

**द्रुत कार्यक्रम के अन्तर्गत लोगों के लिये
रोजगार की व्यवस्था**

7843. श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : क्या कृषि मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) सरकार के द्रुत कार्यक्रम के अन्तर्गत अब तक कितने बेरोजगार व्यक्तियों के लिये रोजगार की व्यवस्था की गई है, और

(ख) उनकी रज्यवार संख्या कितनी है ?

कृषि मन्त्रालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री शेर सिंह) : (क) और (ख). दस बरों में सूचना तुरन्त उपलब्ध नहीं है कि वास्तव में कितने व्यक्तियों को काम में लगाया गया है। तथापि आठ राज्यों, अर्थात्, बिहार, हिमाचल प्रदेश, केरल, मध्य प्रदेश, महाराष्ट्र, तमिल नाडु, उत्तर प्रदेश और पश्चिमी बंगाल में परियोजनाओं का कार्य आरम्भ हो गया है। हरियाणा, मेघालय, मैसूर, पंजाब, राजस्थान और पाण्डिचेरी ने भी कार्य आरम्भ करने के लिए आवश्यक प्रारम्भिक नैपथरी पूरी कर ली है। आशा है कि स्वीकृत परियोजनाओं का कार्य वर्षा ऋतु के बाद पूरा होकर पकड़ेगा, जिसमें रोजगार के अवसर पैदा होंगे, जैसा कि परिकल्पित किया गया है।

Distribution of Surplus Land to Scheduled Castes in West Bengal

7844. SHRI S. P. BHATTACHARYYA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total average of the surplus land going to be distributed among the landless labourers and Scheduled Castes ;

(b) the number of landless labourers/ Scheduled Castes ; and

(c) the number out of them to whom land has been distributed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) So far 1.40

lakh hectares of vested agricultural land has been distributed among the landless labourers and small farmers holding less than one hectare including members of the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes. Another 40,000 hectares are readily available for distribution.

(b) and (c). Information is being collected from the State Governments.

Farm Mechanization

7845. SHRI RANABAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the salient features of the long term policy of the Government as regards farm mechanization ;

(b) the size of farm holding which forms the basis of such policy ; and

(c) how the size and horse power of the tractors, indigenous or imported or the combined harvesters, indigenous or imported, relate to such a holding ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) and (b). It is the policy of the Government to provide means of modernising agricultural operations so that the agricultural potential on small, medium and big farms is fully exploited through the use of improved implements and machinery appropriate to the size of holdings and farming situations, the long term policy being help attain an average growth of 5% in agricultural production.

In situations where draught power is inadequate for carrying out agricultural operations efficiently and timely or where the cost of maintaining a pair of bullocks or a small tractor is uneconomical, custom service in agricultural machinery would be encouraged/provided. For obtaining maximum benefit from the high yielding varieties and multiple cropping even on medium farms of less than 25 acres which could ordinarily be managed by multiple pair of bullocks, there is a need for use of equipment such as tractors, power tillers, power threshers and harvesting equipment for carrying out tillage, harvesting and other operations efficiently and timely. The basis of policy is power requirements and equipment needs for efficient cultiva-

tion of crops under the programme of new agricultural strategy. Adopting this policy to size of operational holdings major sources of power could be indicated as in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-912/71]. Credit facilities would be extended through the different financing institutions for enabling farmers and entrepreneurs to acquire costly machines. Programmes of training for enabling the farmers to efficiently utilise agricultural machinery and implements would be strengthened. Introduction and popularisation of improved implements will be intensified through National Demonstrations and research and development on these intensified. These programmes will be of special benefit to farmers with small and medium farms.

(c) Tractors in the 20 h.p. range would be more in demand on farms of 25 to 50 acres; whereas higher h.p. tractors would be required on bigger farms, for custom hiring, for deep-ploughing, land development, etc. Based on the demand trend and the suitability of tractors in the different h.p. ranges for farms in the different sizes, the estimated requirements of tractors towards 1973-74 is as under :

12 .. 20	dbhp	25,000	nos.
21 .. 35	dbhp	45,000	,,
36 .. 50	dbhp	18,000	,,
51 & above		2,000	,,
			<u>90,000</u>	,,

Similarly, combine harvesters suitable for working with tractors of 21 to 50 h.p. would be used mostly by medium and large farms; whereas larger self-propelled combines would be used by big farms or jointly by group of farmers or by organisations engaged in providing custom hiring. The programme for supply of tractors and combines in the different sizes, generally, relates to demand trends and for catering to the requirements of farms of different sizes and agricultural conditions.

Shortfall of Nitrogenous Fertilizers

7846. SHRI RANABHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the possible reasons for a short-fall of

nitrogenous fertilizers in the year 1970-71 by 5 per cent as compared to the increase in the average under high yielding variety of crops ;

(b) whether Government contemplate to take steps to check this trend ; and

(c) whether Government have State-wise data that could show the regions where this trend is pronounced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) There was no shortfall in the consumption of nitrogenous fertilizers in the year 1970-71. In fact, the consumption of nitrogenous fertilizers increased by 2% over that in the preceding year. However, this increase is not as much as the increase in the acreage under high yielding varieties of crops which has registered an increase of 28% in 1970-71 over that in the preceding year.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Government have studied reasons for this low increase of consumption in fertilizers as compared to the increase in the acreage under high-yielding varieties of crops. It was found that the application of fertilizers is generally lower than the optimum level of application prescribed in many areas due to the following reasons :—

(i) Constraints on the availability of credit for fertilizer distribution and use.

(ii) Gaps in extension and promotional efforts aimed at increased use of fertilizers especially for high yielding varieties of crops.

(iii) Natural causes such as cyclones and floods in some States.

The Government are seized of the problems and are taking various steps to increase the rate of growth of fertilizer consumption. They have recently set up a Credit Guarantee Corporation to encourage commercial banks to provide greater credit facilities to farmers and dealers of fertilizers. The State Governments have also been urged to ensure the availability of production credit to farmers in larger measure through Cooperatives. The Government of India are also continuing to give short-term loans to the States for stocking and distribution of fertilizers.