

Drought Prone District

25. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state the number of drought-prone districts in the country State-wise and names of the districts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): The Drought Prone Areas Programme covers wholly or a partly 74 districts (56 main districts and contiguous areas in 18 districts) in 13 States. A list showing the programme areas under DPAP in these 74 districts is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-10372/76]

Liquidation of Primary Land Mortgage Banks in Kerala

26. SHRI A. K. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the restriction imposed by the Reserve Bank of India and the Agricultural Refinance and Development Corporation is likely to lead to face liquidation of newly organised Primary land Mortgage Banks in Kerala and;

(b) if so, remedial action proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b) In view of the observations made by a Committee appointed by the State Cooperative Land Development Bank that the newly organised primary land mortgage banks in Kerala may not be viable, the Reserve Bank had imposed restrictions in the matter of refinance facilities to these banks. In the meanwhile the Reserve Bank of India has collected some additional information and the matter is under consideration. Subject to suitability, these newly

organised Primary Land Mortgage Banks in Kerala could be financed by the State Land Development Bank from its own resources.

Education among Muslim Women

27. SHRI C. H. MOHAMMED KOYA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Muslim women are backward in education; and

(b) encouragement given to attract more muslim women to education?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI D. P. YADAV): (a) and (b): Educational level of women in the country is generally lower than that of men. The Central Government do not look upon this problem as pertaining to any community but are concerned about the need to upgrade the educational level of all economically, socially and educationally backward groups. Special measures are being taken for promoting education among women; they include provision of non-formal education facilities at all stages including private study and correspondence courses; provision of incentives like scholarships and freeships, provision of girls hostels; posting of women teachers in rural schools; free supply of books and writing materials, uniforms and midday meals, etc.

**भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद्
द्वारा अनुसंधान**

28. श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : क्या कृषि और सिवार्ड मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारतीय कृषि अनुसन्धान परिषद् द्वारा गत दो वर्षों में धान, गहूँ, ज्वार, सोया-