

herbicides for control of weeds has so far not made much headway. In view of this, the Government of India, in consultation with State Governments have fixed a modest target of 2 million hectares in the final year of the Fourth Plan for controlling weeds. The year-wise target of 2 million hectares to be covered under weed control is as follows :—

1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74
0.5	0.8	1.2	1.6	2

Under the supervision of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research many weed control trials in different crops, including paddy are conducted every year in different locations to determine the efficacy of various weed killers. Many Agricultural Universities and the State Departments of Agriculture also work out the efficacy of the chemicals and give guidance in tackling the weed problem.

Apart from this, the Directorate of Plant Protection Quarantine and Storage is operating an All India Pilot Project for evaluation and demonstration of the use of herbicides in various crops. An outlay of Rs. 13.85 lakhs has been proposed for this project in the Fourth Plan to cover the whole country including West Bengal, Bihar, Assam and Kerala. With the implementation of this project, it would be possible to demonstrate to the farmers the efficiency and economics of weed control using herbicides and create in them an awareness of this important agricultural input. In the beginning the work is being concentrated on high yielding varieties of 5 crops, namely; paddy, wheat, bajra, maize and jowar. The statement showing the crops and States (with number of locations) for demonstration of the use of herbicides is laid on the Table of the House. *Placed in Library. See. No. LT LT—913/71]*

The major element of cost of the project is that of weed control chemicals, i. e., herbicides, which are to be supplied free of cost to the States. It is proposed to conduct demonstrations over an area of 2,000 hectares in 51 locations, rising to 4,000 hectares in the last year of the Plan.

For applying herbicides spraying is the most common method. Both low and high volume sprayers are employed for applying herbicides like that of other pesticides. There is no shortage of manually and power operated equip-

ment that may be required for weed control work. Every State is fully equipped with all types of above mentioned equipment required for this work and there is no shortage of weed control equipment in the country.

(b) No subsidy is allowed to farmers on purchase of sowing equipments. During the third Plan, a scheme for demonstration and popularisation of seed-cum-fertilized drills was taken up and subsidy on implements was also given. Subsidy on implements as a general policy has been discontinued during Fourth Plan.

#### Implementation of Recommendation of Central Land Reforms Committee

7882. SHRI GADADHAR SAHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recommendations made by the Central Land Reform Committee are being implemented by the States; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) and (b). The Central Land Reforms Committee was appointed in September, 1970. It has so far held two meetings. As a result of deliberations of the Committee the following broad guide-lines have emerged to bring about a broad measure of uniformity in the State laws on ceiling on land holdings:

(1) Ceiling should be applicable for the family as a whole, the term 'family' being defined so as to include husband, wife and minor children;

(2) where the number of members in the family exceeds five, additional land may be allowed for each member in excess of five in such a manner that the total area admissible to the family does not exceed twice the ceiling limit for a family;

(3) the ceiling for a family of five members may be fixed within the range of 10 to 18 acres of perennially irrigated land or irrigated land capable of growing two crops. As soil conditions, productivity of land, nature of crop grown etc., vary from State to State and even within the same State from region, to region, the Committee considered it desirable simply

to indicate a range within which the ceiling should be fixed instead of suggesting any rigid ceiling for the whole country.

(4) For various other categories of land conversion ratios should be fixed taking into account availability of water productivity, soil classification, crops grown etc. The absolute ceiling for a family of five, even in the case of dry lands should be put at 54 acres. This limit would be relaxable if there is special justification for doing so on account of the nature of soil, rainfall, chronic drought conditions etc.

(5) Exemptions in the existing State laws in favour of mechanised farms, well-managed farms etc. should be withdrawn.

(6) As regards exemptions in favour of plantations of tea, coffee, cardamom, rubber, etc. the Committee has advised that these should be carefully examined in consultation with the Ministers concerned and State Governments. Thereafter this and other types of exemptions should be discussed with the Chief Ministers in order to formulate a national policy.

The Government of India is anxious that the State Governments should take up the implementation of the recommendations expeditiously.

#### Fixation of a Living Wage Rate for Labours in Country-Side and Reduction of Working Hours

7883. SHRI GADADHAR SAHA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal to pass Legislation for fixation of a living justifiable wage rate for labourers in country side and reduction of working hours ; if so, the time by which Government propose to do to bring in such a legislation ; and

(b) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b). Apparently the questions refers to agricultural labour. Their wages have been fixed under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, which contains provision for

periodical review and revision of wages, fixation of working hours etc. No further legislation by the Central Government is therefore considered necessary. It may also be mentioned that in some States/Union Territories like, Tamilnadu, Kerala and Pondicherry, special laws have been passed to ensure payment of fair wages etc. to agricultural labour.

#### मध्य प्रदेश में अन्वेषी नलकूप लगाने के लिये सर्वेक्षण

7884. श्री गंगा चरण दीक्षित : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मध्य प्रदेश में अन्वेषी नलकूप लगाने के लिये कोई सर्वेक्षण किया गया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या मध्य प्रदेश में नलकूप लगाने के लिये कोई प्रबन्ध किये हैं ;

(ग) मध्य प्रदेश में कितने अन्वेषी नलकूप लगाये गये हैं ;

(घ) एक अन्वेषी नलकूप पर औसत किननी लागत आती है ; और

(ङ) यदि सर्वेक्षण नहीं करवाया गया तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शेर सिंह) : (क) से (ग). 1954-55 में केन्द्रीय भूमिगत जल बोर्ड ने (भूतपूर्व समन्वेषी नलकूप संगठन) आरम्भ से 74 समन्वेषी कूप खोदे हैं जिनमें में 41 सफल रहे हैं। आगे कार्य चल रहा है।

उपरोक्त के अतिरिक्त, नर्बदा नदी घाटी के जलोढ़ भागों में जल संसाधनों का अध्ययन करने के लिये एक परियोजना शीघ्र ही आरम्भ की जायेगी।

(घ) नर्बदा घाटी में 1956-58 में लगाये सफल नलकूप की औसत लागत, पम्प और इंजिन और क्षतिपूर्ति व्यय और ऊपर लागत सहित 43,200.00 रुपये थी। पम्प और