

dam for generation of 4060 megawatt hydropower. The regulated discharge proposed for irrigation would be conveyed through a 142 kilometre long gravity canal taking off from lift dam and out falling into the pond of Teesta Barrage in North Bengal, to facilitate irrigation in the Teesta command.

(c) The total cost of the Sankosh Multipurpose project has been estimated at Rs. 7793 Crore, out of which the cost of Sankosh-Teesta Link canal and its the appurtenant works is Rs. 1259 crore. The Union Government has allocated Rs. 6.35 crore for investigation and preparation of Detailed Project Report of Sankosh Multipurpose Project till date.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Environment Impact Assessment studies have been completed both for reservoir portion in Bhutan and canal portion in India. Ministry of Environment and Forest has been approached for appraisal before seeking investment clearance for the project.

#### Recognition of Unions/Associations

486. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the guidelines issued by the Union Government to the Ministries/Departments and States for recognition of Unions and Associations;

(b) whether the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Employees Welfare Association at Central and State levels has been recognised to sort out the grievances relating to service matters;

(c) if so, the instructions issued by the Government to all concerned for protection of interests of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes employees; and

(d) if not, the reasons for non-recognition of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Employees Associations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) to (d) Recognition of Service Associations of Central Government employees is regulated under the Central Civil Services (Recognition of Service Associations) Rule, 1993 which inter alia provide that membership of Service Associations shall be restricted to "distinct category" of Government servants having common interest and that such associations shall not be formed on the basis of any caste, tribe or religious denomination or any group within or section of such caste, tribe or religious denomination, and as such separate associations of SC/ST are not eligible for recognition. However, adequate avenues exist for redressal of

grievances of SC/ST employees. Central Government do not issue guidelines for recognition of SC/ST Association by the State Government.

[Translation]

#### Post Offices in Rural Areas of Rajasthan

487. SHRI RAMPAL UPADHYAY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of post offices functioning in the rural areas of Rajasthan;

(b) the number of villages without post office in the State; and

(c) the action taken by the Government for setting up post offices in these villages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) 9523 post offices are functioning in the rural areas of Rajasthan.

(b) 28362 villages are without a post office in Rajasthan.

(c) Post Offices are opened on the norm-based justification subject to availability of resources. Subsequent to the finalisation of the annual plan for the whole country in consultation with the Planning Commission, Postal circle-wise allocation of targets is done based on the various factors including areas in each Circle still uncovered by the post offices and average area and population served per post office in each Circle. During plan year 1998-99, a target of opening 30 Extra-Departmental Branch post offices and 2 Departmental sub post offices has been fixed for Rajasthan.

#### Centrally Sponsored Schemes

488. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Centrally sponsored schemes is being implemented for the development of agriculture in Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the amount spent on these schemes and the outcome thereof and achievements made as a result of these schemes during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) A list of Centrally Sponsored Schemes implemented by Department of Agriculture and Cooperation for the development of agriculture in Gujarat is given in the attached statement.

(b) The details of funds released and the resulting increase in the production and productivity of total foodgrains in the State during the last three years were as follows:

Year	Amount Released (Rs. Crore)	Production Total Foodgrains (in '000 Tonnes)	Yield (Kg/ Hect)
1995-96	28.52	4103.3	1094
1996-97	39.22	5209.1	1303
1997-98	40.66	5700.0 (Prov)	1365

**Statement***List of Centrally Sponsored Schemes Under Implementation in Gujarat*

S.No.	Name of the Scheme
1.	Integrated Cereal Development Programme—Coarse Cereals.
2.	Sustainable Development of Sugarcane based Cropping System.
3.	Intensive Cotton Development Programme.
4.	National Pulses Development Project.
5.	Oilseeds Production Programme.
6.	Oil Palm Development Programme.
7.	Accelerated Maize Development Prog.
8.	National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas.
9.	Balanced and Integrated use of Fertiliser.
10.	Development of Fertiliser use in low Consumption and Rainfed Areas.
11.	National Project on Development and use of Bio-fertilisers.
12.	Integrated Seed Development Scheme streamlining of certified seeds production of important identified Vegetable Crops.
13.	Grants in Aid to States/UTs for Setting/Strengthening of State Bio-Control laboratories under Integrated Pest Management Centres.
14.	Grants in Aid to States/UTs for Setting/Strengthening of State Bio-Control laboratories under Implementation of Insecticides Act.
15.	Promotion of Agricultural Mechanisation among Small Farmers.
16.	Exchange of Farmers within the Country.
17.	Farmers Scientists Interaction.
18.	Soil Conservation in the Catchment of River Valley Projects.
19.	Reclamation of Alkali Soils.
20.	Development of Medicinal & Aromatic Plants.
21.	Use of Plastics in Agriculture.
22.	Development of Commercial Floriculture.
23.	Integrated Development of Tropical, Arid Temperate Zone Fruits.
24.	Development of Betelvine.
25.	Development of Vegetables.
26.	Integrated Development of Spices.
27.	Investment in Debentures of LDBs.
28.	Non Overdue Cover Scheme.
29.	Failed Well Compensation Fund Scheme
30.	Timely Reporting Scheme.
31.	Improvement of Crop Statistics.
32.	Crop Estimation Survey on Fruits, Vegetables & Minor Crops/Diagnostic study.
33.	Livestock Census.
34.	Agricultural Census.