

[English]

Support Price of Wheat to Farmers

*983. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be
pleased to state:

(a) whether there are reports that farmers are constrained to sell wheat in the markets at rates much below the support price fixed by Government; and

(b) if so, the directives issued by Union Government to various State Governments to ensure that farmers get the support price and they are not compelled to resort to distress sale of what?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND
MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI
LAL): (a) No instance of sale of wheat of Fair
Average Quality below the procurement
prices has come to the notice of the Govern-
ment.

(b) Before commencement of the wheat
marketing season, the Government made
elaborate arrangements to organise price
support operations through the Food Corpo-
ration of India and other agencies to ensure
that market prices do not fall below the
procurement levels. The removal of restric-
tions on movement of wheat, allowing pur-
chase of wheat by traders and Roller Flour
Mills in the open market and liberalisation of
credit facilities to Roller Flour Mills are also
intended to enable the farmers to realise
better prices.

[Translation]

Setting up of Joint Venture by Alcatel

*984. SHRI RAMESHWAR PRASAD:
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be
pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Govern-
ment has been drawn towards the news item
captioned "Alcatel seeks fresh entry" ap-
pearing in "The Times of India" dated 24
April, 1990; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in
regard to attempts by Alcatel to establish a
Joint Venture in India for manufacturing its
latest digital switching system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI
JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government has not received any
proposal for joint venture in India by Alcatel
for manufacturing Digital Switching Systems.
Therefore, the question or reaction of Gov-
ernment does not arise.

[English]

Upliftment of Andhra Pradesh Fisher- men

*985. SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU: Will
the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased
to state:

(a) the amount released by Union Gov-
ernment for various programmes for
upliftment of fishermen in Andhra Pradesh
during the last three years;

(b) the details of the programmes, in-
cluding subsidization programmes imple-
mented in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) whether the funds provided had been
fully utilised during all these years;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND
MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI
LAL): (a) to (e). A Statement is given below.

STATEMENT

1. The amount released by Government of India for various programmes for upliftment of fishermen in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years (1987-88 to 1989-90) was Rs. 162.65 lakh.

2. The details of some of the important Centrally Sponsored Schemes for upliftment of fishermen in Andhra Pradesh are as under:—

(i) *Motorisation of Traditional Craft:* Under this programme the Government give 50% subsidy (25% by the Centre and the remaining 25% by the State) subject to a maximum of Rs. 7500/- per craft to fishermen for motorising traditional craft. An amount of Rs. 24.25 lakh was released during last three years for motorising 650 craft.

(ii) *The Centrally Sponsored Scheme, Introduction of Improved Beach Landing Craft* provides for 50% as subsidy by the Centre and 45% as loan by National Cooperative Development Corporation and 5% contribution by the beneficiary. During last three years an amount of Rs. 26.23 lakh was released to Andhra Pradesh through National Cooperative Development Corporation and 39 improved beach landing craft were introduced.

(iii) *National Welfare Fund for Fishermen:* Under this scheme facilities like housing, drinking water supply, credit societies and common work place are provided to selected fishermen villages. The total cost of the scheme is borne by the Centre and

State Governments on 50:50 basis. An amount of Rs. 30.04 lakh was released under this scheme during the last three years.

(iv) *Group Accident Insurance Scheme for Active Fishermen:* Under this scheme active fishermen are insured for an amount of Rs. 15,000/- for death or permanent disability and for 7,500/- in case of partial disability. The annual premium of Rs. 9/- per beneficiary for the insurance is shared equally between Centre and State. During 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90 the number of fishermen insured was 1.10 lakh, 2.21 lakh and 1.11 lakh respectively. A total amount of Rs. 15.00 lakh was released under this programme during these three years.

(v) *Fish Farmers Development Agencies (FFDAs):* Fish Farmers Development Agencies (FFDAs) have been sanctioned in 22 districts of Andhra Pradesh for providing a package of technical, financial and extension support to the fish farmers. 25% subsidy is given on the cost of development of the pond/tank and input for the first year subject to a maximum of Rs. 5,000/- per hectare to all categories of farmers except those belonging to Scheduled Tribes in the tribal FFDAs in case of whom the rate of subsidy is 50% subject to a maximum of Rs. 10,000/- per hectare. An amount of Rs. 44.09 lakh was released to the State and they have covered 1,693 hectare area and trained 1,259 fish farmers in the years 1986-87 to 1988-89.

(vi) *Brackishwater Fish Farmers Development Agencies (BFDAs):*

Brackishwater Fish Farmers Development Agencies (BFDAs) provide 25% subsidy on cost of construction of the prawn farms and inputs for the first crop subject to a maximum of Rs. 30,000/- per hectare. The cost of subsidy is borne on 50:50 basis by the Centre and the State. Three BFDAs have been sanctioned for Andhra Pradesh, one in 1987-88 and two in 1989-90. The BFDAs will provide a package of technical, financial and extension support to the prawn farmers. An amount of Rs. 13.04 lakh has been released to the State Government during the last three years.

- (vii) *Construction of Fish Landing Centres:* In order to provide landing and berthing facilities for traditional fishing boats, fish landing centres are constructed under this programme. 50% of the cost of construction of fish landing centres is provided to the States as grant by the Centre. An amount of Rs. 10.00 lakh was released in 1989-90 for construction of one fish landing centre.

3. The Andhra Pradesh Government has fully utilised the funds under various schemes/programmes except construction of model fishermen villages under the Scheme viz National Welfare Fund for Fishermen and the Scheme viz Creation of Landing and Berthing Facilities at Minor Ports because construction work is time consuming.

Police Officers Recommended by Kerala Government for Inclusion in IPS cadre

10211. SHRI P.A. ANTONY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Kerala has recommended certain police officers for inclusion in IPS Cadre;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether those recommended officers also include any officer, against whom strictures have been passed by the Kerala High Court in murder cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. State Government recommended names of eligible officers as per norms laid down.

(c) It has been ascertained from the State Government that a judgement of the Kerala High Court, pronounced subsequent to the meeting of the Committee to consider State Police officers for selection to the IPS, contains certain observations against one of the officers so recommended.

Undertaking of agency work by ICCR

10212. SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council for Cultural Relations undertakes agency work on behalf of various Ministries;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions for undertaking such agency work by the Council; and

(c) whether the expenditure in agency work has exceeded the amount received for the work and if so, the source from which the excess amount is paid?