

Shri Liladhar Kotoki:
Shri P. C. Borooah:

Will the Minister of **Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether his visit had been proposed to U.S.S.R. to seek aid for the development of agriculture;

(b) if so, by whom;

(c) when it took place;

(d) the details of the aid sought from the U.S.S.R. for the development of agriculture; and

(e) the details of the aid promised to be given?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shyam Dhar Misra): (a) Yes.

(b) The Prime Minister of Russia proposed the visit.

(c) 5th July to 11th July, 1966.

(d), Certain proposals in regard to Fisheries Development and machinery for State Farms and Machine Service Centres were discussed. There were also discussions in regard to supply of improved breed of sheep, aerial spraying, poultry development and scientific and technical collaboration in the field of agriculture.

(e) It has been agreed generally that there would be collaboration between U.S.S.R. and India in development of State Farms, in certain areas of Agricultural Research and Fisheries. The details are still being worked out and it is not possible yet to give a full picture of the aid we would be getting from U.S.S.R.

General Elections

*56. **Shri Yashpal Singh:**
Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:
Shri Hukam Chand
Kachhavaia:
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Jagdev Singh Siddhanti:
Shri Kishen Pattnayak:

Shri Madhu Limaye:
Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia:
Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri:
Shri R. S. Pandey:
Shri Ram Sewak Yadav:
Shri Bagri:
Shri Brij Basi Lal:

Will the Minister of **Law** be pleased to state:

(a) the exact dates of the General Elections to be held during 1967;

(b) whether preparations for the same have since been completed and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether some additional conditions and special qualifications will be prescribed for candidates in the forthcoming General Elections?

The Minister of Law (Shri G. S. Pathak): (a) The exact dates for the general elections to be held in 1967 have not yet been finalised. The Election Commission is, however, thinking in terms of having poll at the elections between the 19th and 26th of February, 1967.

(b) No, Sir. The preparations are in progress.

(c) No, Sir.

Modernisation of Sugar Plants

*57. **Shri Bishwanath Roy:**
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Utiya:
Shri Madhu Limaye:
Shri Sarjoo Pandey:

Will the Minister of **Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps are being taken for the rehabilitation and modernisation of the sugar plants in the light of the recommendation made by the Committee appointed by Government in this regard; and

(b) if so, the broad details thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community

Development and Cooperation (Shri Shinde): (a) and (b). The recommendations of the Committee are still under examination of the Government in consultation with the interests concerned.

Seed Farms in States

- *58. **Shri Eswara Reddy:**
Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
Shri K. N. Tiwary:
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:
Shri Rishang Keishing:

Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Centrally sponsored seed farms are proposed to be set up in any State during 1966-67; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shyam Dhar Misra): (a) and (b). No Centrally sponsored seed farms are proposed to be set up in any State. However, proposals for setting up five Central seed farms, to be managed directly by the Central Government, during the current year are under consideration. The details are being finalised.

Fertiliser Factory in Cooperative Sector

- *59. **Shri Nambiar:**
Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:
Shri Dajji:
Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri R. S. Pandey:
Shri Vasudevan Nafr:
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri R. Barua:

Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have asked the U.S. Agency for International Development to arrange for a techno-economic feasibility study for the establishment of a fertiliser factory in the cooperative sector;

(b) if so, the terms proposed; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shyam Dhar Misra): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A team from U.S.A. for carrying out the feasibility study is expected in September, 1966. The terms and conditions for the proposed factory will be known only after the study is carried out.

Agricultural Indebtedness in Union Territories

- *60. **Shrimati Savitri Nigam:**
Shri Daljit Singh:

Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state the steps which Government have taken to remove agricultural indebtedness in the Union Territories?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shyam Dhar Misra): The cooperative credit structure is being strengthened to enable it to provide adequate credit to agriculturists at reasonable rates for production purposes. Taccavi loans for production purposes are also being provided by Government where necessary. There is provision for giving distress taccavi in deserving cases. Legislation to control money lending and to provide debt relief is also in force in some Union Territories.

Sugar Mills in Cooperative/Public Sector

99. **Shri Kishen Pattanayak:**
Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia:
Shri Madhu Limaye:

Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) the States which have decided to set up sugar mills only in the cooperative and public sectors; and