

TRACTORS (CENSUS)

*345. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any census of tractors used for agricultural purposes in different States was taken;

(b) if so, when and how many were owned by private persons; and

(c) the varieties of tractors used?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). In 1951. Data from all States have not yet become available. The available data are placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 28.]

Shri S. C. Samanta: The hon. Minister stated that the census was taken in 1951, but in the statement I find no mention of West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh and Punjab. May I know the reason?

Shri Kidwai: The census took place all right, but these States failed to send in their returns in spite of reminders.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know how the use of tractors has helped the Grow More Food Campaign and how far it has added to the unemployment in the country on the agricultural side?

Shri Kidwai: These tractors are used to bring new land under cultivation and therefore there is no question of making those who are employed unemployed. As to how far the tractor operations have been effective, I require time to give an answer and I do not want to reply on the basis of what I hear from others.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Can the hon. Minister please tell us the number of tractors that has been imported both by the State Governments and by the Central Government?

Shri Kidwai: I think most of the State Governments get their tractors through the Central Government. In the statement laid on the Table the hon. Member will find the number of tractors owned by each State.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know the varieties of tractors that have been imported by the Central Tractor Organisation?

Shri Kidwai: That is also in the statement laid on the Table of the House.

Shri N. S. Nair: May I know, Sir, whether Government are aware that introduction of tractor tilling has taken away the food of hundreds of thousands of original tillers of soil who were using bullocks and consequently it has led to the deterioration in the cattle manure position in the country?

Shri Kidwai: It is a matter of opinion. If more land is to be brought under cultivation—whether it is Grow More Food or Grow More Fodder—grass will have to be cut away and cattle will be deprived of that particular grass.

Shri Tushar Chatterjee: May I know, Sir, what are the countries from which tractors are imported and whether any tractors are imported from U.S.S.R. or not?

Shri Kidwai: The varieties of tractors that have been imported are mentioned in the statement laid on the Table. As to their origin I will require notice.

DEVELOPMENT OF FISHERIES IN TRAVANCORE-COCHIN

*346. **Kumari Annie Mascarene:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether Government have allotted any amounts for the development of fisheries in Travancore-Cochin State during the years 1948-49, 1949-50, 1950-51, 1951-52 and 1952-53?

(b) What are the amounts allotted?

(c) Have Government made any enquiries with regard to the amounts thus allotted and the way they are spent?

(d) Have Government received any report from the said State Government with regard to the expenditure?

(e) Have Government given any financial aid to West Coast fisheries in Travancore-Cochin State?

(f) If so, what are the amounts?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) and (b). Yes. A grant of Rs. 38,353 was sanctioned in 1948-49 to finance an Esturaine Fish Culture Station at Ayiramthengu, a Deep Sea Fishing Station, construction of model fish curing yards and the setting up of a Chemistry Section. No grants were asked for during 1949-50, 1950-51 and