

(d) the names of places where they will be opened during the same period; and

(e) the total amount allotted for the purpose in Rajasthan during 1962-63 and 1963-64?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) Thirty three exploratory bores were drilled by the Exploratory Tubewells Organisation in the course of groundwater exploration. Besides, 4 tubewells, 8 Observation holes and 3 Pilot holes were drilled for the National Mineral Development Corporation.

(b) These were drilled in the districts of Barmer, Jodhpur, Jaisalmer, Nagaur, Jhunjhunu, Alwar, and Sikar.

(c) Twenty four exploratory bores.

(d) In the districts of Sikar, Jhunjhunu, Churu, Bikaner and Pali.

(e) During 1962-63, Rs. 5,25,037.

During 1963-64, Rs. 3,30,790.

Tobacco Cultivation in Rajasthan

1676. { Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:
Shri Ramachandra Uiaka:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Central assistance was given to Rajasthan for the development of tobacco cultivation in the State during 1962-63; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

अररहाट डाकघर के लिये टेलीफोन

१६७७. श्री यमुना प्रसाद मंडल : क्या डाक तथा तार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि दरभंगा जिला (उत्तर बिहार) के अररहाट डाकघर में टेलीफोन लगाने की योजना सरकार के विचाराधीन है ; और

(ख) क्या सरकार उक्त डाकघर (अररहाट) को सब-ऑफिस में परिणत करने का विचार रखती है ?

डाक और तार विभाग में उपमन्त्री (श्री भगवती) : (क) और (ख). ये प्रस्ताव विचाराधीन हैं ।

Tube Wells in Madras

1678. **Shri V. V. Thevar:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1906 on the 16th April, 1963 and state:

(a) the progress made in regard to drilling of exploratory bores to absorb ground water for the construction of irrigation tube wells in Aranthangi, Pattukkottai, Orathanad and Thanjavur Taluks so far;

(b) the results obtained in regard to the depth of underground table and the yield thereof; and

(c) when the exploration is likely to be completed and final results expected?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) No site has been selected for exploration in Thanjavur Taluk. Exploratory drilling work in the remaining three Taluks of Orathanad, Aranthangi and Pattukkottai will be taken up soon.

(b) and (c). The final results will be available after the exploration in 1964-65.

Procurement Price of Rice

1679. **Shri V. V. Thevar:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase the procurement price of

rice in Madras State to give incentive to farmers for increasing the production;

(b) if so, the rate of increase proposed in regard to each variety/quality; and

(c) the rates of procurement for each variety/quality in other States?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) and (b). It has been decided to increase the procurement prices of rice in Madras State by two rupees and sixty-eight paise per quintal for the next crop season 1963/64.

(c) The information is given in the statement placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1692/63].

Subsidy to Sugarcane Growers

1680. Shri M. G. Thengondar: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government give assistance in the form of subsidy or loan to the sugar cane growers; and

(b) if so, the amount given as subsidy or loan to sugar-cane growers in the Thanjavur District, Madras State during 1961 to 1963?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) and (b). No subsidy or loan is given to Sugarcane growers district-wise direct by the Central Government. A lumpsum amount is, however, sanctioned every year as grant/loan for Agricultural Development Schemes including Sugarcane Development to the State Governments who grant subsidy/loan to growers according to the pattern of financial assistance for each crop.

Nidamangalam Railway Station

1681. Shri M. G. Thengondar: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Panchayat Board of the Nidamangalam Town (Thanjavur Distt. Madras State) has requested the Railway Administration for grant of the waste land situated near the Nidamangalam Railway Station and in possession of the Railways for the purpose of maintaining a park and installing a Gandhi Statue there; and

(b) if so, the present stage at which the requisition of the Panchayat Board stands?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) The exact location of the land has now been ascertained from the Panchayat Board and the matter is under consideration of the Railway. The Panchayat Board will be advised of the decision shortly.

Melon Research Institute

1682. Shri Eswara Reddy: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the I.C.A.R. has sanctioned a scheme to set up a Melon Research Institute in Cuddapah District in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the date by which it is to be set up and the location of the Institute; and

(c) the functions of the Institute?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) to (c). No Institute as such has been set up or is proposed to be set up in Cuddapah District in Andhra Pradesh but a research scheme is being executed at Cuddapah, Andhra Pradesh for the improvement of musk-melon and water melon;

The object of the above scheme is to evolve sweet, high yielding, and disease resistant varieties of musk melon and water melon.