

(c) the measures being taken by Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b). The prime responsibility for implementation of power projects in a State rests with the State Government/State Electricity Board concerned.

At present power projects totalling over 38,000 MW of capacity are under various stages of implementation in different States. The progress of implementation of projects is sometimes affected by factors such as inadequacy of funds, non-sequential and/or delay in supply of equipment, difficulties in land acquisition, shortage of key construction material and geological, engineering and labour problems.

(c) A number of measures have been taken to assist the State/project authorities in expediting the implementation of power projects. These measures include regular monitoring of the projects by the Central Electricity Authority, efforts to expedite supply of equipment and materials, visits to project sites by engineers of the Central Electricity Authority to resolve problems and organising review meetings of agencies concerned to coordinate project implementation. Detailed guidelines have also been issued to the State Electricity Boards for improved project management.

Implementation of Land Reforms

65. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to complete land reforms by the year 1985;

(b) if so, how many acres of land were acquired, Statewise, at the end of 1980-81, 1981-82, 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85 and how much was distributed;

(c) the reasons of the tardy implementation; and

(d) the measures proposed to be taken for its speedy implementation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND

RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDU-LAL CHANDRAKAR) : (a) to (d). Significant progress has been made in Land Reforms and implementation of Ceiling Laws. Efforts are continuing to further accelerate the progress. Under the revised ceiling laws enacted in accordance with the National Guidelines, 1440172 returns were filed by surplus land holders. Of this 1416531 returns have been disposed of and only 23641 returns remain to be decided. An area of 42.81 lakh acres have been declared surplus. Of this till December, 1984, 30.01 lakhs acres has been taken possession of and 21.22 lakhs distributed to 15.91 lakh beneficiaries. A statement showing statewise position is Laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT.-87/85*]. Of the remaining area, part is unfit for cultivation and part has been reserved for public purposes including social forestry while some is involved in litigation. Efforts are being made to distribute area of which possession has been taken and which is actually available for distribution. In the current year the target for distribution is 2 lakh acres against which according to available information 82492 acres have been distributed upto November, 1984. It has not been possible to take possession of all the area declared surplus, primarily on account of litigation. States have been advised to strengthen the administrative machinery, to improve monitoring arrangement and to take effective steps for the disposal of court cases. Majority of ceiling laws have been brought under the protective umbrella of IXth schedule of the Constitution.

Development of Fisheries in Adivasi and Backward Areas

66. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Government sponsored schemes for development fisheries, particularly in Adivasi and backward areas of the country; and

(b) the action taken so far in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) and (b). A statement is enclosed.

Statement

For development of fisheries some of the important Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes under implementation in the country directly benefitting Adivasi and backward areas are as below :—

Name of the Schemes	Objectives and brief operational details
1. Fish Farmers Development Agency (FFDA) Programme. (Centrally Sponsored)	<p>(i) This programme is operated through two different schemes, viz. Development of Aqua-culture and Inland Fisheries Project with IDA assistance. Through this programme it is envisaged to develop rural tanks and ponds by giving assistance to fish farmers on :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) subsidy on reclamation of ponds and tanks; (b) subsidy for inputs for first year's fish culture operation; (c) imparting training to fish farmers on intensive aquaculture; and (d) providing technological know-how through continuous extension support besides arranging loan for additional requirement of the fish farmers both for reclamation of ponds and tanks and inputs. <p>(ii) The present sanctioned strength of such FFDA's in the country is 147 including 13 in the tribal districts. Most of these FFDA's are district based except 4 which are operating as regional FFDA's. All the major states except Meghalaya and Sikkim have been covered under this programme. In tribal FFDA's subsidy for tribal fish farmers is double the amount available to other category of fish farmers. Instructions have been issued to cover at least 25% beneficiaries from amongst SC/ST category of farmers in the non-tribal FFDA's and 50% in the tribal FFDA's.</p>
2. Group Accident Insurance for	(i) To provide accident insurance cover

Name of the Schemes	Objectives and brief operational details
Active Fishermen (Centrally Sponsored)	<p>for all fishermen actively engaged in the traditional and small mechanised sectors both marine and inland</p> <p>(ii) Premium on Personal Accident Policy to fishermen are subsidised by the Central Government to the extent of 50% per annum and remaining 50% is being borne by the States. In case of Union Territories the Central subsidy is 100%. An annual premium of Rs. 12 per beneficiary is payable for providing a cover of Rs. 15,000 for one year against death and permanent disability. Fishermen who are and who would be members of Fishermen Coop. Societies are covered by this scheme. Where such coops. are not functioning, the scheme is operated through a Fishermen Welfare Organisation duly recognised by the State.</p>
3. National Welfare Fund for Fishermen (Centrally sponsored)	<p>(i) To provide the fishermen with basic civic amenities like drinking water sanitation housing, medical and health facilities;</p> <p>(ii) to provide educational/vocational training facilities to fishermen children;</p> <p>(iii) To provide grant for housing facilities;</p> <p>(iv) To provide seasonal relief;</p> <p>(v) To provide old-age pension for subsistence to active fishermen after the age of 60 years.</p> <p>(vi) The scheme is being implemented by a non-profit-making society which has been registered under the Society Registration Act, 1860. The Union Ministry of Agriculture is the President of the Society and the Ministers in charge of Fisheries from all States and Union Territories are its members.</p>