

Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Integrated Brackishwater Fish Farm Development". Construction and operation of brackish-water fish/prawn farms and modern prawn seed hatcheries; establishment of Brackish-water Fish Farmers' Development Agencies in the coastal districts for providing a package of technical, financial and extension support to prawn farmers; establishment of pilot farms and pilot commercial prawn seed hatcheries with the assistance of foreign experts under a UNDP assisted Coastal Aquaculture Project, are the major components of this scheme.

- (ii) Import of technology with the assistance of International Funding Agencies and through technical collaboration under Joint Ventures for upgrading and standardising the indigenous technology for aquaculture;
- (iii) Establishment of 2 commercial scale prawn seed hatcheries with imported modern technology by the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) under the Ministry of Commerce;
- (iv) Stepping up of the research activities on sea farming/mariculture, shrimp and fish farming by the Fisheries Research Institutes of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR); etc.

[*Translation*]

Telephone Connections in Nalanda District, Bihar

8090. SHRI R.S. PRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people in the waiting list for telephone connections in Nalanda District, Bihar; and

(b) the time by which they would be provided telephone connections and steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) 296 as on 4.5.1990.

(b) The existing waiting list for telephone connections will be cleared progressively during 1990-91 and 1991-92.

Damage Caused by Hailstorm in Bihar

8091. SHRI DASAI CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been widespread damage to crop in Bihar due to heavy snowfall and hailstorm on 29 March, 1990;

(b) if so, the reasons for not giving compensation to the farmers under Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme in Darbhanga, Samastipur and Vaishali districts of Bihar; and

(c) the time by which compensation is likely to be given these farmers?