

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.

(b) to (d). Statement is enclosed.

(e) TRIFED has not played any role in the marketing of fruits and vegetables in the State so far.

STATEMENT

In all the hilly States of the region, including Arunachal Pradesh marketing of fruits and vegetables is done through direct sale by the farmers either at the road side stalls or in the local markets, and also sold in the terminal markets which in turn are purchased by the merchants/traders for transportation outside or within the region. In the first case the returns are quite high, while in the latter, produce is sold at low price due to unorganised marketing system prevailing and long distance and high transportation costs.

1. The Ministry of Agriculture through National Horticulture Board have formulated schemes for providing soft loan facilities to public/private units for setting up of infrastructure for post harvest handling and marketing of these commodities.

2. All the States in the region except Manipur and Mizoram have enacted Market Regulation Act for setting up regulated market committees for regulating and managing markets of fruits and vegetables and other agricultural commodities.

3. The North Eastern Council (NEC) has set up a North Eastern Regional Marketing Corporation (NERAMAC) in 1982 with the basic objectives of organising and promoting marketing of major agricultural and horticultural produce and processed products. The corporation has set up a large pineapple juice concentrate plant in Tripura, juice vending machines in different towns to promote consumption of this fruit, marketing of crops like ginger, turmeric, pineapple juice concentrate and other fruit products.

4. NEC is also assisting the States of the region for developing infrastructure facilities for marketing of agricultural and horticultural produce.

Coarse Cereals

* 228. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI :

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are conscious of the importance of Coarse Cereals especially for the poor and seeking higher level of productivity through implementation of the special foodgrains production programme;

(b) if so, the extent to which the Government are confident of higher Coarse Cereals Productivity; and

(c) the details of the steps being taken to increase the productivity of Coarse Cereals alongwith the names

of States where special programmes are likely to be implemented to achieve the higher productivity level?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Government are conscious about the importance of Coarse Cereals for the various segments of society including poorer sections. The production and productivity was sought to be stepped up through the Special Foodgrain Production Programme (SFPP) and now through Integrated Cereals Development Programme (ICDP) in Coarse Cereals based, Rice based and Wheat based cropping system areas through which assistance is given for increased productivity of cereals namely coarse cereals, rice and wheat.

It is expected that the productivity level of coarse cereals will further improve with the implementation of said schemes.

(c) Under various ICDP schemes assistance is provided for multiple components like seed distribution, identified farm implements, sprinkler sets and productivity award in all blocks covered under the scheme. The two components of demonstration and training are additionally available in such identified blocks whose productivity is less than the National/ State average productivity level.

The States covered under Integrated Cereal Development Programme - Coarse Cereals are Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh (except Chhatisgarh region), Maharashtra, Rajasthan (except Ganganagar and Hanumangarh districts) and Sikkim.

Production/Supply of Petroleum

* 229. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION had evolved a working scheme in collaboration with the Indian Oil, Hindustan Petroleum and Bharat Petroleum for adequate supply of Petroleum and its production for the North India in July, 1994;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present status of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas

* 230. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas