

More of such experiments are also being undertaken.

(b) The evidence so far available indicates that repeated application of moderate doses of chemical fertilisers in proper combination does not lead to any deterioration of the soil, even when no organic manure is applied.

Popularisation of Protective Foods

3160. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have any scheme to popularise the use of protective foods such as fish, meat, eggs etc. to improve the calorific value of the average diet and if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government of India have any plans to counteract sentimental objections as regards their consumption as food, in view of scientific proof about the necessity for a mixed diet with a proportion of the above items?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) There is no scheme to popularise the use of fish, meat and eggs.

(b) No. The sentiments against consumption of fish, meat and eggs are mainly religious in character.

Diversification of Items of Food

3161. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have any plans for diversifying the items of food of the average people to enrich the value of intake; and

(b) whether the Government of India have any plan to campaign for such diversification as they had in the Grow More Food and similar campaigns?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) and (b). The proposals formulated under subsidiary foods and applied nutrition for

the Third Five Year Plan envisage promotion of diversification of the average Indian diet with a view to improving the nutritional content of the diet. The diversification aims at using not only the natural foodstuffs available but also other nutritious foods salvaged from raw materials that are hitherto not adequately used and foods saved from wastage by means of processing and preservation. The proposals also include a campaign to promote suitable dietary habits, avoidance of waste and popularization of low-cost balanced diet. The proposals are under examination.

Lime Fruits

3162. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) what is the estimated production of lime fruits (*Nimbuclitrus acida*) in India;

(b) what is the food value of this fruit;

(c) what steps, if any, have been taken to increase its production; and

(d) which are the important States producing this fruit and what are the annual yields in each of them?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) The correct botanical name of acid or kaghazi lime is *Citrus aurantifolia*. Its production in India is estimated to be 1,60,000 tons.

(b) It contains 1.5 per cent. protein, 1.0 per cent. fat (other extractives), 0.7 per cent. mineral matter, 1.3 per cent. fibre, 10.9 per cent. carbohydrate, 0.09 per cent. calcium, 0.02 per cent. phosphorus and 0.3 per cent. iron. There are 59 calories in 100 gms of its juice. It is a very rich source of vitamin C, and a fairly good source of vitamin A.

(c) A scheme has been initiated during the Second Five Year Plan to step up the production of different fruits in the country. Lime fruits are included under this scheme.

(d) Important States producing this fruit are Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra