

Purchase of Foodgrains by West Bengal from other States

4857. SHRI CHITTA BASU:

SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA:

SHRI GADADHAR SAHA:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of West Bengal requested the Central Government to allow them to purchase 30,000 quintal of foodgrains from other States; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Central Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD): (a) and (b). Central Government have received requests from time to time from the Government of West Bengal to allow them to purchase 5,000 to 3 lakh tonnes of levy-free rice from the surplus States. Government of West Bengal have been allowed to purchase 15,000 tonnes of levy-free open market rice from the surplus States of Punjab and Haryana.

Joint Study Undertaken by the ISSRC and IMRC for the Villages have Sources for Safe Drinking Water

4858. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the findings of the Joint study undertaken by the Indian Social Science Research Council and Indian Medical and Indian Medical Research Council;

(b) if so, whether one of the findings is that only 10 per cent of the villages in the country have sources safe drinking water; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI MOHAMMAD USMAN ARIF): (a) to (c). This Ministry does not have the details of the study. However, the State Governments had reported that there were about 2.31 lakh problem villages in the country to be provided with drinking water facilities, at the beginning of the Sixth Plan period. This is against the total number of about 5.76 lakh villages in the country on the basis of the 1971 census. During the first two years of the Sixth Plan, 55815 problem villages were provided with water supply facilities out of about 2.31 lakh problem villages identified. During 1982-83, another 42000 problem villages are expected to be covered. The target for the year 1983-84 is to cover about 48000 problem villages.

Inclusion of Land Reform Acts under Ninth Schedule of the constitution

4859. SHRI GIRDHAR GOMANGO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have proposed to include the Land Reform Acts of the States under Ninth Schedule of the Constitution;

(b) if so, the names of the States which have suggested to include their Land Reform Acts in Ninth Schedule so far,

(c) the steps taken by his Ministry in this regard and to include all Land Reform Acts under Ninth Schedule keeping in view the urgency of the implementation of the Acts smoothly by the States, and

(d) whether there was delay either by the States or of his Ministry to implement the decision to include the said Acts under Ninth Schedule till date since the decision was taken by Government, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI HARINATHA MISRA):

(a) to (d). The principal land reform laws of the states and union territories are already included in the Ninth Schedule to the Constitution. Proposals for inclusion of certain other land reform laws have been received from states like Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Har- yana, Tamil Nadu Uttar Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal and the union territory of Goa, Daman and Diu. They are being examined. inclusion of laws in the Ninth Schedule requires an amendment of the Constitution—the procedure for which is time consuming.

Funds Released under the Schemes for Rural Development

4860. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the procedure adopted by his Ministry to release the funds to the States and Union Territories under the special schemes and programmes for rural development and employment?

(b) the measures taken by the States and Union Territories to provide funds from their State plans or these schemes as matching grants;

(c) whether his Ministry had experienced any difficulty with this procedure;

(d) the measures taken by Government to release the funds and provisions made by the States and Union Territories and flow of credit from the financial institutions in time; and

(e) the directions and guidelines issued by his Ministry for integration of all agencies for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI HARINATHA MISRA):

(a) Funds for the implementation of the major programmes of the Ministry of Rural Development are released to State Governments and Union Territories

after taking into account factors like progress of expenditure, receipt of audit reports and utilisation certificates and counterpart provisions made in the State budgets.

(b) The State plan outlays are finalised in discussions between the planning Commission and the State/Union Territory representatives at which officers of this Ministry are also present. The matching provisions decided upon in these discussions should subsequently find a place in the budgets of the State Governments. This aspect is also looked into at the time of making Central releases.

(c) No serious difficulty has been experienced in regard to this procedure.

(d) The release of funds and the flow of credit are regularly monitored by the Ministry.

(e) The guidelines issued by the Ministry suggest that, as far as possible, a single agency known as the District Rural Development Agency or Society should implement all the special programmes like the Integrated Rural Development Programme, National Rural Employment Programme and Drought Prone Areas Programme at the district level and that at the State level, it would be desirable to bring all the programmes under the Rural Development Department.

Projects/Schemes for Tribal Sub-Plan Areas and special component Plan

4861. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO:

SHRI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE ALLURI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes and programmes identified and projects prepared by his Ministry for Tribal sub-plan areas and special component plan during Sixth Plan;

(b) funds provided during Annual plans of the Sixth Plan for these schemes and programmes and released