

[Translation]

Employment of Farmers and Agricultural Labourers during Lean Period

*20. SHRI CHHITTUBHAI GAMIT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a phased programme is being formulated by the Government to provide employment to the farmers and agricultural labourers in the villages during the period of seasonal unemployment to raise their income; and

(b) whether Government propose to promote village industries, cottage industries and domestic industries in the villages, if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) : (a) In order to provide employment opportunities to the unemployed and underemployed in the rural areas, Government have launched the National Rural Employment Programme from October, 1980. In addition, Government have launched another rural employment programme namely the Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme from 15th of August, 1983 with the objective of improving and expanding employment opportunities for the rural landless.

(b) Under the Integrated Rural Development Programme self employment is promoted by giving assistant to rural families living below the poverty line for taking up income generating activities including activities in the industries, service and business sectors.

In addition, the Khadi and Village Industries, Commission is engaged in promoting village industries and the entire funds for the activities of the Commission are provided by the Govt. of India. The Commission is likely to provide employment to about 39 lakhs persons under its various activities by the end of 1984-85.

The Government have also launched a scheme for providing employment to educated unemployed youth including those

in rural areas from 15th August, 1983. Under the scheme, educated unemployed youth within the age group of 18 to 35 years, who have passed matriculation examination and above and do not belong to the affluent sections are provided with a composite loan upto Rs. 25,000 at a lower rate of interest namely 10% for backward areas and 12% for non-backward areas. Against the target of 2.5 lakh ventures, upto 31st March, 1984, 2.42 lakh applications have been sanctioned by the banks for credit amounting to Rs. 401 crores. This scheme has been extended for 1984-85 with the same target.

[English]

Allocation of Foodgrains to States

*25. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the demands made by various State Governments for the supply of wheat and rice from Central Government for September, October and November, 1984;

(b) how much supply has been made to them for these months;

(c) whether certain States have not received the quota of foodgrains as per their requirement; if so, the names of such States; and

(d) what steps are being taken to fulfil their demands fully ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a), (b) & (c). A statement showing demand, allotment and offtake of wheat and rice from the Central Pool during September, October and November, 1984 in respect of various States is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 83/85]

(d) Allocations of foodgrains from the Central Pool to various states are made on a month to month basis taking into account the overall availability of stocks in the Central Pool, relative needs of the various states, market availability and other related factors. The allocations from