

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI): (a) Sir, Modern Agricultural technology developed by the scientists in recent years has helped in increasing the agricultural productivity substantially. During the period 1980-81 to 1986-87 the productivity increase in foodgrains has been from 1023 to 1142 kg/ha, in Rapeseed and Mustard from 560 to 707 kg/ha, in Cotton from 152 to 169 kg/ha., in Sugarcane from 57844 to 59732 kg/ha, in Potato from 13258 to 15423 kg/ha and in Tobacco from 1065 to 1199 kg/ha. Also egg and milk production increased from 10.0 to 16.9 billions and from 31.6 to 45.9 m. tonnes respectively during the period 1980-81 to 1987-88.

(b) Steps are underway to strengthen research in crop improvement oilseeds and pulses, horticulture and vegetables, dryland agriculture watershed management, biotechnology, animal production on various livestock species and aquaculture. A significant effort to strengthen the regional research capabilities of the State Agricultural Universities has also been launched under phase II of the National Agricultural Research Project.

In addition to these, exchange of scientists, training of scientific manpower and exchange of germplasm of crops and animals is also envisaged through 25 protocols

signed by the Department of Agricultural Research and Education with other countries and international organisations.

#### **Research Centre for Pineapple in Karnataka**

951. SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to open a research centre for pineapple in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to encourage the growers for export of pineapple; and

(c) the details of demand for pineapple received from other countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI): (a) and (b). Sir. Government does not propose to open a research centre for pineapple in Karnataka. However, the work on pineapple is in progress at Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Bangalore in Karnataka.

The Ministry of Commerce offers assistance for the export of fresh fruits as given below:

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|---|--|
| (i) Cash compensatory support: basis.   | 22% if exported by air in CIF/C&F basis.<br><br>10% if exported otherwise. |
| (ii) Specific commodity rates for export of fresh fruits ex. Delhi/Bombay to specified destinations in the Gulf and Western Europe. |  |
| (iii) Import replenishment:   | 10%  |
| (iv) Drawback: material   | At specified rates on packing  |

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(c) Processed pineapples are exported mainly to USSR. During 1986-87, 3337 metric tonnes of pineapples valued at Rs. 2.40 crores were exported to USSR.

### Road Tax Payment Records in Delhi Transport Authority

952. SHRI MEWA SINGH GILL:  
SHRIMATI USHA VERMA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the vehicle owners in Delhi are required to pay the entire road tax again in getting duplicate registration books issued in case of its loss;

(b) if so, whether the Delhi Transport Authority is maintaining proper and update records of payment of road tax by the vehicle owners;

(c) if so, the period upto which the road tax payment records in Delhi Transport Authority have been updated; and

(d) the time by which these records will be fully updated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Delhi Administration has intimated that road tax records are regularly updated and such records for the year 1985-86, 1986-87, 1987-88 and 1988-89 have been computerised.

[*Translation*]

### Rise in Prices of Pulses

953. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY:  
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of pulses are likely to cross Rs. one thousand per quintal this year;

(b) if so, the reasons for such a steep rise in the prices of pulses;

(c) whether large quantities of oil seeds and pulses are being imported and if so, year-wise detail of imports during 1985, 1986, 1987 and upto 31st October 1988; and

(d) the import duty imposed during these years on the import of pulses and the existing rate of import duty per quintal and the increase/decrease therein as compared to January, 1988?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) The wholesale prices of some pulses at the end of October, 1988 were ruling above Rs. 1000 per quintal in some parts of the country.

(b) The prices of pulses in general are high due to shortfall in production on account of drought in 1987, lean season, disruption in supplies on account of floods and heavy rains in some areas and transport operators' strike in some northern States.

(c) There are no large-scale imports of edible oilseeds. The imports of pulses are allowed under Open General Licence. The imports of Pulses since 1984-85 are as follows:—

| <i>Financial Year</i>           | <i>Quantity<br/>(‘000 tonnes)</i> |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1984-85                         | 235                               |
| 1985-86                         | 429                               |
| 1986-87                         | 675                               |
| 1987-88                         | 757                               |
| 1988-89<br>(Upto October, 1988) | 770*                              |

\* Controls registered with National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited.