

**Fall in the Demand of Tractors due to Ceiling on Land**

2985. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY:

SHRI RAMKANWAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state whether land ceiling in States has resulted in reduced demand for tractors and the peasants are reluctant to invest in tractors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): There is a downward trend in the registration for tractors with the State Agro-Industries Corporation. The assessment of the demand on scientific basis during the remaining period of the Fourth Five Year Plan and also the Fifth Five Year Plan has been entrusted to the National Council of Applied Economic Research. Their report is awaited.

Information received from the Agro-Industries Corporations in various States indicates that one of the reasons for the fall in demand is uncertainty due to proposed land ceiling.

**Marketing of Nirodh**

2986. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received reports of marketing in the heavily subsidised Nirodh; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (PROF. A. K. KISKU): (a) and (b). Nirodh is marketed through six large consumer goods marketing companies and monthly reports are received from them.

This Scheme has been wroking successfully and the sales of Nirodh have increased from 15.74 million pieces in 1968-69 to 66.55 million pieces in 1971-72.

**Resentment, by State Government on Kharif Procurements Targets**

2987. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the State Governments have refused to accept the targets proposed by the Centre for Kharif procurements; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) and (b). The targets for procurement of Kharif cereals recommended by the Agricultural Prices Commission and fixed by the Central Government have been generally accepted by the State Governments except in the case of one or two States where, due to drought conditions, it was understood that it may be difficult to attain these targets, although the State Governments concerned would make all possible efforts.

**Drinking Water in Villages of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh**

2988. DR. G. S. MELKOTE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh have the largest number of villages which have not been provided drinking water so far; and

(b) if so, the total number of such villages State-wise and the positive measures Government propose to take in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. KISKU): (a) and (b). The responsibility for