

Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). During the course of discussions with the Rumanian Minister and his technical officers an offer of samples of poplars and willows for trial in India was made. Further details have not been worked out so far.

Friesian Cattle

183. Shri Ram Harkh Yadav: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Friesian Cattle Club, Australia has sent 30 pedigreed friesian cattle to India as a gift;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) its estimated cost?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). In the course of his visit to India, the President of the Australian Society "For Those Who Have Less" offered a free gift of 30 friesian cattle (15 bulls and 15 heifers) for purposes of maintaining a pure stock in India as well as for upgrading Indian cattle by crossbreeding. The offer was accepted and it was decided to maintain the animals at the Haringhatta Farm, West Bengal where cross breeding work is already in progress. The Society has recently been requested to ship the animals.

(c) The estimated value of the gift is Rs. 1,20,000. An amount of about Rs. 58,000 is expected to be incurred by the Government of West Bengal on freight, insurance and other incidental charges.

Food Corporation

184. Shri Karni Singhji: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the considerations which weighed with Government for locating the offices of the Food Corporation of India at Madras;

(b) whether this Corporation is to function independently or in close collaboration with his Ministry; and

(c) the policy of Government for locating new Government offices?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan): (a) As the Corporations operations would initially start in the Southern Zone where there is scope for procuring a significant quantity of rice, it was decided that it would be most convenient to locate the Head Office of the Corporation in that zone. It was also felt that Madras would be the most suitable place for this purpose.

(b) It is to function in close collaboration with the Ministry of Food and Agriculture.

(c) Government offices are located at particular places keeping in view the administrative convenience.

Agricultural Colleges

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

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up agricultural colleges in the Districts covered by the Intensive Agricultural District Programme; and

(b) if so, the name of the District selected for the setting up of this college in the Madras State?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) No such proposal is under the consideration of Government of India.

(b) Does not arise.

Prices of Imported Wheat

Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri Naval Prabhakar:
Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
186. Shri Rameshwar Tantia:

Shri D. C. Sharma:
 Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
 Shri S. C. Samanta:
 Shri R. S. Tiwary:
 Shri Hukam Chand
 Kachhavaia:
 Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
 Shri Maharajkumar Vijaya
 Ananda:
 Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:
 Shri P. H. Bheel:
 Shri Daljit Singh:
 Shri Narendra Singh
 Mahida:
 Shri Narasimha Reddy:
 Shri Solanki:
 Shri Madhu Limaye:
 Shri Gulshan:
 Shri Basumatari:

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

(a) whether Government have allowed the prices of imported wheat to be raised;

(b) if so, to what extent and in what circumstances; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the imported wheat stocks went underground consequent upon the announcement of increase in price from 1st January, 1965?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The issue price of imported wheat for supply from Central stocks was raised from Rs. 37.51 to Rs. 48.00 per quintal with effect from 1st January, 1965, with a view to maintaining a reasonable relationship between its issue price on the one hand and wholesale price of indigenous wheat and coarse grains on the other.

(c) No, Sir.

Fishing Harbour, Haldia

187. { Shri S. C. Samanta:
 Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
 Shri Subodh Hansda:

Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to refer to the reply

given to Unstarred Question No. 1421 on the 15th December, 1964 and state:

(a) whether the preliminary survey for the establishment of a Fishing Harbour at Haldia has been made; and

(b) if so, the model tests which will be carried out and for how long?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan): (a) The Calcutta Port Trust has been requested to conduct a preliminary survey for the establishment of a fishing harbour at Haldia.

(b) Model tests with regard to the orientation of the lock entrance to the harbour will have to be carried out for a period of about 6 to 8 weeks.

Soil Conservation

188. Shri Yashpal Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 285 on the 1st December, 1964 and state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration to preserve forests to improve the agricultural lands; and

(b) if so, the amount allocated for the purpose during the Third Five Year Plan?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Although no specific schemes have been formulated for preserving the forests with the expressed object of improving the agricultural lands, almost all the forestry schemes and those under soil conservation concerning forestry tend to serve the above purpose.

(b) The funds allocated for the development of forestry programmes under forest development and soil