

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA): (a) and (b). Presently, only wheat, paddy millets, oilseeds and pulses are covered under the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS). Since the Central and State Government are incurring losses in running the scheme even in respect of the crops presently covered under the scheme it is not proposed to cover fruit and vegetable crops under the CCIS for time being. Besides, the idea of the Government is to gain some more experience in respect of the crops presently covered under the Scheme

(c) It is for the State Governments to take necessary preventive measures to minimise the impact of natural calamities on the cultivators for all types of crops including fruits and vegetables. Prior to 31 March, 1990, Central assistance was extended in the form of 'agricultural inputs subsidy' for all types of crops including fruits and vegetables at Rs.200/- per ha. for small and marginal farmers whose crops were damaged more than 50%. However, from 1-4-1990 onwards, such assistance is to be provided directly by the State Governments through Calamity Relief Funds required to be set up with an allocated amount.

[English]

Crops Included Under Technology Mission

6680. SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of crops for which Technology Mission has been set up;
- (b) whether there is any proposal to extend it to coconut; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) to (c). The Technology Mission on Oilseeds (TMO) was set up by the Govt. of India in 1986 to accelerate self-reliance in edible oils. The immediate objective was to produce 16.5 million tonnes of oilseeds by the end of 1989-90 so as to cut down edible oils import by half.

The Mission seeks to increase the production of annual oilseed crops viz groundnut, rapeseed/mustard, castor, sesamum, linseed, niger, safflower, sunflower and soybean and also plantation crops such as coconut and oil palm. Exploitation of tissue culture techniques in coconut and oil palm has been included in the activities of Minis Mission-I which addresses itself to the improvement of crop production technology and large scale propagation of high yielding plant materials.

Organisations for Fishermen's Welfare

6681. SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the estimated number of fishermen families in the country and their average annual family income;
- (b) the names of national organisations that have been formed to study the fishermen's problem and contribute to their welfare; and
- (c) the specific responsibility of each such organisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) The information is being collected and

will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(b) Government have not established any national organisation to study the fishermen's problems and contribute to their welfare.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Recommendations of Sarin, Khosla and Agrawal Committees Reports

6682. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have implemented the recommendations of Sarin Committee, 1980, Khosla Committee, 1986, Agrawal Committee, 1987 in respect of Technicians/Technical Supervisors in the Department of Telecommunications;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) to (c). The Sarin Committee in their 7th Report dated 30.11.81 indicated the need for rationalisation of the non-gazetted cadre structure with a view to cutting down the large number of superfluous cadres and to provide adequately skilled personnel for the various types of jobs. The work of recommending actual restructuring was entrusted to Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore. This issue was considered by the 4th Central Pay Commission and its report has been implemented by the Government in 1986. There is no committee named Khosla Committee on this issue. The recommendations of the Agrawal Committee have been modified by

the Department and the proposal is under consideration of the Government.

[*English*]

Memorandum from Women Organisations

6683. SHRI Y.S. RAJA SEKHAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Women's associations, women academicians and students have sent a memorandum calling for amendments to the Criminal Procedure Code, Indian Penal Code and Evidence Act to prevent escape by persons indulging in crimes against women;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c). A letter dated 22.12.89 has been received from certain Women's Organisations seeking amendment of the law relating to punishment for the offence of rape to make it clear that while the Courts may award imprisonment for less than the minimum term prescribed therein for exceptional reasons, for this purpose the character, reputation, status or any aspect of the conduct of the victim of rape shall have no relevance whatsoever. The matter is engaging the attention of the Government of India in consultation with the State Governments.

A memorandum dated 8th march, 1990 from Women's Organisations states *inter alia* that changes are required in the criminal Law relating to rape, bigamy, adultery, etc. However, no Specific amendment has been suggested.