

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR): (a) and (b). Consequent on the withdrawal of the United States Transport Planes with effect from 18.7.1971, which were commissioned for a stipulated period of one month only, the I. A. F. planes have now been entrusted with the work of transporting food-grains and relief supplies from Gauhati to Tripura and lifting refugees on their return journey.

(c) Only U. S. S. A. planes are operating from Calcutta to Mana.

Damage to U. S. A. Plane Carrying Bangla Desh Refugees

7877. SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL :
SHRI K. MALLANNA :
SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether one U. S. A. plane which was carrying Bangla Desh refugees was damaged by the Pakistani forces as reported in *Times of India* dated the 20th July, 1971; and

(b) if so, the particulars thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Studies Conducted by Indian Council of Agricultural Research Regarding Deficiency of Zinc in U. P. and Punjab

7878. SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL :
SHRI K. MALLANNA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether many valuable results have come out of researches conducted on crop schedules and rotations at 41 Model Agronomic Centres through-out the country ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether studies under Co-ordinated Micronutrient Research Scheme launched by

the Indian Council of Agricultural Research have shown widespread deficiency of Zinc in a number of district in U. P., Punjab etc ; and

(d) if so, the main features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE) : Yes Sir.

(b) Labour intensive and highly remunerative multiple cropping rotations have been tested and perfected at various Model Agronomic Centres located in different parts of the country. Results of such relations were reported from 19 research centres. As far as grain crop, oil seeds and pulses are concerned more than one third of the centres produced in excess of 10 tonnes per hectare. The highest production was obtained in Kathulia Farm (M.P.) with a crop sequence of Maize-Wheat-Cheena which gave a total yield of 15.5 tonnes of grain per hectare. Other highly productive three-crop sequence were Maize-Lahi-Wheat-Cheena at Pantnagar (13.5 tonnes/ha). Even with a two crop sequence, it was possible to produce as much as 12 tonnes of grain/ha. at Maruteru (A. P.) with the successive rice crops, by proper selection of the varieties. At this centre two rice crops gave higher aggregate yields than three crops of rice grown per year which brings out clearly that with multiple cropping it is possible to obtain many times more production per unit land per year by making use of high yielding varieties, balanced use of fertilisers, pesticides and proper soil and water management practices.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) Extensive deficiency of zinc has been observed in the districts of Ludhiana, Patiala and Jullundur of Punjab ; Nainital, Azamgarh, Balia, Deoria, Ghazipur, Kanpur and Basti districts of Uttar Pradesh, Kurnool, Karim Nagar, Hyderabad, Nizamabad and Nellore districts of Andhra Pradesh and Hissar, Rohtak, Ambala and Karnal Districts of Haryana. Large number of zinc deficiency cases have been reported from Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat and other States also.

It has also been observed that the deficiency of zinc reduces the yield of crops particularly of some high yielding varieties and it gets

accelerated under conditions of imbalanced use of fertilizers and improper soil, water and crop management.

Grievances of Employees of F. C. I. West Bengal

7879. SHRI BIREN DUTTA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any memorandum had been submitted to the Government by the employees of the Food Corporation of India, West Bengal with regard to their grievances ;

(b) if so, the main grievances of the employees ; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to redress their grievances ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main grievances/demands mentioned in the Memorandum are as under :—

1. Stopping of Repatriation of State Government deputationists ;
2. Review of agreement of 26.11.66 signed by the F. C. I. and the State Government ;
3. Filling up of all the vacancies under Calcutta Regional Manager's office by the staff from the State Government Food & Supplies personnel ;
4. Allowing promotions in higher posts in F. C. I. to the State deputationists as in the case of Food personnel transferees ;
5. Re-introduction of proforma promotion ;
6. Re-introduction of reimbursement of total medical expenses ;
7. Stopping of whimsical and motivated transfers in F. C. I. ;
8. State Food Department deputationists to be treated as transferees ; and

9. Abolition of Storing Agency system in F. C. I. and introduction of system of State Food Depots.

(c) the representation of the West Bengal employees is being considered by the Food Corporation of India in consultation with the West Bengal Government.

Scheme for Industrial Peace through Balanced Wage Structure and Recognition of Unions

7880. SHRI BIREN DUTTA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have formulated a new scheme to maintain industrial peace through a balanced wage structure and by recognising the Union of the workers which holds the majority support ; and

(b) if so, the particulars thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) No such new scheme has been formulated.

(b) Does not arise.

Effectiveness of weed Killers and supply of Improved sowing Equipment of Advanced type to Farmers

7881. SHRI BIREN DUTTA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by Government to improve the effectiveness of weed killers and equipments that may be required for efficient use of the same in West Bengal, Bihar, Assam and Kerala ; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to provide sowing equipments of advanced types to the farmers on reasonable and subsidised rates ?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNA-SAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) Although insecticides, fungicides and rodenticides have been widely adopted by the farmers for control of insect pests plant diseases and rodents ; but the use of