

(b) the amount of Lac exported and used indigenously, separately ; and

(c) the schemes under consideration of the Government to improve output of lac and living conditions of the producers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R.V. SWAMINATHAN) : (a) Quantity of Lac produced in different State during 1981-82 are as under :—

<i>State</i>	<i>Tonnes</i>
1. Bihar	15,070
2. West Bengal	2,322
3. Madhya Pradesh	2,710
4. Uttar Pradesh	450
5. Maharashtra	75
6. Other States	313

(Figures of production are provisional)

(b) Export of Shellac during April, 1981 to January, 1982 was 8,510 tonnes, valued at Rs. twelve crores fifty lakhs. Use of lac indigenously is 1500 tonnes (approx.).

(c) A Central Sector Plan Scheme with an outlay of Rs. 25 lakhs under 6th Plan is in operation for development of lac including improvement of out put, in the States of West Bengal, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat and Orissa.

Price Support Scheme to improve living conditions of producers is in operation in the States of Bihar, West Bengal and Orissa.

### Hike in Prices of Oil Seeds

1168. SHRI ANANTHA RAMULU MALLU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether oil seeds market has shown a predominantly upward trend during last six months; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to check this trend ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN) : (a) and (b). During the last six months, the oilseeds market has not shown a predominantly upward trend. The index of wholesale prices of oilseeds which stood at 277.5 in August 1981, has actually declined by 11.03 per cent to the level of 246.9 in January 1982. There is, therefore, no question of Government taking steps to check the rise in prices. The policy of the Government is to ensure remunerative prices of oilseeds to the growers so as to provide them incentive for raising the production of oilseeds and reducing the dependence of the country on vegetable oil imports.

### Scheme to Strengthen IRDP and NREP in States

1169. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to strengthen and expand coverage of integrated rural development and national rural employment programmes in different States ;

(b) if so, the name of the districts of Orissa where such IRDP and NREP were under operation previously ; and