

production in 1982-83 as compared to the preceding year is estimated at 6.3 million tonnes. The corresponding shortfall during the previous drought year of 1979-80 was of the order of 22.2 million tonnes.

(f) There has been no shortfall in rabi crops of 1982-83. In fact, the rabi production of foodgrains has been a record and exceeded the plan target. The shortfall in Kharif production has been largely met from the buffer stocks and increased supplies from the rabi crop. If the rainfall this year is normal the supplies of foodgrains would be adequate.

Buffer Stock of Sugar

*10. SHRI ANANTHA RAMULU MALLU :
SHRI N.E. HORO :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to review the upward limit of the buffer stocks of sugar ; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the scheme of Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD) :

(a) Review of the quantum of buffer stock of sugar is under consideration.

(b) No final decision has yet, been taken.

Additional Funds for Irrigation Project

*11. SHRI P.M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission has agreed to consider to increase the outlay for irrigation for the last two years of the Sixth Plan ;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry had been pressing the Planning Commission to consider the same ;

(c) if so, to what extent Planning Com-

mission has agreed to provide additional funds for the irrigation projects ; and

(d) what are the projects that will be undertaken under this increased outlay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Discussions are taking place between Planning Commission and Ministry of Finance about the quantum of additional funds for the current year.

(b) The Ministry of Irrigation has been pressing for additional funds for the year 1983-84 and 1984-85.

(c) No indication is as yet available about the quantum of additional funds.

(d) In view of reply to (c) above the question does not arise.

Soil Conservation and Irrigation in North Bengal

*13. SHRI NIREN GHOSH :
SHRI ANANDA PATHAK :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a project scheme was prepared for soil conservation and irrigation on one million acres of land in North Bengal in a phased manner ;

(b) if so, details of the scheme and reasons for delay in implementing it ;

(c) whether Central Government consider that the project is now an important one ;

(d) if so, how it would be implemented ; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b). The West Bengal Government formulated a project for development of North Bengal