

**Assistance sought by Drought Affected States**

431. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the demands of the States which are affected by drought and famine have been met in full, and

(b) if not, the reasons for not meeting their demands in full?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasaheb Shinde): (a) and (b) States affected by drought and scarcity are being given special consideration in allocation of foodgrains from Central Reserve. Their demands are being met to the extent permitted by the resources available with Government

**Seed Farm in Orissa**

433 **Shri S. Supakar:**  
**Shri Chintamani Panigrahi:**  
**Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:**  
**Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:**  
**Shri Khagapathi Pradhan:**  
**Shri Heerji Bhai:**

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any State Seed Farm is proposed to be established in Orissa in collaboration with the Government of USSR, and

(b) if so, where and the estimated total investment involved in the project?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasaheb Shinde): (a) A Central State Farm is being set up in Orissa. Most of the machinery required for the farm is being gifted to the Government of India by the USSR.

(b) The farm is being set up in the periphery and foreshore area of the Hirakud Reservoir. The total capital investment on the farm is estimated to be about Rs. 2 crores spread over a period of 4-5 years

**Kozhichampara Sugar Factory**

434. **Shri E. N. Nayanar:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of loan sanctioned by the Central Government to Kozhichampara Sugar Factory in Palghat District, Kerala State during the last year;

(b) whether the factory is closed despite the Central assistance during the last few months;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor,

(d) the total number of workers rendered unemployed due to this; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to reopen the factory?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasaheb Shinde): (a) No loan was sanctioned by Central Government to the Kozhichampara Cooperative Sugar Factory during the last year

(b) The factory remained closed since September, 1966 but this closure had nothing to do with central assistance

(c) The main reason for the closure of the factory was shortage of cane supply owing to the following factors —

(i) Unprecedented drought conditions prevailing in the Palghat and Coimbatore areas;

(ii) Diversion of substantial quantity of sugarcane to the jaggery industry which offered more attractive prices to the sugarcane growers

(d) 411 employees

(e) The State Government expect that the factory would restart sometime in the last week of September, 1967 for a special crushing season.