

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) The Central Team during its visit to Orissa State in April, 1963 observed that the State Government had undertaken a special drive during rabi season of 1962-63 aiming at extension of double cropping which included the cultivation of Dalua paddy. Since there was large scope for extending double cropping in canal irrigated areas of the State, the Central Team recommended to the State Government to further intensify this programme and achieve larger acreage under double cropping including Dalua paddy cultivation in the coming years.

(b) and (c). Information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the Sabha when received.

Railway Pensioners

2. Dr. P. Srinivasan: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether dearness allowance to Railway pensioners is going to be increased; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Railway pensioners are not entitled to any Dearness Allowance.

(b) Does not arise.

Trivandrum-Tirunelveli Line

3. Shri M. K. Kumaran: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the engineering survey of the proposed Trivandrum-Tirunelveli line has begun; and

(b) whether the line would be constructed during the Third Plan period?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes.

(b) The proposed line has not been included in Railways' programme of construction of new lines during the Third Plan period.

Development of Banana Cultivation

4. Shri M. K. Kumaran: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a scheme to develop banana cultivation in South India through a plantation corporation including Kerala, Madras, Mysore and Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the possibility of exporting bananas has been fully explored?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes; while a survey of banana growing areas, undertaken recently has brought out the possibilities for large scale exports of "Poovan" variety from the South and "Basrai" variety from Maharashtra and Gujrat, a Banana Delegation is being sent to West Asian and European countries and the U.K. to explore markets for bananas.

Raxual Aerodrome

5. Shri R. S. Pandey: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction of the Raxual aerodrome has been completed; and

(b) if so, whether it is ready for use?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) All major works, except the terminal building, have been completed.

(b) Yes, Sir, the runway is available for use.

Development of Horticulture

6. Shri Ramchandra Ulaka: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of money in the shape of loans and grants given to Orissa Government for horticulture during 1962-63; and

(b) the amount utilised by that State during the same period?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) The following

amounts of loans and grants were given to Orissa Government during 1962-63 for the horticultural Scheme noted below:

Schemes	Loan Rs.	Grant Rs.	Total Rs.
1. Training of gardeners	—	18,500	18,500
2. Establishment of progeny orchards and fruit nurseries	—	32,500	32,500
3. Establishment of garden colonies	50,000	5,500	55,500
TOTAL	50,000	56,500	1,06,500

(b)

The amounts utilised by the State Government during the same period are as under—

1. Training of gardeners	—	14,000	14,000
2. Establishment of progeny orchards and fruit nurseries	—	20,450	20,450
3. Establishment of garden colonies	—	3,200	3,200
TOTAL :	—	37,650	37,650

Co-operative Movement in Orissa

7. Shri Ramachandra Ulaka: Will the Minister of Community Development and Co-operation be pleased to state:

(a) whether any loan or aid has been given by the Centre to Orissa Government to gear up the Co-opera-

tive Movement there during the last five years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri Shyam Dhar Misra): (a) and (b). Yes. The following assistance was given to the Orissa Government for implementing Plan schemes of co-operative development:

(Rupees in lakhs)

Year	Loan	Subsidy	Total
1958—59	4.250	3.405	7.655
1959—60	13.613	3.666	17.279
1960—61	0.940	7.383	8.323
1961—62	8.804	4.407	13.211
1962—63	10.680	7.350	18.030
TOTAL	38.287	26.211	64.498

Exploitation of Rare Herbs

8. Shri Ramachandra Ulaka: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any progress has been launched for exploitation of rare herbs in Orissa under the Third Plan period; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the progress made so far?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) No such programme has been launched by the State Government.

(b) Does not arise.