

(c) whether Government are considering the proposal to include it in the Fourth Plan; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation (Dr. Karan Singh): (a) and (b) No, Sir. No officer of this Department has visited Ezhumalai, Cannanore District to explore the possibility of developing it as a tourist centre.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal to develop tourist facilities at Ezhumalai during the Fourth Plan. However the construction of a Tourist Bangalow at Cannanore which is located at a short distance from Ezhumalai has been included in the Fourth Five Year Plan on Tourism, the cost being shared in the ratio of 50:50 by the Central and State Govts.

Seed Farms

838. Shri S. N. Maiti:
 Shri S. C. Samanta:
 Shri Bibhut Mishra:
 Shri Sidheshwar Prasad:
 Shri D. N. Patodia:
 Shri Kam Kishan Gupta:
 Shri R. Barua:
 Shri C. C. Desai:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that five seed farms with Soviet assistance are proposed to be established in India;

(b) if so, whether Kerala is demanding the establishment of one such seed farm in that State;

(c) the main features of such a farm;

(d) how far the Soviet Government will bear the liabilities;

(e) whether any agreement has been reached and signed with the U.S.S.R.; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation

(Shri Annasahib Ghinde): (a) and (c) to (f). It is proposed to set up a number of State farms in the country during the Fourth Plan period. An agreement has been entered into with the Govt. of U.S.S.R. under which the State Government would provide as gift, machinery required for five State farms. The main purpose of these farms will be to grow and supply improved varieties of seed.

(b) The Kerala Government have asked the Centre to set up one such farm in Kerala.

Supply of Foodgrains to Bihar State

839. Shri Indrajit Gupta:
 Shri H. S. Sharma:
 Shri Onkar Lal Barua:
 Shri Shiva Chandra Jha:

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

(a) whether, even after declaration of certain famine areas in Bihar, the Central Government have not been sending the State Government the minimum quantities of foodgrains required;

(b) whether the State Government requested the Centre for permission to make direct purchases of coarse grains from other States; and

(c) whether the permission was refused and if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Ghinde): (a) Taking into consideration what is available with the Centre for distribution and the necessity of meeting the minimum demands of other States, maximum possible supplies of foodgrains are being made to Bihar.

(b) and (c) Bihar Government was given the necessary permission whenever they approached the Central Government with specific proposals for purchasing some quantities of grains from other States.