

through Indo-Tibetan Boarder Police and the Uttar Pradesh State Police, communication links between Delhi and places enroute on Indian side and with China, cost of publicity of the Yatra and partial cost of creation of infrastructure, logistics an facilities on the Indian side. Government also bears expenses for aerial evacuation of pilgrims in case of emergencies. A Liaison Officer is attached by Government with each batch of yatis.

(c) Since 1996, Government has been paying Rupees three thousand two hundred and fifty (3,250/-) per pilgrim to Kumaon Mandal Vikash Nigam for arrangements made by them for the Yatra.

(d) There is no proposal under consideration by the Government to enhance the amount.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

World Bank Loan

3079. SHRI BHARTRAHARI MAHTAB : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Bank has provided any loan to the Government of Orissa for irrigation projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total area of the State likely to be benefited after completion of these projects;

(d) the time by which the projects are likely to be completed; and

(e) the details of agreement signed between the Government of Orissa and the World Bank?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The 'Orissa Water Resources Consolidation Project' is being implemented with IDA Credit assistance of US \$ 270.587 Million under the Agreement dated 05.01 1995. The project was launched w.e.f. 30.01.1996 and an amount of US \$ 74.993 Million has been utilised upto May, 1998.

(c) On completion of the project an area of 3,29,000 ha. is likely to be benefited.

(d) The project is scheduled for completion by September, 2002.

(e) An Agreement has been signed on 54 January, 1995 between the Government of India and the International Development Association for SDR. 194,800,000 (equipment to US \$ 270.587 Million).

[Translation]

Remunerative Prices/Support Prices

3080. DR. PRABHA THAKUR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any policy to ensure that farmers get remunerative prices for their crops in time; and

(b) if so, the time by which the policy is likely to be implemented and the criteria proposed to be adopted for determining the support prices of different crops?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) The main objective of the Government's price policy for agricultural produce already being followed aims at ensuring remunerative prices to the grower for their produce with a view to encourage higher investment and production. The Government announces each season minimum support prices for major agricultural commodities and organises purchase operation through public and cooperative agencies. The Government decides on the minimum support prices for various agricultural commodities taking into account the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), the views of State Governments and Central Ministries as also other relevant factors. While formulating its recommendations on price policy, the CACP considers the following important factors;

- (1) Cost of Production.
- (2) Changes in input prices.
- (3) Input/Output price parity.
- (4) Trends in market prices.
- (5) Demand and Supply situation.
- (6) Inter-crop price parity.
- (7) Effect on industrial cost structure.
- (8) Effect on general price level.
- (9) Effect on cost of living.
- (10) International market price situation.
- (11) Parity between price paid and prices received by farmers (Terms of Trade).

[English]

Agricultural Input Cost

3081. DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any programme to assess various agricultural input cost;