

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) A cash grant of Rs. 22,04,000 (Rupees twenty-two lakhs and four thousands only) was released direct to the U.P. Agricultural University, Pant Nagar in U.P. during the year 1966-67 as Centre's share towards items of developmental nature viz. Girls hostel, staff quarters for academic staff, Health Centre, equipment and books. Besides the above grant, a sum of Rs. 9,787 (Rupees nine thousands, seven hundred and fifty seven only) was paid to the Government of U.P. as Centre's share towards the actual additional expenditure incurred on account of adoption of the UGC's Third Plan scales of pay for the teaching staff in the U.P. Agricultural University, Pant-nagar for the period from 1st January, 1965 to 31st March, 1966.

(b) The information is still awaited from the U.P. Agricultural University, Pant-Nagar

#### **Insecticides**

5184. Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of total acreage of land under plough in different States covered by spraying insecticides for plant protection for different crops during last year; and

(b) the quantity of insecticides imported during the above period?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) The coverage under plant protection measures is estimated at 59 million acres during 1966-67. The figures for cultivated area in 1966-67 are not yet available but gross cropped area in 1964-65 was estimated at 390 million acres.

(b) During the year nearly 4,400 metric tonnes of various pesticides in technical grades and ready-to-use forms were imported.

#### **I.A.C. Services**

5185. Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:  
Shri Onkar Singh:

Will the Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines Corporation Services were delayed at Calcutta on the 16th May, 1967 owing to a strike by the employees of the Corporation; and

(b) if so, the demands of the Indian Airlines Corporation Employees and action taken to fulfil them?

The Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation (Dr. Karan Singh): (a) and (b): A meeting, which was convened by the Chief Engineer at Calcutta with the representatives of Air Corporation Employees Union on the 16th May, 1967 to discuss certain local problems, had to be postponed due to unruly behaviour of certain members. This postponement was misunderstood by the Union, who advised some of their members to go on strike. As a result of this stoppage of work some of the services ex-Calcutta were delayed on the 17th morning. The strike was called off on the 17th after the Chief Engineer had given an assurance to hold the postponed meeting on the 18th May, 1967.

#### **Co-operative Sugar Mills, Batala**

5186. Shri K. Anirudhan:  
Shri Umanath:  
Shri P. F. Esthose:  
Shri K. M. Abraham:  
Shri Vishwanatha Menon:

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

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to certain cases of corruption in the Co-operative Sugar Mills, Batala, Punjab State;

(b) if so, whether the matter was investigated by the authorities;

(c) the findings thereof;

(d) whether the Central Vigilance Commission has recommended transfer of the General Manager; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government in the matter?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy): (a) and (b) A complaint making allegations about the mis-management of Batala Co-operative Sugar Mills Ltd, and corruption against the General Manager of the Mills was received and was forwarded to the erstwhile Government of Punjab for necessary action in January, 1966.

(c) Information awaited from the State Government

(d) The Central Vigilance Commission has not investigated in the matter, hence the question of their recommending the transfer of the General Manager does not arise

(e) Question does not arise

#### Food and Fertilizer Subsidies

5187 Shri Sradhakar Supakar Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) the amount of fertilizer subsidy given to each State in the year ending the 30th June, 1967 and

(b) whether any assessment of the effect of subsidies of food and fertilizers on the prices and production of foodgrains has been made?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde). (a) Devaluation of Rupee resulted in an increase in the CIF cost of imported fertilizers and fertilizer raw materials by 57.5 per cent. However prices of pool fertilizers were maintained at pre-devaluation levels, in 1966-67 by a suitable subsidy. Subsidies were also paid directly by the Central Government to indigenous manufacturers using imported raw materials to moderate the increase in prices of fertilizers produced within the country. The cost of these subsidies is reflected entirely in the Central Budget and

the question of any payments to the States did not arise.

The following subsidy schemes were operated through the State Governments

#### (i) Subsidy on phosphatic fertilisers

A subsidy not exceeding 25 per cent of the sale price of phosphatic fertilisers, the cost of subsidy to be shared equally by the Central and State Governments was admissible upto 31st March, 1967. The option to allow this subsidy or not was left to the State Governments who had to share the cost. This subsidy has been withdrawn from 1st April, 1967.

#### (ii) Special subsidy in Backward Union Territories

A subsidy of 25 per cent of the retail price of nitrogenous fertilisers and 50 per cent of the retail price of phosphatic fertilisers was in force in the Union Territories of Manipur, Tripura, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Laccadive and Minicoy Islands which were considered to be backward areas. The rate of subsidy has been reduced to 20 per cent and 40 per cent respectively from 1st April 1967.

#### (iii) Subsidy on cost of transport of fertilisers in hilly and inaccessible areas

The extra cost (over and above normal transport cost in other areas) of transporting fertilisers from the nearest rail head to the consuming centres is met by Government and the cost is shared by the Central and State Governments on a 50-50 basis.

These are centrally aided Plan schemes and the Central assistance for these is included in the overall jump sum grants to States form Plan Schemes and no separate scheme-wise account is maintained. Therefore, the figures of amounts paid to the State Governments on account of fertilizer subsidies alone are not available. No formal assessment has been made regarding the effect of subsidies on prices and Production of Food-grains.