

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI B. P. MAURYA): (a) to (c). No official of DMS was arrested. However, two Depot Agents working at Depot No. 268 were arrested by Police in April, 1973 for allegedly inter-changing caps of milk bottles and selling toned milk as standardised milk. The Police investigation is in progress and the result of the enquiry has not been made known to the DMS so far.

Setting up of Agro-Industry Corporation and Agro-Service Centre in Orissa

3467. SHRI P. GANGADEB: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4366 on 27th August, 1973 and state:

(a) whether the required information has been collected; and

(b) if so, facts thereof?

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

(b) A copy of the statement fulfilling the promise made in reply to unstarred question No. 4366 answered on 27-8-1973, is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-6453/74].

Autonomy for Indian Agricultural Research Institute

3468. SHRI P. GANGADEB: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scientific and Technical Staff Association of the IARI has urged the Government to give autonomy to the Institute;

(b) if so, decision taken thereon; and

(c) the broad features thereof?

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

(b) and (c). The Government of India, after giving careful consideration to the recommendation made by the I.C.A.R. Inquiry Committee, the views expressed by the Governing Body of the I.C.A.R. and eminent scientists, and the systems prevailing in other scientific institutions in the country, have *inter-alia* decided to delegate greater administrative and financial powers and autonomy to the Institutes so that programmes and projects can be implemented with as little reference to I.C.A.R. headquarters as possible. The details of operational and functional autonomy within the frame-work of the above decision are being worked out as a part of reorganisation of the I.C.A.R.

Reservation in Government jobs for physically handicapped persons

3469. SHRI P. GANGADEB; SHRI N. SHIVAPPA:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that physically handicapped persons suffer a lot for want of jobs;

(b) whether Government are planning to introduce legislation for reservation in Government jobs for them; and

(c) whether any memorandum has been presented to him by the delegation of the Handicapped Welfare Association recently and if so, contents thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Physically handicapped persons to have difficulty in securing work.