

National Seed Corporation

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*560. { Shri Kapur Singh:
Shri Narendrasingh Mahida:
Shri P. K. Deo:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Seed Corporation has come into existence;

(b) if not, the date by which it will be set up;

(c) if the reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether the staff required therefor is to be recruited through U.P.S.C., and the Ministry of Home Affairs; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) No.

(b) No exact date can be indicated at this stage but the Corporation is likely to be established shortly after all preliminary arrangements are finalised.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

Shri Narendrasingh Mahida: May I know whether this Seed corporation will sufficiently provide the requirements of our agriculturists?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Yes. To start with, we will start producing seeds of hybrid maize. Within the Third Plan period, we propose to cover one-fourth of our entire maize production.

Shri P. K. Deo: What will be the functions of this corporation?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: It will promote production of improved seeds in the country by giving financial aid, afford technical guidance in estab-

lishing suitable production and marketing organisations, sponsor training programmes in collaboration with the Central and State Governments and other interests. The Corporation will take up production of foundation seeds itself.

श्री राम सेवक यादव : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि इस निगम की स्थापना के लिये कौ कौ से कदम उठाये न जा रहे हैं और उस की स्थापना में कितना समय लगेगा ?

डा० राम सुभग सिंह : करीब करीब काफी कदम पूरे हो चुके हैं कवल रजिस्ट्रेशन कराना बाकी है । अगले सेशन में मैं एक बिल यहां पर पेश करूंगा और उसको पास करने के लिए इस हाउस से प्रार्थना करूंगा ।

Dr. M. S. Aney: Will they supply seeds of all varieties of foodgrains or of only certain varieties?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: As I said, we will begin with hybrid maize. Later on, our effort will be to produce all types of seeds.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: May I know whether the Seeds Corporation will take up production of best vegetable seeds?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Yes.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: Up till now only 300 seed multiplication farms have been established in the whole of the country which is insufficient for the needs of the country. May I know whether the work of the Seeds Corporation would be opening up of more seed farms or it would be only just a co-ordinating body for the 300 farms?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: We will be opening 4 foundation seed production units of 500 acres each and 37 units of similar acreage for the production of double cross seeds. After these 41 farms are established, we will think of opening more centres.

Shri Inder J. Malhotra: May I know if this corporation would make an

attempt to co-ordinate the seed multiplication activities of the States and the Central Government?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Yes. In the beginning, as I said, the effort of the corporation will be to co-ordinate the activities of both the Central and State Governments.

Shri D. J. Naik: May I know why maize seed has been given preference?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Because in other fields something has been done and this hybrid maize seed requires much attention at present.

Co-operatives of Consumers of Petroleum Products

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*561. { **Shri P. Kunhan:**
 Shri A. K. Gopalan:

Will the Minister of Community Development, Panchayati Raj and Co-operation be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have asked the State Governments to find out the possibilities of setting up co-operatives of consumers of petroleum products at district level to run service stations and petrol pumps for distribution of petroleum products of Indian Oil Co.;

(b) if so, whether any replies have been received from the State Governments; and

(c) if so, what action the Central Government have taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development, Panchayati Raj and Co-operation (Shri Shyam Dhar Misra): (a) Yes, Sir. State governments have recently been requested to examine the possibility of organising cooperatives of users for running petrol/diesel pump-cum-servicing stations, preferably at district levels for the distribution of petroleum products manufactured by Messrs. Indian Oil Co. Ltd.

(b) One interim reply has been received so far.

(c) Further action will be taken when replies from the States are received.

Shri P. Kunhan: May I know whether any of the State Governments has taken any initiative in implementing this scheme during the Third Five Year Plan, and if not, the reason therefor?

Shri Shyam Dhar Misra: This request was made only on the 19th of last month, and still we are awaiting the reactions of the States.

Shri Warior: May I know whether any such co-operative societies have been formed in any of the States and they have taken up this business?

Shri Shyam Dhar Misra: Not under this scheme. But there are co-operative societies of consumers of petrol in Delhi itself.

Shri Kashi Ram Gupta: May I know the definition of 'user-members' of this society? Who can be the members of the society as users?

Shri Shyam Dhar Misra: The definition of 'users' is very clear. They must be owners of either cars, or scooters, or buses or trucks etc. Those are the users.

Mr. Speaker: Now, Shri Man Sinh P. Patel.

Shri Kashi Ram Gupta: Drivers are not included?

Mr. Speaker: I have called Shri Man Sinh P. Patel.

Shri Man Sinh P. Patel: May I know whether this agency will be given to the apex unit of the existing co-operative societies or to the district purchase and sale unions?

Shri Shyam Dhar Misra: It will all depend on who promotes these co-operatives. They will be mostly at the district level, as has already been mentioned in the main answer.

Shri P. Venkatasubbiah: May I know whether any model by-laws have been framed, so that they may