

**Central Aid for Purchase of Sophisticated Trawlers for Prawus**

5061. SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARULKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that prawns, a quality of fish, worth crores of rupees is exported from Ratnagiri district in Maharashtra every year; and

(b) whether Government are aware that there is high potential for catch of this quality of fish on Western coast of Maharashtra and whether Government would give Central assistance to boost this business for purchase of sophisticated trawlers to fishermen?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and it will be placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha in due course.

**Transfer of Farmers Training Centres to State Governments**

5062. SHRI SATISH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Farmers Training Centres of the Directorate of Extension have now been transferred to the State Governments;

(b) if so, how they are doing under this changed condition; and

(c) whether some of them are now being closed by the State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Farmers Training and Education which was in operation since 1966-67 (with 100 per cent Central Assistance) has been transferred to the State Sector according to the decision of the National Development Council with effect from April, 1979.

(b) Since the transfer of the scheme the number of courses conducted by Farmers Training Centres and the number of participants are less.

(c) Yes, Sir. According to the information available the Governments of Assam and Rajasthan have abolished the scheme and have closed down the Farmers Training Centres. The Government of Bihar have issued sanction upto 19-9-1980 for continuance of 4 Farmers Training Centres out of 7 which were in operation at the time of transfer of the scheme to the State Sector.

**Statement correcting the Reply to Unstarred Question No. 2349 dated 30-6-1980 re: Housing Schemes, for Weaker Sections by HUDCO and LIC.**

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI P. C. SETHI): To the Unstarred Question No. 2349 of 30-6-1980 in the Lok Sabha, I gave the following reply:—

“(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.”

2. However, some new facts in regard to the Question have come to light and accordingly the reply already given needs correction. The reply to the Question may, therefore, be read as follows:—

“(a) and (b). The Government of India [Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs—Insurance Division)] has asked the Life Insurance Corporation of India to set aside an amount of Rs. 10 crores for rural housing at concessional rate of interest and frame a suitable scheme.

The Life Insurance Corporation of India has accordingly submitted a scheme to the Government of India [Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs—Insurance Division)] and the same is under consideration of that Ministry.”

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3. Inconvenience caused is regretted.