

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b). The studies carried out on mechanised farming with special reference to impact of tractorisation reveal that tractorisation generates non-farm employment in the manufacture, repair and maintenance and also generates indirect employment through multiplier effect. It has also been concluded that demand for hired labour for farm work increases accompanied by a reduction in the family labour particularly women and children.

**Amendment of contract labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act**

1117. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH :

SHRI N. DENNIS :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to amend the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970, to plug the legal loopholes in its implementation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The amendments to the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 are being processed. Recently, definition of 'Appropriate Government' under the Act has been amended through the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Amendment Ordinance No. 3 of 1986, and a Bill to replace the said Ordinance has been introduced in Rajya Sabha.

**Rise in prices of fertilizers**

1118. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the steep rise in prices of fertilizers and petroleum products is likely to affect the food production; and

(b) if so, the anticipated fall in the targets of food production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Cost of Production of Coconut and Copra**

1119. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Commission on Agricultural Costs and Prices, which was asked to study on priority basis the cost of production of coconut and copra, has submitted its report to the Government; and

(b) if so, the principal findings of the Commission and the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) No, Sir. The Commission on Agricultural Costs and Prices while formulating their price proposals in respect of different crops takes into account a number of relevant factors, among which one of the most important factors is the cost of cultivation of the specific crops. The study of cost of cultivation of coconut, which is a plantation and perennial crop, requires a different methodology as compared to the on-going studies for cultivated crops (like wheat, paddy, cotton, oilseeds etc.). Steps are under way to undertake the required study.

(b) Does not arise.

**Implementation of Recommendations of Sen Committee**

1120. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY :  
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :  
DR. B. L. SHAILESH :  
DR. SUDHIR ROY :  
SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK :  
SHRI C. P. THAKUR :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the principal recommendations of S. R. Sen Committee which have been accepted for the purpose of increasing agricultural production in four Eastern States;

(b) whether any effort has been made to monitor the implementation of Sen Committee's recommendations and if not the reasons for the same; and

(c) the decisions arrived at in the recent two-day conference of Chief Ministers of four Eastern States in Patna and the action proposed to be taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) to (c). The recommendations of the Committee on Agricultural Productivity in Eastern India (S. R. Sen Committee) relate to the strengthening of input-supply, extension and research support, maximum exploitation of ground-water resources, diversification of cropping patterns, revitalisation of credit and cooperative institutions, strengthening of tribal economy and more effective organisational and management coordination in the agriculture sector. These recommendations are focussed on making the small farmer economy of the regions viable. These recommendations have been generally accepted for implementation.

A conference of Chief Ministers of Bihar, Orissa, U. P., and West Bengal presided by Union Minister of Agriculture was held at Patna on 8th January, 1986 to consider the recommendations of the Committee.

The State Governments agreed to implement the recommendations of the Committee, initially within the frame work of the existing plan outlays.

#### Medical care under ESIC

1121. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have approved any of the four alternatives placed before them by the Employees State Insurance

Corporation for the purpose of extending medical facilities to retired workers, if not, the reasons for the same and when this proposal is likely to be approved;

(b) whether the Tripartite Committee set up the ESIC to review the panel Doctor system and suggest improvements on it has submitted its report; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) A proposal has been received from the ESI Corporation recently and the same is under examination. The implementation of the proposal would, however, require an appropriate amendment to the ESI Act, which may take time

(b) No, Sir,

(c) Does not arise.

#### Inadequate Cold Storage Capacity

1122. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY :  
SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether 30 per cent of the fruits and vegetables grown in the country are spoiled each year because of inadequate cold storage capacity;

(b) whether 85.85 per cent of the cold storages are owned by the private sector and the public and co-operative sector account for the remaining 14.15 per cent which are utilised for storage of fish, meat, egg, poultry, milk and dairy products;

(c) whether the cold storage order, 1985 is not being implemented effectively to ensure hygienic and proper refrigeration conditions; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to augment the frozen storage space in public and cooperative sectors ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND