

the Governmental procurement agencies from the banking sector should be met through the consortium. The allocation of the share of food credit among the banks in the consortium is done by the Reserve Bank of India. The Reserve Bank of India has also constituted a committee of bankers to ensure, *inter alia* equitable distribution of food procurement credit among the banks participating in the consortium.

Small Farmer's Access to Credit

7032. SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news appearing in *Hindustan Times* dated the 10th March, 1973, under the heading 'Small farmer should have access to credit-Pai';

(b) if so, Government reaction thereto; and

(c) whether credit policy towards farmers, shop-keepers, small industrialists and scooter drivers is likely to undergo a big change?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government are aware of the need to reach credit to small farmers, so that they can adopt modern technology in agriculture. It is Government's policy to re-orient institutional credit to meet this objective.

(c) With the introduction of Credit Guarantee Scheme with effect from 1-4-1971 and the scheme of Differential Rates of Interest, being implemented by the Commercial Banks, it is expected that small farmers, shopkeepers transport operators, etc. would be increasingly helped by commercial banks in future.

Monkey as a Menace to Farming

7033. SHRI P. GANGADEB:

SHRI P. M. MEHTA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some delegates in the symposium on Agriculture development which was held in New Delhi pointed out that monkeys are a big menace to farming;

(b) if so, whether scientists had no solution to this; and

(c) if so, what steps Government are proposing in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE):

(a) Yes, Sir, a mention of money menace was casually made in the symposium when one of the delegates was referring to crop damage by wild beasts such as elephants, jackals, foxes etc.

(b) No specific solution to money menace is available at present except scaring them away from the crops by one or other means.

(c) At the present moment there is no proposal under consideration to study and prevent money menace to crops, since the problem is of very limited importance in comparison to damage done by other agents such as birds, rodents etc. and the efforts are mainly concentrated on them.

Tour of Speaker of A.P Legislative Assembly to Famine Stricken Area

7034. SHRI P. NARASIMHA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Speaker of the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly after a tour of Rayalseema and other