

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the discussions held at the recent National Seminar on 'Science for Social Development' organised by the Indian Association of Advancement of Sciences;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken note of the observations made by the representative of the Food and Agriculture Organisation in India that the main reason for lower rate of agricultural production in India is the lack of coordination between the farmers and the Agricultural Research Institutes; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard ?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) So far, the recommendations of the Seminar on 'Science for Social Development' have not been received.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA : I thought, my turn would not come.

MR. SPEAKER : Should I ask a supplementary ?

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the farmer in the country today is facing a serious financial crisis. Therefore, will the Government in all seriousness and sincerity evolve a policy to provide them help so that they could get a remunerative price for their produce ?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : We have adopted that policy but the question is not on that.

[*English*]

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Apart from financing the research institutes which they are doing to a very large extent, more than Rs. 100 crores on ICAR and others for agricultural research, how much money they have allocated for extension of the work coming out of the research institutes to the farmers and what do they plan to do in this respect ?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : The reports are not available with me. But I can inform the hon. Member that there are extension services in States. There is training and visit service which also works very well in a number of States. There is an Extension Division in my Ministry which also guides through farmer melas, etc. This is all extension work.

SHRI BASAVARAJESWARI : Has it come to the notice of the Government that production of rice as per international standard is much lower in the country as compared to other crops; if so, what steps Government proposes to take to augment the present rice production according to international standard ?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : This question is on a seminar on science for social development. This is not regarding yield or production of rice. Anyhow, I can tell the hon. Member that we have taken up the programme in eastern States for development of rice so that productivity can be increased. There are a number of other programmes which should help the small and marginal farmers who are cultivating paddy.

[*Translation*]

#### Steps to Increase Production of Oilseeds in Gujarat

\*161. SHRI C.D. GAMIT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether keeping in view the demand for edible oils, Government have prepared any scheme to encourage farmers to

increase the production of groundnut and oilseeds in Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the financial assistance given or proposed to be given to Gujarat for the purpose ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b) A Statement is given below.

**Statement**

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of India has launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, namely, National Oilseeds Development Project since 1984-85, in important oilseeds growing States including Gujarat with a view to increasing the production of oilseeds including groundnut. Under the Project, 14 Districts in Gujarat have been identified for intensive development of oilseeds, including groundnut. The Project covers production and distribution of quality seeds, distribution of input-kits, production of Rhizobium Culture, conducting large sized demonstrations, providing effective plant protection umbrella and supply of improved Agricultural implements and sprinkler sets.

A sum of Rs. 462.032 lakhs has been sanctioned to Gujarat State during 1986-87. Out of this the share of the Government of India is Rs. 251.016 lakhs and the share of Gujarat State is Rs. 211.016 lakhs.

[Translation]

SHRI C.D. GAMIT : Mr. Speaker, Sir. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that the Government of Gujarat has submitted a scheme for the development of groundnut and oilseeds cultivation in Gujarat to the Central Government and if so, the details

thereof and what concrete steps have been taken or are proposed to be taken by the Centre to implement that scheme ?

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

**Strike in Textile Mills in Maharashtra**

\*142. SHRI VLLAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to State :

(a) the particulars of textile mills in Maharashtra where strike is going on and since when this strike has been continuing ;

(b) the main demands of the employees ;

(c) the steps taken by the Ministry so far to end the strike ; and

(d) the extent of loss suffered due to the strike ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) According to the information received from the Government of Maharashtra, the appropriate authority under I.D. Act, 1947, there is at present no strike in any textile mill in the State.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

**New Technique to Increase Agricultural Production**

\*145. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a new technique has been introduced to increase the agricultural production in various parts of the country ;