

(b) Memorandum of Understanding identified the following areas of Co-operation between the two countries :

(A) *Training facilities for the Syrian Experts in the following fields :*

- (i) Rainfed and Dry Farming Agriculture;
- (ii) Command Area Development-treatment and development water-logged and saline areas;
- (iii) Soil and Water Management, Land Reclamation, Soil and Land Use-Survey;
- (iv) Agriculture Extension;
- (v) Agricultural Co-operatives;
- (vi) Research in Food Processing;
- (vii) Production of and Research in Agricultural Crops, Integrated Horticulture Development, including vegetables, management of inputs including seed technology and other related matters;
- (viii) Research and Training in forestry management; and
- (ix) Training in Agricultural Universities and other Institution-both short and long term courses.

(B) *Animal Husbandry and Dairy :*

- (i) Integrated Livestock Development Programme, including sheep, goat and poultry in a selected pocket;
- (ii) Development of the Training Centres for middle level personnel in animal breeding and veterinary services; and
- (iii) Setting up dairy co-operatives and training of dairy managers.

(C) *Exchange of germ-plasm and planting material :*

Both sides agreed to the exchange of germ-plasm, seeds and planting materials.

(D) *Exchange of Experts :*

Both sides agreed to exchange visits by scientists and experts in Agriculture and Allied disciplines as well as exchange of publications and documents in the field of Extension & Research.

(E) *Consultancy Services :*

Indian side agreed to offer consultancy services to the Syrian Arab Republic in respect of :

- (i) Project identification, formulation and appraisal;
- (ii) Consultancy in irrigation, power, agriculture, land and water management, post-harvest technology, food processing, storage and quality control and building up of reserves for food security.

Both sides agreed that the modalities including the financial arrangements, for the implementation of the above will be worked out through diplomatic channels.

Procedure for Issue of Food Items to Ration Dealers

5586. SHRI MANOHAR LAL SAINI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the procedure for issue of specified food items to ration dealers right from the issue of authority letters by FSOS to the arrival of stocks in the premises of FPS holders and is the system fool proof;

(b) to whom the letters of authorities are issued by FSOS and to whom

the stocks are released by FCI as a matter of rule;

(c) within how many days from the presentation of the authority letters to the FCI, the stocks have to be lifted and is any grace period allowed to lift the goods if so, what are the underlying reasons behind that; and

(d) are Government proposing to review the entire system to make it cent per cent fool proof in view of the spate in black-marketing in specified food items and if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD) : (a) to (d) The administration of public distribution system within their respective territories is primarily the responsibility of the State Government/Union Territories. Procedures for upliftment and distribution of essential commodities through fair-price shops are thus laid down by the State Governments and not by the Central Government. The policies and procedures for issuing specified food items, prescribed by the Food and Supply Officers, therefore, tend to differ from State to State. The procedures so laid down, are expected to be reviewed from time to time by the concerned State Government, and any complaint received in this regard is to be looked into by the local authorities. The State Governments have already been asked to strengthen their inspection and enforcement machinery. In cases of irregularities, action can be and is taken by the State Governments/Union Territories, under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and the Prevention of Black-marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of essential Commodities Act, 1980.

Development of Industrial Plots in Okhla

5587. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have developed some plots in Okhla Phase IV Scheme;

(b) if so, whether these plots, after development have been lying unallotted for the last one year;

(c) whether Government have framed any policy for allotment of these plots;

(d) if so, details thereof; and

(e) by what time, Government propose to finalise allotment of these plots?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI MOHAMMED USMAN ARIF) : (a) and (b) Delhi Administration has reported that some plots are under development in Okhla Phase IV Scheme.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Question does not arise in view of reply to part (c).

Encroachment of Land in Delhi

5588. SHRI A.C. DAS :
SHRI RAM PYARE
PANIKA :

Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether steps have been taken to curb encroachment of land in the Union Territory of Delhi ;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken in this connection in last one year ;

(c) the number of cases registered by Government pertaining to the encroachment of land ; and

(d) the action thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI MOHAMMED USMAN