

13. Mr. Michael Baxter,
The World Bank,
New Delhi.
14. Dr. S. Guru Raja,
Project Officer,
UNICEF,
New Delhi.
15. Dr. Rosalind Eyben,
Social Development Advisor
(ODA),
British High Commission,
New Delhi.

[English]

Pay Scales of TV News Readers

*454. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the remunerations, pay and allowances given to the TV news-readers by Doordarshan ;

(b) whether Doordarshan provides saris and other dress materials to the ladies and gents news-readers respectively ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) the service conditions of various categories of news-readers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : (a) to (d). Doordarshan have two categories of news readers i.e. regular, who are on artist's contract and casual. The news readers on artist's contract are in the fee scale and draw other allowances as prescribed by the Government from time to time. The casual news readers are paid a fee ranging from Rs. 150/- to Rs. 400/- per assignment on national network depending on their experience and performance. For local bulletins, they are paid a fee of Rs. 150/- per bulletin.

2. The news readers are not provided with dress or dress material but they can, if required, use the dress etc. available in the wardrobes maintained by Doordarshan Kendras. They are, however, guided about the use of colour according to the demands of T.V.

3. The service conditions of news readers who are on artist's contract are governed by the rules prescribed by the Government from time to time.

[Translation]

Crop Insurance Scheme

*455. SHRI ARVIND NETAM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether different norms have been laid down to determine the threshold yield in various States for the implementation of the Crop Insurance Scheme ; and

(b) whether there are separate administrative units in various States for the payment of compensation ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G.S. DHILLON) : (a) The norms for all purposes including determination of threshold yield for implementation of Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS) are uniform throughout the country. However, the unit size of the crop insurance under the scheme is different from State to State which may be a district/tehsil/block/taluka or other smaller contiguous area depending upon the availability of yield data for the last three years for wheat and paddy and 5 years for other crops as also possibility of conducting minimum 16 crop cutting experiments for each of the crops covered under the scheme at such level.

(b) All implementing States/U.Ts. have set up "State Level Crop Insurance Fund" for all purposes including payment of indemnity claims.

[English]

Supply of Seeds and Inputs to Farmers at Subsidised Rates

4399. SHRI U.H. PATEL :

SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN
RAMJIBHAI MAVANI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have some programmes for providing seeds, manure and other assistance to the farmers