

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE :
(DR. G.S. DHILLON): (a) and (b) A Technical Assistant T-6 of National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal committed suicide on 11th May, 1986. The police is investigating the case. A Sub-Committee of the Governing Body of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has been constituted to determine the facts and identify administrative and Scientific lapses, if any, leading to the above incident. The result of the police investigations and the report of the Sub-Committee are awaited.

(c) Three Scientists of ICAR have committed suicide since 1970.

(d) and (e) The Sub-Committee of the Governing Body of ICAR, referred to above has also been asked to make specific suggestions for improvement in procedure and administrative set up, if any, considered necessary:

Agents Cheating People for Employment in Gulf Countries

1290. **SHRI SIMON TIGGA :** Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that over 1500 persons in Bombay are awaiting Gulf Visas ;

(b) if so, the action being taken against manpower agents who are found cheating the people in the name of providing employment in Gulf countries ;

(c) the arrangements made to check such cheating ; and

(d) the number of licences of such agents cancelled during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Monitoring of Central Schemes

1291. **PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a new system of monitoring the Centrally sponsored schemes which are under execution by the States, has been introduced recently so as to streamline the process of execution and to ensure the completion of such schemes in time ; and

(b) if so, the main characteristics of this monitoring system and date of its introduction along with the results from monitoring of scheme in the fields of drinking water supply, irrigation, IRDP and NREP during the year 1985-86 and 1986-87 so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV) : (a) and (b) A Concurrent Evaluation of Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) has been introduced from October, 1985 on a continuing monthly basis. The concurrent evaluation is carried out through 29 reputed research/academic organisations. For this purpose 36 districts are taken up every month, 2 blocks in each district and 20 beneficiaries families in each block—10 old and 10 new. Mainly the income generation aspects are studied in the case of old families and procedural aspects relating to selection etc. in the case of new families. The results of the studies from October, 1985 to March, 1986 are given in the statement given below.

In the case of other centrally sponsored schemes with which this Ministry is concerned viz. NREP, Accelerated Rural Water Supply etc., the usual periodical progress reports are obtained.

Statement

The main findings for the period Oct., 1985 to March 1986 show that poorest of the poor have predominant coverage as compared to other groups of the poor. At the national level, as per records, 99%

eligible families had annual income between Rs. 1—Rs. 3500/-. Only 1% families were having income between Rs. 3601/- to Rs. 4800/-. On the basis of the assessment of annual income of the family at the time of the assistance, by the investigator, in about 7% cases, the annual income of the family was more than Rs. 4000/- which is the cut-off line for the purpose of identification. Regarding the mode of selection, about 60% beneficiaries were selected in the meetings of the Gram Sabha. About 35% beneficiaries were selected by officials and the remaining 5% cases were selected by others who include MP/MLA/VLC/Landlord/Employer and fellow villagers/neighbours.

About 78% beneficiaries have found the assistance sufficient for acquiring their assets. The remaining 22% cases did not find the assistance sufficient. Of these, in about 14% cases, the beneficiaries have met the balance money from their own resources and in the remaining 8% cases, they have met it by borrowings. Of all the beneficiaries of the sample, about 26% received working capital. About 40% did not require any working capital. The remaining 34% required working capital, but did not receive it.

Further, in about 31% cases, the repayment period was less than three years. Assets were found intact in about 70% cases. In the remaining 30% cases, the assets were not intact (i.e. either sold, fully perished, partly perished, defective or others). Continued support and care was given by Government agencies in about 29% cases at the national level. After-care support was not made available in about 39% cases and in about 32% cases, the beneficiaries did not feel need for any such support.

77% cases had additional income from the assets. On the basis of the revised poverty line of Rs. 6400/- about 11% of the old beneficiaries have crossed the poverty line. However, 46% of the beneficiaries have crossed the earlier poverty line of Rs. 3500/-.

Wastage of Fruits and Vegetables

1292: DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of fruits and vegetables produced in the country being wasted for lack of transport, storage and processing facilities ; and

(b) the steps taken to save them from wastage ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV) : (a) No Comprehensive survey/study has been made to estimate the percentage of fruits and vegetables being wasted for lack of transport, storage and processing facilities. It is, however, estimated that such losses may be around 30% of the production of fruits and vegetables.

(b) In order to reduce such losses/wastage, the following steps have been taken by Department of Food :

(i) Modern Food Industries (India) Limited, a public sector undertaking of the Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies, has diversified its activities and taken up processing of fruits and vegetables. The company is already producing various fruit drinks under the brand name 'RASIKA' and is engaged in setting up a fruit processing unit at Bhagalpur in Bihar and a pineapple processing unit at Silchar in Assam. It is also considering proposals to set up some more fruit and vegetables processing units.

(ii) A Company, namely, the North-Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Limited (NERAMAC) has been set up to undertake procurement, marketing and processing of fruits and vegetables produced in that region. The corporation is engaged in setting up a pineapple and orange