

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development, Panchayat Raj and Co-operation (Shri Shyam Dhar Misra): (a) 200 wholesale stores and 4,000 primary tores/branches in important cities and towns with a population over 50,000.

(b) 15 Cooperative Wholesale/Central Stores and 229 primary/branches have so far been organised in Madhya Pradesh, Madras, Bihar, Delhi, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Assam, Mysore & Rajasthan.

(c) Rs. 10 crores for the entire Scheme and Rs. 2 crores for the current year.

(d) The State Governments have not drawn any funds so far from the Centre as the scheme was sanctioned only on 15.11.62.

Personnel for running Cooperative Societies

923. Shrimati Vimla Devi: Will the Minister of Community Development, Panchayat Raj and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated requirement of trained personnel for running cooperative societies during the Third Plan;

(b) the facilities that exist at present for training these personnel; and

(c) the number of people trained so far?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development, Panchayat Raj and Cooperation (Shri Shyam Dhar Misra): (a) The estimated requirement of trained personnel for running Cooperative Societies during the Third Plan is 43,500 departmental and institutional personnel.

(b) There are 81 Cooperative Training Centres for training the personnel;

(c) 35,122 persons have been trained ending March, 1962 from the beginning of the courses at the respective Centres.

Per Acre Yield of Paddy

924. Shri Imbichhava: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to increase the per acre yield of paddy during the Third Five Year Plan;

(b) the present average per acre yield in the country; and

(c) the State-wise break up of the figure?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) The programmes for increasing agricultural production in the country viz. extension of irrigation through major, medium and minor irrigation works, extended use of fertilizers, manures, improved seeds, plant protection measures, better implements and improved agricultural practices as also dissemination of technical advice through the Extension agency hold good for increasing rice production also. In addition to this general programme of agricultural development on the basis of the agro-climatic conditions which are most favourable for growing paddy, production figures marketable surplus etc. 40 districts have been selected and the States concerned have been asked to undertake an impact programme for intensive cultivation of rice in the selected districts during the remaining years of the Plan, beginning from Kharif 1963.

A coordinated scheme for the establishment of Central Regional Stations and sub-stations for work on rice research in all the States (except Rajasthan) and the Union Territory of Himachal Pradesh during the Third Five Year Plan has also been formulated and circulated to States/Territory concerned for implementation during the Third Plan. Out of the thirty-eight other rice research schemes having a bearing on breeding agronomy, soils and fertilizers, diseases and pests operating in all the rice growing States, a number of them have yielded results which are