

made in the Report on the Third General Elections in India, 1962, relate to the removal of the two defects which, according to the Commission, are the main defects from which the existing law relating to the account of election expenses suffers. The first defect is that the period of accounting is limited to the interval between the date of the notification calling the election and the date of the declaration of the result of the election.

The second defect is that the expenditure incurred by political parties on particular candidates or groups of candidates sponsored by them does not require to be included in the accounts of any of the candidates.

The Election Commission has recommended that these two main defects should be removed by an amendment of the law.

Another important recommendation of the Commission is that there should be a provision prohibiting election expenses being incurred by any person other than the candidate, his election agent and persons authorised in writing by the election agent and providing that where any such authorised person incurs any expenses he should furnish a detailed account of those expenses to the appropriate officer.

The other recommendations of the Commission with respect to election expenses relate to matters of detail.

(c) and (d). The proposals of the Commission are now under the consideration of the Government.

Emergency Food Programme

- *15. **Shri Kameshwar Tanti;**
Shri Lahtan Chandry;
Shri Himatsingka;
Shri Narayan Reddy;
Shri Linga Reddy;
Shri Bagri;
Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia;
Shri Vishram Prasad;
Shri Kishan Pattnayak;
Shrimati Maimoona Sultan;

Will the Minister of Food, Agricul-

ture, Community Development and Co-operation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Union Government are finding difficulty in raising two million tons of short term crops under the emergency food programme;

(b) if so, the nature of difficulties that come in the way of implementing this programme;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Centre has promised to meet the fertilizer requirements of the States in full for the emergency programme;

(d) if so, whether the Centre is in a position to meet their requirements; and

(e) whether the main difficulty in the implementation of this emergency food plan is due to the foreign exchange shortage?

The Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Co-operation (Shri C. Subramaniam):

(a) and (b). No definite target of additional production of foodgrains has been fixed under the Emergency Food Production Programme. However as a result of bringing 3.2 million acres of area under additional crops during the rabi and summer seasons in 1965-66 substantial additional food production could be expected. While it is too early to indicate the actual production from this additional acreage, the reports received from the State Governments indicate that the additional area to be brought under cultivation by them is likely to exceed the overall targets given to them.

(c) and (d). The fertilizer requirements of the States regarding their Emergency Food Production Programme have been met in full.

(e) The shortage of foreign exchange has been a limiting factor in the progress of the entire agricultural production plan and not merely of the Emergency Food Production drive.