

due to short circuit. Colleagues from my own State, namely, Prof. K.V. Thomas Mr. Basheer, Mr. P.A. Antony and others came to my help to put out the fire, even before the CPWD people arrived. Now, my question is whether or not the government will issue orders to revamp all the flats without waiting for our requests as fire may not restrict itself to only one flat. Will you please issue order in this regard?

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: There are clear directions that in respect of high-rise buildings, certain procedures have to be followed, certain directives have to be followed, and what are the fire preventive measures which have to be taken. But in some buildings, those measures are not being taken. We are very serious about it. We are taking action against them. Even certain Government buildings have no proper fire preventive measures.

The suggestion of the hon. Member is with regard to Government buildings. Generally, wherever Government buildings are there, it is ensured that fire preventive measures are taken. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: No interruptions please. Please sit down.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the details laid on the table of the House by the hon. Minister, it is mentioned that certain amounts as reliefs have been given to the persons whose Jhuggis were gutted in the said fire incident. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the amounts said to have been paid to the victims were actually paid to them. And further, will he order an enquiry into those cases where affected persons are yet to be paid this amount to find out the reasons therefore. Secondly, I would like to know whether he will give necessary directions to the administration to rehabilitate those jhuggi dwellers who have been rendered homeless as a result of this fire.

MR. SPEAKER: This question has al-

ready been replied by the hon. Minister, perhaps, you did not listen to him properly.

SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD: My question is whether the hon. Minister will order an enquiry into those cases where no amount has so far been paid to the affected persons. They have not been paid any amount by any official.

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down, the hon. Minister is answering.

SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED: The Government has given rupees 500 to each person whose Jhuggis was burnt, we have not received any complaint regarding non-payment of relief to any affected person. The hon. Member may bring such instance, if any, to our notice. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Bimalji, you please sit down. I shall allow you to speak at the appropriate time.

[*English*]

Krishi Vigyan Kendras

*964. **SHRIBALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision to open Krishi Vigyan Kendras in all the districts in the country;

(b) if so, when these are likely to be established; and

(c) the reasons for delay in this regard?

[*Translation*]

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) to (c). The policy of the Government is to open Krishi Vigyan Kendras in various districts of the country as per the availability of funds.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Mr. Speaker Sir, we are not sure about the

present Government's seriousness for the agriculture although it talks much of that. The Government in its policy had already decided to open at least one Agriculture Science Centre in each district of the country. In this context, I would like to know the number of districts in which Krishi Vigyan Kendras have been opened so far, the number of districts in which Krishi Vigyan Kendras are proposed to be opened this year and the money provided in the present budget for this purpose.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir a total number of 105 Krishi Vigyan Kendras have been opened in 103 districts of the country so far. As a matter of policy the National Commission on Agriculture had recommended for the opening of Krishi Vigyan Kendra in every district of the country by 2000 A.D. The present Government has accepted this recommendation in principle. Now the only problem is that of availability of money. I was not satisfied by the answer given this morning in this regard. So I immediately talked to Shri Devi Lal, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Agriculture. During this meeting it was decided that the Ministry of Agriculture would insist that the Planning Commission must comply with the recommendations of the National Commission on Science on this subject and the recommendation pertaining to opening Krishi Vigyan Kendra in each district by 2000 A.D. must be implemented. The Ministry of Agriculture will take active and effective initiative to see that maximum number of Krishi Vigyan Kendras are opened during the current 8th Five Year Plan. Now I think the hon. Member will be satisfied.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we wish that the hon. Minister's assurance is actually implemented. It will be welcomed by us and the farmers as well who should be happy at this development. But the existing number of Krishi Vigyan Kendras in the country is much less than its actual requirement. These centres are not able to perform their functions due to the curtailment in their budget provision. They are not getting even what they used to get

previously. As a result of this, the number of farmer beneficiaries of these centres has reduced to less than half than what it used to be in the past. In this context, I would like to know the steps being taken by the Government to see that maximum number of the farmers of the country may be benefited from these Krishi Vigyan Kendras and their number is not reduced and to provide adequate finances to these centres.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, during the Seventh Five Year Plan whatever expenditure will be incurred on Krishi Vigyan Kendras it will be borne by the Central Government through ICAR. A new policy was put forth in this regard but final decision has not been taken on it. According to the new policy for the first five years the expenditure will be borne by the Central Government and for the next five years the expenditure will be shared equally by the State Government as well as by the Central Government, but it has not yet been finalised. At present the position is that all the expenditure will be borne by the Central Government.

As far as the second part of his question is concerned it is not correct to say that only a few farmers are being imparted training in Krishi Vigyan Kendras or the activities of Kendras have been restricted due to paucity of funds. Krishi Vigyan Kendra are functioning efficiently and in fact they are becoming quite popular. Their activities in many agricultural fields are being expanded and being conducted successfully.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my question has not been replied. I had asked whether the number of Krishi Vigyan Kendras have been reduced to half due to paucity of funds and whether sufficient funds are also not available to run the remaining Centres.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, training is being imparted to farmers in these Kendras and they carry on the work of adoption administration and operational administration. The new technologies which

are evolved in the field of agriculture are propagated in those districts for which they are found suitable. The women farmer and young farmers are being imparted training in different fields by these Kendras and the technology which is found most suitable for a particular district is put into operation by these Kendras. There are various activities of the Kendras. Their activities have not been curtailed rather their utility has been realised and their activities have been increased.

[*English*]

SHRI K.S. RAO: Sir, the population of the country is doubling almost every 30 years.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr Rao, you always give some information.

SHRI K.S. RAO: Yes, Sir. But the Government itself has provided the information that almost one million hectare of land is being urbanised or being used for commercial and other such purposes every year. That means the land for cultivation is going down in this country. So, the only method left to us to improve the efficiency or the yield per acre of the land, is to train the farmers intensively. The farmers have now reached to a stage where they can adopt modern technology. They can learn it and they have proved on many occasions that they can improve the yield twice or thrice the present standard, if they are trained properly. This Government has made a lot of publicity that it is committed for agro-economy. Now, the hon. Minister has himself agreed that he is not satisfied with his own answer. But that is not sufficient. As it is visible, they have not made any arrangement for increasing the allocation through the Planning Commission in the Eighth Plan.

MR. SPEAKER: He is anxious.

SHRI K.S. RAO: Anxiety is not sufficient. It should be turned into action. I wish to know from the hon. Minister whether at least now in the late hour, he will impress upon not

only the Hon. Agricultural Minister but also the Cabinet and the Planning Commission to ensure that almost all the districts are provided with Krishi Vigyan Kendras in the 8th Plan positively or even earlier if possible, so that farmers can be trained to increase the production by at least three-folds by the 8th Plan.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have already given a reply to the question raised by the hon. Member. I had stated that this matter will be seriously considered by the Planning Commission so that funds could be allotted for opening of more Krishi Vigyan Kendras in maximum number of districts during the eighth plan. We will take approval of the Planning Commission and Cabinet both as they have collective responsibility. When Government is admitting naturally an initiative will be taken by them in view of their utility.

SHRI NANI BHATTACHARYA: What are the norms for setting up a Krishi Vigyan Kendras whether these norms are being followed and whether the State-wise break-up in this regard available with you and if so, please enlighten us.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the norms adopted so far for opening of Kendriya Vigyan Kenda, are backward areas because from the very beginning priority is being given to the backward areas. Secondly a tract of 50 acres of land should be available there and it should be a representative area for that district where every type of agricultural work is being undertaken and the crops sown in that area can be exhibited. Thirdly the facility of roads and electricity should be available there. In view of all these norms I have a list of 105 Krishi Vigyan Kendras. If hon. Member and House desire, I will furnish the state-wise break up.

SHRI CHHAVIRAMARGAL: The policy and intention of the Government is very clear. Since priority has been given to the Agricultural Sector, Government has decided

to open Krishi Vigyan Kendras at district headquarters. Madhya Pradesh is a backward state but Krishi Vigyan Kendras have been opened there even at divisional headquarter level. Whether the commissioner headquarters will be placed on top in the priority list whether provisions will be made to open a Kendra at Chambal headquarter of my constituency which is also a commissioner headquarter? Whether these kendras will be opened in Bind and Murena on priority basis?

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: It would not be possible for me to tell right now whether a Krishi Vigyan Kendra can be opened in a particular area or not. But as I have already stated priority is given to the backward areas. If the previous Government has lacked somewhere, it will be taken care of and as I have just now mentioned that during the eighth five year plan these centers will be opened at maximum number of places.

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH: How many Krishi Vigyan Kendras have been opened in Bihar so far and what is their position?

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: In Bihar 8 Krishi Vigyan Kendras have been opened so far.

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH: Please furnish state-wise breakup.

MR. SPEAKER: Don't ask for state-wise figures as hon. Minister has already stated that state-wise break up will be laid on the Table of the House.

SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD SHASTRI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Krishi Vigyan Kendras have been opened so far only in 103 districts. It means that there are no Krishi Vigyan Kendras in three-fourth districts of the country. In view of the fact that Madhya Pradesh is the most backward State in the country and its per acres production as well as per acre productively is very low. May I know the number of Krishi Vigyan Kendras which have

been opened in Madhya Pradesh? It has been decided that by the year 2000 Krishi Vigyan Kendras will be opened in each district of the country, it means that all districts will not be covered by the next Five Year Plan. I want to know the names of the districts in which Krishi Vigyan Kendras will be opened during eighth Five Year Plan and the norms to be adopted for opening them and the number of districts where Krishi Vigyan Kendras will be set up by the final year of Eighth Five Year Plan?

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, answer to these questions have already been given.

[English]

Traffic Handled at Major Ports

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*965. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI:
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the traffic handled at the 12 major ports during 1989-90 and the corresponding figures for 1988-89 and 1987-88, portwise;

(b) whether traffic handled by these ports has come down during year 1989-90 as compared to that of the previous two years; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefore, portwise?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the table of the House.

(a) and (b). There are 11 major ports. Traffic handled at these major ports during the year 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90 is given below: