

Funds to Bihar for Providing Drinking Water

7287. DR.G.S.RAJHANS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Bihar has submitted any proposal for additional funds for providing drinking water to the villages in the State during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the financial assistance provided for the purpose by Union Government; and

(c) the number of villages which are likely to be covered under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise. However, the normal allocation for Bihar for 1988-89 as assistance under Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) is Rs.29.50 crores.

(c) The target for full coverage of problem villages under ARWSP and State Sector Minimum Needs Programme (MNP) during 1988-89 is 1571. In addition, 8981 partially covered problem villages are expected to be taken up for providing safe drinking water.

Intensive Fish Farming

7288. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the area under intensive fish farming getting assistance from Union Government;

(b) the number of Fish Farmers Development Agencies operating in these areas;

and

(c) the role played by the Agencies in development of fish farming and assistance given by them to the fish farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI): (a) About 1.78 lakh hectare tanks and ponds.

(b) For development of intensive fish farming in the country, the Central Government have sanctioned the establishment of 200 Fish Farmers' Development Agencies (FFDAs), so far.

(c) The Fish Farmers' Development Agencies (FFDAs) have so far brought under fish farming about 1.73 lakh hectare tanks and ponds, benefiting nearly 1.75 lakh trained fish farmers. The average fish productivity of these water areas has shown an increase from about 50 kg/ha/yr. in 1973-74 to about 1,330 kg/ha/yr. during 1986-87.

These FFDAs have been instrumental in popularizing the technology of intensive fish farming. The assistance given to the fish farmers by these FFDAs is as follows:

- (i) 25% subsidy for reclamation of tanks and pounds subject to a maximum of Rs.4,000 per hectare,
- (ii) 25% subsidy on first year's inputs subject to a maximum of Rs.1,000 per hectare,
- (iii) providing subsidy to the Scheduled Tribe fish farmers at double the rates specified above,
- (iv) helping the fish farmers to obtain the balance amount 75% or

50%, as the case may be, for reclamation and first year input as loan from commercial banks;

(v) providing stipend at the rate of Rs. 15/- per day per trainee, besides actual bus fare for field trips during the training period of fish farmers; and

(vi) providing necessary technical and extension support for intensive fish farming.

Indians Working in Gulf Countries

7289. SHRI VAKKOMPURUSHOTHA-MAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indians who went to the Gulf countries for employment during the last three years, year-wise and country-

wise;

(b) whether while there is an increasing demand for Indians for employment in the Gulf countries, their wages have decreased considerably as compared to the earlier years:

(c) whether Government have taken up this issue with these countries; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) A statement is given below:

(b) to (d) It is true that during 1987, manpower export has increased by over 11% as compared to 1986. However, the wages of Indian workers in Gulf countries have been revised in consultation with concerned Indian Missions keeping in view comparative wage-rate position.

STATEMENT

| Country | 1985 | 1986 | 1987 |
|--------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Bahrain | 11256 | 5784 | 6578 |
| Iraq | 5852 | 5040 | 2330 |
| Kuwait | 5512 | 4235 | 7354 |
| Oman | 37806 | 22417 | 16362 |
| Qatar | 5214 | 4029 | 4751 |
| Saudi Arabia | 68938 | 41854 | 57234 |
| U.A.E. | 21286 | 23323 | 24931 |