

The Minister of State in the Minister of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) Two statements giving the information required are placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in the Library. See No. LT-560/62].

(b) Final estimates of the area and production of jute in 1962-63 are not yet available. However, a copy of the All India First Estimate of Jute, 1962-63 is laid on the Table of the House. A statement showing prices of jute at selected centres during 1962-63 is also laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in the Library. See No. LT-560/62].

Farming Co-operative

631. Shri Balmiki: Will the Minister of Community Development, Panchayati Raj and Co-operation be pleased to state:

(a) the number of farming co-operatives in the country up to the 3rd Week of November, 1962; and

(b) the maximum number and State in which they exist?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development, Panchayati Raj and Co-operation (Shri Shyam Dhar Misra): (a) According to the information received from the States up to 15th November, 1962, there were 2,456 co-operative farming societies.

(b) The Punjab state with 509 co-operative farming societies.

Service Co-operatives

632. Shri Balmiki: Will the Minister of Community Development, Panchayati Raj and Co-operation be pleased to state:

(a) the number of service co-operatives in the country up to the last week of November, 1962;

(b) the name of the State which has the maximum number; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to popularise this movement in the rural areas?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development, Panchayati Raj and Co-operation (Shri Shyam Dhar Misra): (a) According to information available about 36,030 new service co-operatives were organised and about 70,450 existing primary agricultural credit societies were taken up for reorganisation and revitalisation/conversion as service co-operatives upto the co-operative year ending 30th June, 1962. Data for the subsequent period has not been compiled.

(b) Uttar Pradesh.

(c) (i) State governments are giving adequate publicity to popularise the movement. Seminars and Sammelans are held. Literature and leaflets are also being circulated. A number of peripatetic training parties are educating the rural masses in the principles and practices of co-operation and its advantages.

(ii) Government is also providing the following assistance to service co-operatives:

(a) Managerial subsidy not exceeding Rs. 900 spread over a period of 3 to 5 years towards managerial expenses.

(b) Government participation in the share capital of selected societies upto a limit of Rs. 5000 in each and in exceptional cases upto Rs. 10,000.

(c) Certain outright contributions to the funds of each society to cover the risk in lending to weaker sections of the community.

(iii) State governments are also taking steps to enable the service co-operatives to diversify their service functions by providing various incentives like utilising them for distribution of seeds, fertilisers, other agri-