

being financially assisted for undertaking these programmes. All these programmes would be continued during 1990-91 also.

Scheme for Financing Rural Housing

4388. CH. JAGDEEP DHANKHAR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme for financing rural housing; and

(b) if so, the amount channelised for rural housing during the Seventh Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The State Sector scheme of allotment of House-sites and construction Assistance to Rural Landless Workers under the Minimum Needs Programme is being implemented in the State Sector by various State Governments/UTs with a view to providing shelter to poor households in the rural areas. Against a plan outlay Rs. 577 crores during the 7th Five Year Plan, the total anticipated expenditure during the first 4 years of the 7th Plan upto 1988-89 is Rs. 485.21 crores. The outlay for the year 1989-90 is Rs. 156.13 crores.

In addition, the Indira Awas Yojana, a Central Sector Scheme, was launched in 1985 with a view to provide shelter to the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe families and freed bonded labourers in the rural areas. An amount of Rs. 471 crores has been allocated from 1985-86 to 1988-89. During the year 1989-90 Rs. 157.38 crores has been allocated.

Inclusion of Fishermen in ST Category in A.P.

4389. SHRIMATI UMA GAJAPATHI RAJU: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the long standing demand from the fishermen community in Andhra Pradesh for their inclusion in the Scheduled Tribes category; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN):

(a) and (b). A Cabinet note on the comprehensive revision of the lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was prepared and submitted to the Cabinet of the previous Government for their consideration. The Cabinet in their meeting held on 26.12.88 had deferred the matter. The present Government is examining afresh all proposals, recommendations, suggestions, etc., received in this regard. In view of Articles 341 (2) and 342(2) of the Constitution, any amendments to the existing lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have to be made only through an Act of Parliament.

[*Translation*]

Central Fund to Bihar for Irrigation purposes

4390. SHRI UPENDRANATH VERMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state the funds allocated by Union Government to Bihar during the last two years for irrigation purposes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): During the last 2 years, a sum of Rs. 2977.71 lakhs has been provided to Bihar under Special Foodgrains Production and Command Area Development Programmes. Besides this, external assistance amounting to US\$52.70 million has been provided for Subarnarekha Project and Bihar Tubewells.