

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

Tarai Region for increasing agricultural production over a period of 5 years. The scheme envisages to cover an area of 47,379 hectares with soil conservation measures and additional irrigation facilities.

The proposal was posed for seeking financial assistance from the Government of Netherlands. Bilateral discussions between the two countries have been recently concluded. Implementation of the scheme is proposed to be taken up after the financial assistance is made available by the Netherland Government.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The project will be implemented through the agencies of the State Government.

(e) Does not arise.

Targets for Command Area Development Programme

*14. SHRI G.Y. KRISHNAN : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to lay a statement showing :

(a) whether it is a fact that serious slip in progress has occurred in achieving plan targets for Command Area Development Programme which are critical for utilising irrigation potential in this country ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Centre has issued some more guidelines to States in this regard to mobilise resources and make higher provisions for Command Area Development Programme during the remaining period of Sixth Five Year Plan ; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) For the Sixth Plan period (1980-85) the targets fixed comprise ;

(i) construction of field channels in an area of 4.0 million hectares and

(ii) carrying out land levelling and

shaping in an area of 1.0 million hectares. The achievement during the first three years of Sixth Plan are 2.79 million hectares and 0.26 million hectares, respectively. The targets for 1983-84 envisage 1.0 million hectares under field channel and 0.15 million hectares under land levelling. Thus in respect of field channel programme the target will be exceeded while in case of land levelling there may be some shortfall.

(b) and (c). No specific guidelines have been issued. However, during the annual plan discussions in the Planning Commission and review meetings taken by the Ministry, it has been emphasised on the State Governments to make higher provisions for Command Area Development Programme.

Loss due to Cyclone and Rain in Saurashtra

*15. SHRI RAMJI BHAI MAVANI :
SHRI UTTAM RATHOD :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Gujarat Government have submitted some detailed reports to Centre regarding the loss of human lives, animals, agriculture and property due to the recent cyclone and heavy rains in Saurashtra region of Gujarat ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) how much amount has been asked for by Gujarat from the Centre ;

(d) how much amount has been sanctioned/given ; and

(e) how much amount is likely to be given by Central Government in kind and cash therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) to (e). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.