

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

1952-53. In 1951-52, a grant of Rs. 35,000 being half the estimated expenditure on a fish curing scheme, was sanctioned.

(c) and (d). In accordance with the terms of these grants, reports have been received in respect of the schemes sanctioned in 1948-49. On the basis of the actual expenditure incurred by the State Government on these schemes, they are eligible to a subsidy of Rs. 7,000 against the sanctioned grant of Rs. 38,353. In the case of the schemes sanctioned in 1951-52, similar reports are awaited.

(e) No.

(f) Does not arise.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: May I know whether Government has received any complaint with regard to the West Coast fisheries?

Shri Kidwai: I do not know if the Department has received any; but none has been brought to my notice.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: May I know whether the money that was allotted and not paid will be given to the Department hereafter?

Shri Kidwai: As I have said reports have been received in respect of the schemes sanctioned. On the basis of the actual expenditure incurred they will be eligible to subsidies.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: May I know whether Government has asked any enquiries to be made into these matters?

Shri Kidwai: I am not aware of it.

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know whether Government have taken any steps for restocking of suitable varieties of fish?

Shri Kidwai: The Fisheries Department has been functioning for years. I have not yet been able to acquaint myself with all its activities. On any specific point that the hon. Member wants to know he can put a question.

LONG STAPLE COTTON

*347. **Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state what steps have Government taken during the last two years for the encouragement of the cultivation of long staple cotton in India?

(b) What is the acreage in which long staple cotton has been cultivated during the years 1950-51 and 1951-52 in the different cotton growing States?

(c) What acreage out of this is irrigated?

(d) What is the production per acre in each case?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) The Government of India in conjunction with the Indian Central Cotton Committee have taken the following steps for the encouragement of long staple cotton (i.e., 7/8" and above) during the last two years:—

(i) Financing of seed multiplication and distribution schemes for the spread of long staple cotton evolved as a result of research;

(ii) Fixing of higher price for such cottons;

(iii) keeping of some of the recently evolved improved types out of price control;

(iv) allowing of special premia for certain varieties; and

(v) allowing of premia for yarn spun from such long staple cottons and utilised in the manufacture of cloth.

(b) The figures of acreage under long staple cotton during 1950-51 are:

Bombay	12,15,000 acres.
Madras	3,69,000 acres.
Madhya Pradesh	4,75,000 acres.
Punjab & Pepsu	5,000 acres.
Hyderabad	9,40,000 acres.
Mysore	39,000 acres.

Information for 1951-52 is not yet available. It will be placed on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

(c) Information is not available at present. It will be placed on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

(d) Average production per acre during 1950-51 was about 80 lbs. Information for 1951-52 will be placed on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Is it proposed to encourage irrigated cotton more and more and if so is any special assistance being given to cultivators for cultivating cotton by irrigation?

Shri Kidwai: Irrigation water is being arranged in all the States wherever it is essential for more and more production. As to any special schemes, I would require notice.