

placement of seed and fertilizer, which is cost saving as well as can be fabricated using locally available materials, has been developed.

IV. Agricultural Engineering

- Development of improved farm implements, hand tools and equipments which include animal drawn blade harrow, sprayer for tall crops, groundnut pod stripper, multi-crop thresher etc.

- Post-harvest techniques/equipment/processes are developed which include fruit harvesting device, flour separator, foot operated cotton ginning machine etc.

- Evolution of techniques for using renewable energy sources which include rice husk based gasifiers, solar dryers, bio-gas run engines etc.

V. Animal Science

- Development of a sera bank for generating antisera against erythrocytic antigen of cattle.

- Establishment of semen freezing laboratory at the Project Directorate on Cattle, Meerut.

- A new genotype of sheep "Keri" developed.

- Improvement in 10 white leg horn strains of poultry.

- A germplasm bank with "Murrah" and "Nili Ravi" Bulls has been established.

- Use of Embryo Transfer Technology for quick genetic improvement.

VI. Fisheries

- Use of marine remote sensing information for Scientific Management of capture fisheries and fishery forecasting.

- Development of package of technologies for carp culture, multiple spawning of carps, freshwater prawn culture, fresh water pearl production, integrated aquaculture with crop and animals etc.

- Technologies for breeding, seed production and culture of cold water fishes like "trout" and "Masheer".

- Development of mariculture technology and pearl oyster and pearl production.

- Designing of fabrication and commercialization of 4-blade and fuel efficient fishing craft.

- Development and commercialisation of absorbable surgical sutures from fish guts.

VII. Agricultural Economics and Statistics

- Establishment of a new research centre on Agricultural Economics and Policy Research.

- New designs for planning and analysis of agricultural experiments.

VIII. Support Services

- Establishment of 75 new KVKs for on-farm testing, vocational training and front-line demonstration on important crops.

- Under the National Agricultural Research Project, 120 Zonal Stations with 343 Centres have been established/strengthened.

- Launching of World Bank aided Agricultural Human Resource Development Project.

- Launching of Institute-Village Linkage programme for Technology assessment, refinement and transfer.

- Several reforms for better work-culture at ICAR Headquarters.

Giant Fresh Water Prawns

*226. SHRI RAM KAPSE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the scientists of the Central Institute of Fresh Water Agriculture, Bhubaneswar and Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute, Barrackpore have pointed out that the problem of environment fouling caused by large scale Prawn Farming in the coastal areas can be controlled by encouraging trade circles to rear the 'eco-friendly' Giant Freshwater Prawns known as 'Scampi';

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Questions do not arise in view of (a) above.

Marketing Facility for Fruits

*227. SHRI LAETA UMBREY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the fruits and vegetables are produced in large quantities in the North-Eastern States particularly in the Arunachal Pradesh;

(b) whether the producers are being exploited by the Dalals due to absence of the marketing facilities;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken to provide marketing facilities to the producers in the States; and

(e) the role played by the TRIFED in the State so far?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : (a) No, Sir.