

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI MOHAMMED USMAN ARIF) :

(a) to (b) The DDA has reported that no such proposal is under consideration, the last registration scheme for retired/retiring public servants having been closed on 22/07/1983.

Visit of Study Team in Bihar to Review the Progress of NREP

2401. SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in June, 1983 a team of officers from his Ministry had visited, among other places, the tribal subplan area in Bihar to study/review the progress of NREP;

(b) if so, the gist of report, if any submitted to his Ministry after such a study/review;

(c) is the Ministry satisfied with the functioning and progress thus far of NREP, both in physical and financial terms, particularly in tribal sub-plan area of Bihar; and

(d) if not, the proposals, if any, to make amends in this respect and details thereof?

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

(a) to (d) Yes, Sir. A central team visited Ranchi, Singhbhum, Saran and Patna districts in Bihar to study implementation of rural development programmes in the State. A statement containing some of the important observations of the team is enclosed.

Statement

Important observations/suggestion of the Central Team to districts of Ranchi, Singhbhum, Saran and Patna in Bihar for study of the Implementation of National Rural Employment Programme

1. During the year 1981-82, the total utilisation under NREP in Bihar amounted to Rs. 2566.69 lakhs. This went up to Rs 5137.65 lakhs in the year 1982-83. Similarly, the employment generated under the programme in the State during the year 1981-82 was 318.70 lakh mandays which went upto 450.64 lakh mandays during the year 1982-83. This indicates stepped up utilisation of resources under the programme during 1982-83 as well as greater employment generation during the year.
2. Works for execution have to be selected after ascertaining the felt needs of the people by holding meetings in the villages and these have to be executed through Panchayati Raj institutions. This procedure is not being strictly followed.
3. No detailed Annual Action Plans have been prepared in districts visited by the team.
4. The allocation of resources to the districts is sometimes at variance from criteria laid down for the purpose.
5. Arrangements for distribution of foodgrains to workers need to be expanded and improved.
6. Some of the deepening of tanks etc. which should have been taken up much before the on-set of monsoon were taken up only a little before the rainy season. In case of such works, it is necessary that these should be taken up atleast three months before the rains so that these are completed before the rains start.
7. The monitoring of mandays should be done in a systematic manner and on the basis of muster rolls.
8. The monitoring of material and wage components needs improvement.
9. NREP funds are also being utilised for a State scheme under which

MP/MLA can indicate works of certain value to be taken up in the respective constituency. The manner in which this is being done is not in accordance with National guidelines.

Rehabilitation of Increasing Urban Slum Dwellers

2402. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the population living in slums in urban areas throughout the country is steadily increasing; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to rehabilitate the slum-dwellers and to resettle them in more human and adequate environment?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI MOHAMMED USMAN ARIF): (a) and (b) Definite information regarding the increase of population living in slums is not available. However, some States are reported to have taken action to survey and identify the slum population in different urban areas. Major schemes for the environmental improvement of urban slums are taken up by the State Plan under the Minimum Needs Programme. Under this scheme basic amenities like water supply, sewers, storm water drains, community baths and latrines, widening and paving the existing lanes and street lighting are provided in the identified slum areas.

Survey to Promote Deep Sea Fishing

2403. SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have conducted or aided any survey of the prospects and problems of deep sea fishing along the West Coast of India in the last 20 years;

(b) if so, when were these surveys conducted;

(c) what are the main conclusions of the survey; and

(d) the action Government have taken on the basis of these surveys to promote deep sea fishing?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (i) The Exploratory Fisheries Project, Bombay(EFP), has been conducting exploratory fisheries surveys to assess marine fisheries potential in the entire West Coast of India since 1946.

(ii) The Integrated Fisheries Project (IFP), has also conducted exploratory and experimental fishing with large vessels in the South West Coast of India from 1962 onwards from Cochin.

(iii) The Pelagic Fisheries Project(PFP), a joint venture of the Govt. of India, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) was established at Cochin in 1971 as a time bound Project and conducted pelagic fisheries resources survey in the South West Coast of India upto 1979.

(iv) Government of India chartered a large vessel (68 M) from Poland in 1976 to assess the industrial fisheries potential off the North West Coast of India. This survey was conducted for one year (1977) in the depth range 30-200 fathoms.

(c) On the basis of survey of demersal (bottom) fisheries, it was observed that the North West Coast of India has an estimated potential of 4.4 tonnes per sq. km. The Potential of South West Coast was estimated to be 3.8 tonnes per sq. km. Rich prawn grounds off Kerala were located. Surveys in the deeper waters upto 200 fathoms off South West Coast of India led to location of resources of deep sea lobster and deep sea prawn besides deep sea fishes. Quality fish like Perches, Cat fish and squids were also located along the continental shelf and the slope of South West coast of India.

It was found that purse-seining is ideally suited for mackerel, sardine, white bait and