

supplies of the commodity at reasonable rates. Zonal restrictions imposed in the case of rice are intended to sub-serve the objectives of food policy, particularly the attainment of procurement targets and prevention of excessive rise in prices, and there have been no reports of cornering.

(a) and (c). Besides undertaking programmes for increasing domestic production, Government have been taking all possible measures, such as, public distribution of foodgrains and restrictions on their movement, regulation of imports/exports, tightening of bank credit, etc. to check the rise in prices of necessities.

Labour-Management Disputes in Public Undertakings

1769. SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister had recently addressed any circular letters to all the Central Ministries advising them to consult the Union Labour Ministry on all issues relating to labour-management disputes in the public undertakings in their respective spheres ; and

(b) The number of cases of such disputes in which the Central Ministries consulted and did not consult the Labour Ministry, separately during the last two years, year-wise ; and

(c) the steps contemplated to streamline the procedure ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA) : (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c). The procedure for Inter-Ministerial consultations in such matters is generally adequate. Such consultations, which can be formal and recorded or otherwise, taking place whenever there is occasion and are a continuing process.

Import of Tractors during 1971-72

1770. SHRI JADEJA :
DR. LAXMINARAIN PAN-
DEY :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of tractors imported during the year 1969-70 and 1970-71 and the countries of their origin ;

(b) whether actual imports were short of the sanctioned imports ;

(c) if so, reasons therefor ; and

(d) the number of tractors proposed to be imported during the current year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) During 1969-70 and 1970-71, the following tractors were shipped :—

Year	Name of country	No. of tractors shipped.
1969-70	U.S.S.R.	4,224
	Czechoslovakia	3,050
	Rumania	1,204
	G.D.R.	1,998
		10,476
1970-71	U.S.S.R.	3,000
	Czechoslovakia	5,402
	Poland	3,200
	Yugoslavia	650
	Rumania	1,586
	U.K.	1,050
		14,888

(b) and (c). The actual imports were short of sanctioned imports for many reasons. Important of these are :—

1. Inability of foreign suppliers to offer the required quantity of tractors.
2. Time taken in price negotiations with foreign suppliers.
3. Tests of tractors were going on at the Budni Station and imports could not be cleared pending release of test reports.
4. Suspension of imports of remaining quantity of RS—09 tractors.

(d) The programme for the import of tractors against the requirement of 1970-71 is under consideration of Government. Actual import of tractors during the financial year 1971-72 will depend on the programme to be approved and the number of tractors received against orders placed during the previous years.

Setting up of Tobacco Development Board for clearing Stocks of Tobacco in Andhra Pradesh

1771 SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY :
SHRI A. K. GOPALAN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :—

(a) whether stocks of tobacco have accumulated in Andhra Pradesh ;

(b) whether there has been a demand by the tobacco growers that there should be a Tobacco Development Board to help in clearing the unsold buffer stocks of tobacco ; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SINDE) : (a) The present unsold stock of tobacco in Andhra Pradesh is reported to be negligible.

(b) and (c). The Government of India have examined a proposal for setting up a Tobacco Board and have decided that the constitution of a Board is not necessary.

ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों का आर्थिक विकास

1772. श्री जगन्नाथराव जोशी : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या प्रयुक्त आर्थिक अनुसन्धान की राष्ट्रीय परिषद द्वारा आयोजित गोष्ठी में यह अनुभव किया गया था कि ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में आर्थिक विकास की गति में तेजी लाने के लिए बाजारों की वर्तमान दो हजार की संख्या को बढ़ा कर चौदह हजार करने की अत्यन्त आवश्यकता है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस बारे में सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अण्णासाहिब पी० शिन्दे) : (क) राष्ट्रीय व्यावहारिक आर्थिक अनुसन्धान परिषद द्वारा अप्रैल, 1971 में बाजार नगरों तथा क्षेत्र विकास (मार्केट टाउन्स एण्ड कौंसल डिवेलपमेंट) के सम्बन्ध में आयोजित विचार गोष्ठी के मन्दर्भ में तैयार किये गये एक पृष्ठभूमि कागजात में बताया गया था कि एक विपणन केन्द्र द्वारा 12 मील व्यास के क्षेत्र में समुचित रूप से सेवा की जा सकती है। 12500 से 14000 बाजार नगरों की आवश्यकता होगी, परन्तु इस कागजात में ही इन आंकड़ों को कोई विशेष महत्व नहीं दिया गया था।

पर्याप्त विचार विमर्श के उपरान्त, विचार गोष्ठी अपनी अन्तिम चर्चाओं में इस निर्णय पर पहुँची कि अन्तसंबंधित बाजारों की सुव्यवस्थित शृंखला पहले से ही विद्यमान है। अतः नये बाजारों नगरों की स्थापना की अपेक्षा इन बाजारों को सशक्त बनाने पर अधिक बल दिया जाना चाहिए।