

(c) what percentage of the yield of inland fisheries is accounted for by fisheries in impounded waters?

**The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa):** (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** Could I know whether Government have prepared the plan giving priority for this work in the absence of relative information about the possible destruction of inland fish by the growth of Water Hyacinth in impounded waters?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** I would like to submit that inland fisheries is merely a State subject, whereas marine fisheries is directly under us and we are able to collect statistics because we have got sufficient machinery. Inland fisheries is under the States and there is ample provision in the Five Year Plan to set up a proper machinery to collect statistics and have a rough idea of the whole thing.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** Are Government aware that this problem of Water Hyacinth destroying fish in inland fisheries is a problem only in four States, viz., West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa and Assam?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** It is correct, Sir. This Water Hyacinth is prevalent only in West Bengal, Assam, Bihar and Orissa where water is stagnant. We had an F.A.O. expert also by name Mr. Botke and according to him nearly two-thirds of entire West Bengal is affected by this.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** In view of the answer to the question may I ask whether it is not a fact that the problem which is of so much importance only to West Bengal has been given priority in the Five Year Plan because the Minister of Fisheries in West Bengal happens to be a man with vested interests in West Bengal's inland fisheries?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order.

**Shri K. P. Tripathi:** Is it a fact that there are thousands of tanks which have been covered by Water Hyacinth, and some riverine fisheries in Assam also have been covered, and therefore, all that fish is not available? Is it also a fact....

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. Let him put one question.

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** It is a fact, according to the expert himself. He says where we could have had 500 lbs. of fish per acre of water, we are now producing 10 or 15 per cent. of the total production. It is a fact and it refers to three or four main States in India and we are going to take action.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** May I ask one question?

**Mr. Speaker:** Next question.

#### LAND REFORMS STUDIES

\*1149. **Shri S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to unstarred question No. 33 for 3rd August, 1953 and state:

(a) the work done by the Special Division for Land Reforms Studies so far; and

(b) the States which have so far sent in their programmes for the fixation of ceiling on present holdings?

**The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa):** (a) A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 24.]

(b) Land Reform Bills of Assam, Hyderabad, Himachal Pradesh and West Bengal contain proposals for fixation of ceilings on existing holdings.

**Shri S. N. Mishra:** How many States have already undertaken land surveys to collect data for the fixation of ceilings on land holdings?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** I have already replied in this House that

we were sending a letter to all the States within a week. I think by this time it must have reached the States, and we expect the replies and report on this survey within six months from all the States.

**Shri S. N. Mishra:** I wanted to know whether some States have already undertaken land survey.

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** Regarding fixation of ceilings, what the Planning Commission and we felt was that there should be sufficient data about various types of holdings in the country, because the Planning Commission have stated that the ceiling should be about four times the average holding. The average holding differs from State to State. So, through this letter, we will be collecting information in each State and everything will depend upon that.

**Shri S. N. Mishra:** May I know whether the National Development Council which met only some time back gave some direction for the land reforms?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** They did not take any decision in that matter. They discussed the subject.

**Shri Thimmalah:** May I ask....

**Mr. Speaker:** Next question.

#### POTATO DEVELOPMENT CENTRES

\*1150. **Shri K. P. Sinha:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state what are the main factors which are taken into consideration for starting centres for the development of potatoes?

(b) How many centres have been started in the State of Bihar?

(c) Is there any proposal to start more centres in the Bihar State in the near future?

**The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa):** (a) Centres are generally established at Agricultural Stations in the more important potato growing States. The choice of a centre is determined

by (i) its importance from the point of view of potato cultivation, (ii) availability of cold storage facilities for seed specially in the case of centres in the plains and (iii) availability of irrigation facilities.

(b) Four.

(c) No.

**Shri K. P. Sinha:** May I know the names of the Stations?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** The stations are: Central Potato Research Institute, Patna, Bihar; Potato Breeding sub-station, Simla, Punjab. I can read out. There are 15 stations all over the country. I will place it on the Table. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 25.]

**Shri Radhelal Vyas:** May I know whether there is any centre in Himachal Pradesh and if so, what development work has so far been done by this centre in the State of Himachal Pradesh?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** There is one centre in Himachal Pradesh. In fact, Himachal Pradesh is one of the important places from the point of view of Indian potatoes because they supply almost all the seed potatoes for the rest of the country. It is the best seed potato in the absence of imported potatoes now, and we are taking all interest to develop that potato.

**Shri Radhelal Vyas:** My question has not been answered.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. Mr. Nayar.

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** You mean the name of the Centre?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** For what object such centres are run? Is it to improve the yield of potatoes or to evolve new varieties of potatoes or to make cultivation of potatoes cheaper?