

sidering the suggestion made by a group of experts to nationalise the markets for vegetables and fruits in certain large cities like Delhi, Bombay, Madras and Calcutta; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) No, Sir. There is no such proposal to nationalise the markets for vegetables and fruits in large cities. However, a Group on Perishable Agricultural Commodities constituted by the Ministry of Agriculture has recommended that the markets located in the larger cities like Delhi, Bombay, Madras and Calcutta should be conferred the special status of the market of national interest.

(b) The question does not arise.

Apple Export to Gulf Countries

1311. SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering any proposal to help apple export which are much in demand in the Gulf countries and West Asia;

(b) whether the exports are facing a serious set back due to inadequate canning facilities and lack of canning material indigenously; and

(c) what Government propose to do in the matter so as to alleviate the difficulties to the apple exporters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) Apples are already being exported to a limited extent to the Gulf and West Asian countries.

(b) Adequate canning and processing facilities for apple now exist both

in Jammu and Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh. The Government has launched World Bank aided project in J&K and Himachal Pradesh which include both marketing and processing components. There is no specific or serious problem about the canning material availability for apples.

(c) Question does not arise. However, Government will render every possible help if specific instances of hardship are brought to its notice.

Master Plan for Development of Fishing Harbour

1312. SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER:

SHRI CHINTAMANI
PANIGRAHI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Master Plan drawn up for the development of fishing harbours along the coast for exploiting resources available both within and beyond the limits of the existing fishing belt;

(b) whether the States with coasts have also been asked to submit their 'master' plan for inclusion in the master plan of the Government;

(c) the reactions and replies received from the State Governments concerned thereto;

(d) other pertinent details on the expected economic improvement both to the hinterland and the country, and the envisaged possibility of export potential; and

(e) whether adequate ancillary industry development like canning, etc., have been considered in the plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) A draft working plan was prepared

with a view to identify broadly location of fishing harbours for future development. The approach is to have a three-tier hierarchy of fishing harbours at major and minor ports and small fish landing centres.

(b) The State Governments have been requested to expedite their proposals for new fishing centres.

(c) In general, the State Governments have proposed addition of a few more sites and also commented on the projection contained in the working plan regarding the fleet size or their numbers.

(d) These centres are designed in such a way that they could maximise fish harvest from the given centre and subserve the needs for increasing fish production and increase exports.

(e) Adequate area is earmarked for on shore processing of fish catch.

Compensatory Programme for Increasing Rabi Crop Production

1313. SHRI B. V. DESAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have urged the State Governments of Gujarat, Rajasthan and Maharashtra to initiate immediate measures to launch a compensatory programme for Rabi production of cereals, pulses and oilseeds;

(b) if so, whether regional meeting of the above three States was held in October, 1981;

(c) if so, whether it is a fact that earlier regional agriculture meetings were held in Delhi in regard to other States;

(d) if so, whether more regional meetings are scheduled to be held in Bangalore, Shillong and Bhubaneswar as a part of comprehensive strategy to ensure better yield in agriculture and allied fields; and

(e) if so, to what extent these regional meetings have been beneficial and have achieved the aims for which the meetings were called and to what extent the production of cereals, pulses and oilseeds have improved?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Earlier, two regional meetings were held. The first regional meeting covering the States of Punjab, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh was held on 26th and 27th September, 1981 at New Delhi and the second meeting covering the States of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh was held on 29th and 30th September, 1981 at Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh).

(d) After the third regional meeting held at Gandhinagar (Gujarat) on 14th and 15th October, 1981, covering the States of Gujarat, Rajasthan and Maharashtra two more meetings have been held one at Bangalore on 21st and 22nd October, 1981 covering the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu and the other at Shillong on 9th and 10th November 1981 covering the States of Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tripura and Sikkim. The dates of the last regional meeting to be held at Bhubaneswar covering the States of Bihar, Orissa and West Bengal are yet to be finalised.

(e) These regional meetings have proved useful to the participating States because an attempt was made at these meetings to identify the problems and constraints in the implementation of agricultural development programmes and suggest measures to overcome them. The programmes for increasing the production of cereals, pulses and oilseeds were discussed in depth and suitable strategies were drawn up. It is hoped that the implementation of the various recom-