increase the availability of seeds of improved varieties and hybrids, intensify plant protection measures and to strengthen transfer of technology for improved cultivation practices.

(c) and (d). No Scheme has been received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh.

(e) The Government of India propose to continue the Intensive Cotton Development Programme (ICDP) during the 8th Five Year Plan with enhanced outlay, including for Madhya Pradesh.

Pension to Freedom Fighters

*524. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some cases of freedom fighters of Indian national Army for grant of pension are still pending;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a personal hearing is given to those whose cases are rejected; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): (a) and (b). All the applications received by the prescribed date i.e. 31-3-1982, have been considered and

disposed of. Applications, however, continue to be received after this date. These applications are treated as delayed applications and are considered only if proper reasons for delay are given and the applications are accompanied by documentary evidence from official records regarding the person having undergone the minimum suffering as per the scheme.

(c) Yes, Sir, if a person so represents.

(d) Does not arise.

Narp Programme

*525. SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH:
DR. RAVI MALLU:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Agriculture Research Project (NARP) programme has been launched with the World Bank loan to strengthen the zonal research capabilities of State Agricultural Universities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether an independent evaluation of NARP has been conducted so far;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the interest likely to be paid on above loan?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The project aims at strengthening permanently the capabilities of the State Agricultural Universities for conducting location specific production-oriented and need-based research in 120 agro-climatic zones of the country.

(c) As provided in the agreement with the World Bank, a mid-term review was conducted by a Joint Review Team comprising representatives from the