

Research has suggested to the Government that Agricultural development in the country has to be progressively linked with the growth of Agro-Industries to create more jobs, raise the people's income and achieve self-sufficiency in food;

(b) if so, whether Government have accepted his suggestions; and

(c) the steps being considered in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE):

(a) Yes Sir. Director-General, I.C.A.R. in several of his addresses at the convocations of Agricultural Universities has stressed the need for agricultural Scientists developing technologies which could help to achieve a diversification of Labour use and link agricultural growth with the development of agro-industries.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) A scheme for setting up new agricultural colonies where agriculture and agro-industries would both be developed in a mutually beneficial manner is under consideration and action has already been initiated to explore the possibilities of developing such centres of agriculture growth. It is the policy of the Government of India to promote wherever possible the growth of agro-industries.

Demand of Asian Productivity Organisation Re: Survey on Economy of Foodgrains distribution

161. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN · SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Asian Productivity Organisation has sought detailed information from member countries including India for a survey on economy of foodgrain distribution:

(b) if so, whether India has already supplied the information and what purpose will be solved by this survey; and

(c) whether this is being done in pursuance of the decision taken by the governing body of Asian Productivity Organisation at its Tokyo Session?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE):

(a) to (c). A communication has been received from the Asian Productivity Organisation, through National Productivity Council, New Delhi, requesting for detailed information in the questionnaire forms prescribed by them, relating to marketing and distribution systems for foodgrains, shortage of storage facilities and movement of foodgrains from producing to consuming areas. The request has been made in pursuance of the decision taken in the 14th session of the governing body of the Organisation held in Tokyo from 29th May to 2nd June, 1972.

U.K.'s inability to supply Wheat to India

162. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Britain has intimated its inability to supply wheat to India during the current year;

(b) if so, the total demand made by the Indian Government; and

(c) the reasons given by the British Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE):

(a) to (c). There was no request made to U.K. Government to supply wheat to India.