

WRITTEN ANSWERS OF QUESTIONS

[English]

**Revision of Minimum Wages of
Agricultural Labour**

*166. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAIN SINHA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have advised the State Governments to get minimum wages for agricultural labour revised periodically;

(b) if so, in how many States are these wages rates due for revision; and

(c) whether the Central Government also monitor implementation of minimum wages particularly in the farm sector ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The States of Jammu & Kashmir and Sikkim and Union Territories of Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Lakshwadweep have yet to fix wages for agricultural workers under the Minimum Wages Act. All the other 26 State Governments/Union Territories Administrations, which initially fixed minimum rates of wages in the employment in agriculture, have revised them at least once since 1980; some of them have done so even more than once. A statement of prevailing rates is laid on the table of the House. [Placed in Library see No. LT-640/85]

(c) Yes, Sir.

**Transmission Range of Transmission
Centres**

*167. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of new Transmission Centres opened under Crash Programme from June to October, 1984 and at what cost;

(b) whether it has been brought to the notice of the Ministry that most of the stations are having poor transmission range and do not cover the specified area due to

poor quality material used and imperfect installation of towers; and

(c) whether Transmitting Centre at Kulu in Himachal Pradesh covers range of One Km. only ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL) : (a) The number of new transmitters inaugurated from June to October, 1984 was 117. The total cost involved was about Rs. 52 crores.

(b) Generally, the transmitters are providing satisfactory coverage as expected. Transmission of TV signals takes place under line-of-sight conditions and is affected by obstructions like intervening hills, etc. There are no complaints of poor quality of material used or imperfect installation of towers.

(c) Low power transmitter at Kulu provides effective service to the town. It, however, does not cover the surrounding areas, as the transmitter is located in the valley. It has been decided to shift the transmitter to a new suitable site so as to provide wider coverage.

**Expansion of IRDP during Seventh
Plan Period**

*168. SHRI B. V. DESAI :
KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Integrated Rural Development Programme is proposed to be expanded vastly in the Seventh Plan period;

(b) if so, whether the outlay for 1985-86 has been more than doubled;

(c) details of the schemes that will be undertaken during 1985-86 under this programme; and

(d) the total amount earmarked for this programme in the Seventh Plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) to (d), The VIIth Five Year Plan has not yet been finalised.

The Central Government's budget for 1985-86 proposes a sum of Rs. 214.50 crores for Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP). This is more or less at the same level as the current year and will be enhanced later, if required.

The schemes to be undertaken during 1985-86 will continue to provide for income generating assets to the identified families and strengthening of infrastructure necessary for better utilisation of these assets.

Poverty amongst Fishermen

*169. SHRI AJOY BISWAS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the cases of perennial poverty of fishermen and constraints faced by them in increasing fish production through mechanisation; and

(b) if so, steps Government have taken in this regard and the future schemes of Government for uplifting the economic condition of the fishermen ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) and (b). Fishermen in the traditional Marine Fisheries Sector are recognised as among the economically weaker sections in the country. The State and Central/Union Territory Governments have, therefore, been following a policy of supporting this Sector through a number of production-oriented and welfare programmes aimed at uplifting the economic condition of the fishermen community. Some of the important programmes in this regard are :

- (i) supply of essential fishery requisites on subsidy/loan basis;
- (ii) subsidy on outboard motors, in-board engines and mechanised boats;
- (iii) loan facilities for acquisition of mechanised boats;
- (iv) training programmes for fishermen;
- (v) support for production, marketing,

processing, storage etc. through Cooperatives;

- (vi) development of small landing and berthing facilities along the coasts for traditional and small mechanised boats;
- (vii) brackishwater fish/prawn farming in Maritime States on area development basis;
- (viii) legislation to demarcate areas of operation for traditional boats, small mechanised boats and large fishing vessels; and
- (ix) welfare schemes such as Group Insurance, Techno-socio-economic survey and National Welfare Fund for Fishermen.

The future schemes for the VIIth Plan period are not yet finalised.

Financial Assistance for Improving Water Supply in Bangalore

*170. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYAR : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Karnataka Government has submitted a proposal seeking financial assistance for Cauvery III Stage scheme to improve the water supply position in Bangalore city; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of Karnataka proposes to take up the Cauvery water supply scheme Stage III with World Bank assistance. This is estimated to cost Rs. 2400 million. The proposal has been examined in the Ministry and found technically feasible. The Ministry of Irrigation have made certain observations regarding the need for concurrence of the basin States for any new use of Cauvery waters. The Government of Karnataka have been addressed on these issues. They have been requested to sort out the issues with the Ministry of Irrigation.