

The Conference stressed the urgent need to improve recovery performance of Cooperative Institutions. As the peak season for recovery of cooperative overdues is approaching the Registrars will step up the tempo of recovery and in respect of overdue amounts coercive measures will be initiated on a priority basis to recover overdues from "bigger defaulters".

To provide timely relief to farmers affected by natural calamities, the Conference suggested measures for conversion of short term loans into medium term loans.

For strengthening the primary agricultural Credit Societies at the grass root level, the Conference suggested that the existing margins available to State and Central Cooperative Banks and Primary Societies should be reviewed with a view to increasing the margins to Primaries.

Credit support to beneficiaries under the IRD programme should receive priority of attention of Cooperatives.

The role of Cooperatives in the distribution of fertilizers is to be further expanded. Presently, Co-operatives are distributing nearly 47 per cent of the fertilizers in the country. In this connection, the Registrars pointed the need for increasing the margins to Cooperatives to render the business of fertilizer distribution functioning viable. Cooperatives are to be associated in a big way for distribution of seeds produced by National Seeds Corporation.

The Conference recommended that the Government of India should constitute a Committee to review cooperative laws and administration to ensure smooth and efficient functioning of cooperatives. Study Teams may be set up for major crops to consider measures for expanding inter-state and export trade in agricultural produce by Cooperatives with necessary coordination between Primaries and State and National level Cooperative Marketing Federation.

The Conference recommended measures for improving the operational effi-

ciency of Cooperatives through proper recruitment and training programmes.

While the Cooperative Sugar Industry now accounts for 55 per cent of national production of sugar, some sugar factories have become "sick" for various reasons. The Registrars recommended a programme for rehabilitation with adequate financial support.

The Conference noted that the spontaneous efforts of cotton growers who have formed themselves into Cooperatives and contributed substantial amounts of share capital for establishing Cooperative Spinning Mills, have not been encouraged in the absence of adequate plan outlays and support from term lending institutions. They urged full support from Government and financing institutions for this programme.

Cooperatives are running nearly 72,000 fair price shops of which 58,000 are in rural areas. This activity of Cooperatives is to be further strengthened and enlarged. The Registrars recommended that margins available to Co-operatives for distribution of essential commodities be reconsidered with a view to rendering this business functioning viable.

Non-Procurement of Paddy by FCI in Thanjavur

2356. SHRI S. SINGARAVADIVAL: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the F.C.I. in Thanjavur District in Tamil Nadu failed to procure paddy in the last Kuruvai the first crop, in spite of representations, and the four modern rice mills in the district remained idle, because of its failure to procure paddy;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for its failure to procure paddy;

(c) whether the officials concerned are justified in keeping the rice mills idle in this surplus district; and

(d) if not, what actions Government proposed to take against those responsible for their lapses and to avoid such

lapses in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The procurement of paddy in Thanjavur District out of Kuruvai crop was not entrusted to the Food Corporation of India by the Government of Tamil Nadu. Procurement was, however, made by the State Civil Supplies Corporation. Food Corporation of India had sufficient stocks of paddy for its four modern rice mills in the State and as such they did not remain idle for want of paddy.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

लहरी कालोनी, दिल्ली-32 को नियमित करना

2357. श्री राम सिंह शाक्य :

श्री राम किंकर :

क्या निर्माण और आवास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या दिल्ली विकास प्राधिकरण के वाइस चेयरमैन ने लहरी कालोनी (पूर्वी अर्जुन नगर, शाहदरा-32) को नियमित करने के आदेश दे दिये हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो आदेश कब तक कार्यान्वित कर दिये जायेंगे ; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ।

निर्माण और आवास मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री मोहम्मद उस्मान आरिफ) :

(क) से (ग) : दिल्ली विकास प्राधिकरण ने सूचित किया है कि लाहरी कालोनी (पूर्वी अर्जुन नगर) की नियमितकरण नक्शों की अनधिकृत कालोनियों

की तकनीकी समिति ने जांच की है । तकनीकी समिति की सिफारिशों पर दिल्ली विकास प्राधिकरण के अनुमोदन के लिये कार्यवाही की जा रही है ।

Formulation of Proposal|Scheme for Research and Development by CART

2358. SHRI D.S.A. SIVAPRAKASHAM: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether CART had formulated any proposal and scheme for research and development;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any other research organisation submitted any proposal for consideration by CART; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI HARINATHA MISRA):

(a) to (d). The Council for Advancement of Rural Technology (CART) has been registered under the Societies Registration Act 1860 recently and its two main bodies i.e. General Body and Executive Committee are in the process of being constituted. Therefore, the question of formulation of any proposal and schemes for research and development and also the consideration of the proposals any other organisation by it does not arise.

Reservation of posts for SC|ST in ICAR

2359. SHRI DOONGAR SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the present position of reservation for Scheduled Castes|Scheduled Tribes in the ICAR in respect of Class I gazetted senior posts.

(b) how many SC|ST candidates were selected vide Advertisement No. 1/82 Item No. 13;