

Rs. 100.86 lakhs for the year 1974-75 to 1976-77; and

(d) whether any decision has been taken by Government on this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) Yes sir.

(b) 48 per cent.

(c) Yes sir.

(d) Not yet.

Effect of Power Shortage on Farm Operation and Supply of Diesel to Farmers

*382. **SHRI D. D. DESAI:**

SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAKODKAR:

Will the Minister of **AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION** be pleased to state:

(a) whether farm operations have been affected in the country owing to power shortage;

(b) if so, whether farmers had made any complaints to this effect recently; and

(c) if so, whether any steps have been taken by his Ministry to supply adequate supply of diesel to assist where farm operations were threatened by shortage of power?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) Timely availability of irrigation and other farm operations have been affected to some extent in some parts of the country owing to power shortage.

(b) Complaints of farmers from some areas in a few States were

received about the power shortage affecting irrigation of crops.

(c) Yes, Sir. Apart from insisting on the States to provide electric power for irrigation pumping on a priority basis by imposing restrictions on the use of power consumption in the non-agricultural sector, number of steps were also taken to improve the supply of diesel oil for irrigation pumping and other farm operations. These include:

(i) making realistic assessment of the requirement of diesel oil and issuing on this basis diesel allocation cards to the consumers in the agriculture sector so that supplies to such consumers could be ensured on priority,

(ii) taking measures for economising in the consumption of high speed diesel oil in transport sector.

(iii) imposing a ban on the use of diesel oil for power generation for festive purposes under the essential commodities act.

Fish Production

*383. **SHRI SAKTI KUMAR SARKAR:** Will the Minister of **AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION** be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made to increase fish output in the country;

(b) whether during the next year more districts are proposed to be included in the Fish Farmers' Development Schemes; and

(c) if so, the State-wise and district-wise breakup of the proposals under Fish Farmer's Development Agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) In order to increase fish output, several Developmental Schemes have been taken up.

As a result, the number of mechanised fishing boats in operation for coastal fishing has gone up from 6461 nos in 1968-69 to 9300 in 1973-74. 31 nos of large/medium fishing vessels have also been introduced. The exploratory fisheries project at Bombay and its attached 11 sub-stations all along the coast and the Integrated Fisheries Project at Cochin have been conducting exploratory survey of marine fisheries resources. The UNDP Pelagic Fisheries Project at Cochin has also been conducting pelagic fisheries surveys. As a result of the work, extensive stocks of deep sea shrimp, lobsters, anchovies, and shallow-water mix have been located. Fish output is expected to go up further when these resources are exploited by the Industry.

In the inland fisheries sector about 6 lakh hectares of water area has been brought under fish culture, the average fish production being 600 kg./hectare. Technology have now been standardised by the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute, Calcutta for achieving an annual production of over 5000 kg./ha. from tanks and ponds. In order to establish an effective mechanism to popularise the technology, a Central Scheme for setting up of Fish Farmers Development Agency has been sanctioned. These agencies one in each of the States of West Bengal (Burdwan Distt.), Bihar (Champanan Distt.), Karnataka (Mysore Distt.) Madhya Pradesh (Raipur Distt.) and Assam (Kamrup Distt.) have been set up, aimed at achieving a level of fish production of at least 1500 kg./ha.

As a result of various developmental measures introduced, annual fish production rose from 9.61 laks tonnes in 1961 to 19.53 lakhs tonnes in 1973.

(b) Yes. Sir.

(c) The State-wise and District-wise break-up of the Agencies, proposals concerning which have been received from the State Governments

and under consideration for sanction by the Centre in 1975-76, are as follows:—

State	District
1. Andhra Pradesh	Karimnagar
2. Haryana	Karnal
3. Kerala	Palghat
4. Maharashtra	Bhandara
5. Orissa	Canjam
6. Rajasthan	Bhilwara
7. Gujarat	Surat
8. Tamil Nadu	Tanjavoor

Employment to able-bodied adults in Gujarat for Scarcity Works

3504. SHRI ARVIND M. PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the able-bodied adults have been given employment at scarcity works in Gujarat State;

(b) if so, the amount of daily wages paid; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The amount of daily wages paid depends on the quantum of work done, subject to a maximum of Rs. 3 per day.

(c) Does not arise.

Import of Fish from Bangladesh

3505. SHRI S. N. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a fresh proposal for the import of fish from Bangladesh;

(b) if so, whether any break through has been achieved for the import of fish from Bangladesh; and