

Report of National Commission on Agriculture

1130. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has asked the National Commission on Agriculture to submit its report early;

(b) if so, when the report is likely to be submitted; and

(c) whether all its interim reports have been implemented so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) and (b). Eighteen Interim Reports on various subjects have so far been submitted by the National Commission on Agriculture and a few more are under preparation. Keeping in view the time taken for preparation of these reports and the time required for submission of the Final Report, the Commission has asked for the extension of its life upto 31-12-74. The matter is under consideration of the Government.

(c) Of the eighteen Interim Reports submitted by the National Commission on Agriculture, seventeen are being processed in the Ministry of Agriculture and one regarding Sericulture in the Ministry of Industrial Development. Recommendations in practically all these Reports have been examined and mostly accepted. Action for the implementation of these recommendations is also being taken in consultation with the other Ministries/Departments and State Governments.

Dry dock facilities at major ports

1131. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: SHRI P. M. MEHTA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Shipping Ministry has proposed to the Planning Commission to allot at least Rs. 14.40

crores for providing dry dock facilities at the major ports during the Fifth Plan period.

(b) if so, whether the Planning Commission has accepted the proposal;

(c) the main points of the proposed scheme; and

(d) whether at present there are only 2 ports out of eight ports which have adequate size to accommodate all floating craft?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI KAMLAPATI TRIPATHI): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The proposals regarding provision of facilities including dry docks at the major ports during the Fifth Plan period is still under consideration in consultation with Planning Commission.

(d) Of eight Major Ports in the country, Bombay, Calcutta and Visakhapatnam have dry docks of adequate size to accommodate all the floating craft belonging to these ports. Larger dry docks of Bombay and Calcutta are generally used by commercial ships for their periodic overhaul and repairs.

News item captioned 'wheat purchases suspended'

1132. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the news-item captioned 'wheat purchases suspended' appeared in the 'Economic Times' on September 6, 1973 has been brought to the notice of Government; and

(b) if so, the reaction thereto?

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