

(b) how this is to be achieved in Orissa when the State is in the grip of drought again?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO): (a) The food production target fixed for 1980-81 by the Planning Commission for Orissa is 6.63 million tonnes against the country's target of 125 million tonnes.

(b) Meteorological reports indicate that rainfall has been widespread during June 1980 all over Orissa favouring agricultural operations. Taking advantage of this situation, the food-grains production target for Orissa is proposed to be achieved by the State by:—

(i) Raising the area under High-Yielding Varieties from 10.0 lakh hectares in 1979-80 to 16.5 lakh hectares during 1980-81.

(ii) Coordinated efforts for full utilisation of irrigation facilities, increased use of fertilisers, adequate supply of inputs and strengthening of extension education.

(iii) Implementing a community nursery programme of rise over 2200 hectares at a cost of Rs. 22 lakhs.

(iv) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme on intensive programme for development of pulses is in operation in two districts. The scheme aims at demonstrations on farmer's fields; provision of training for farmers and extension workers; production of Rhizobium culture; strengthening of the seed production arrangements;

and expansion of plant protection measures.

Extension of period for Sugar Co-operative Factory, Visakhapatnam

*526. SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received an application to extend the period of construction of Cooperative Sugar factory at Kothakota in Visakhapatnam District in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon;

(c) whether the Government are considering extending any financial assistance to the said sugar factory in view of the sugar shortage; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The validity period of the licence has been extended upto 30-6-1981.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

News item "Chaos in Telegraph offices"

*527. SHRI P. K. KODIYAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in the *Indian Express* dated 18th June, 1980 regarding chaos in Telegraph Offices;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have made any enquiry into the allegations?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI C. M. STEPHEN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A statement is placed on the table of the House.