

Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) about 9.2 lakh tonnes from 1st November, 1966 to 30th April, 1967.

(b) A statement showing the prices at which the Corporation has purchased different varieties of rice from the various States is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-446/67]. The Corporation does not sell rice in retail to consumers. The retail prices are fixed by the respective State Governments and are based on the cost of rice received from all sources including internal purchase. It is difficult to isolate the retail prices of the varieties of rice purchased by the Food Corporation of India.

Grants for Reclamation of Uncultivated Land

891. Shri Randhir Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to enact an Agriculture Act on U.K. pattern providing special grants per acre to farmers for reclamation of uncultivated land in order to augment food production in the country and give special incentive to farmers;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if so, from which date?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). The question of enacting an Agriculture Act on U.K. Pattern for providing special grants to the farmers for reclamation of uncultivated lands has not been examined. However, Government of India and State Governments are already providing assistance for the reclamation of Governments waste lands primarily for the resettlement of landless agricultural labourers. Under this scheme assistance is given subject to a maximum of Rs. 300 per acre which is 460 (Ai) LS—6.

borne by the Centre and the State Governments on 50.50 basis. Besides, State Governments also provide assistance for the terracing and reclamation of land where subsidy to the extent of 25—50 per cent. is provided and the remaining amount is recovered on easy terms over a number of years. Further, assistance to the farmers for land reclamation is also available from the Agricultural Refinance Corporation. Schemes to reclaim and develop about 1.3 million acres at an estimated cost of Rs. 30 crores have been sanctioned. The targets of Fourth Five Year Plan for land reclamation fixed are 2.5 million acres for the schemes other than those financed by Agricultural Refinance Corporation.

Cattle Slaughter House

892. Shri Randhir Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Cattle Slaughter House, Essex Farms (Private) Ltd. by name, is being constructed with the financial help and patronage of the Central Government at 17th Mile G.T. Road near Delhi State border;

(b) whether it is a fact that Local Gram Panchayats, Block Samiti, Zila Parishad and the Sub-Divisional Administration have opposed the establishment of this slaughter house;

(c) whether it is also a fact that all political parties and social and religious organisations have strongly opposed this on the plea that it injures the religious sentiments of the local population; and

(d) if so, the steps which Government have taken to annul the establishment of this slaughter house?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) to (d). There is no proposal with the Government

of India for financial assistance for the said project. The Delhi Administration and the Delhi Municipal Corporation, who were consulted, have also no information about it. Information is being collected from the Government of Haryana and will be placed on the Table of the House as soon as it is received.

National Parks

893. Shri Swell:
Shri Bodabrata Barua:

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

(a) the number of National Parks which are in the country and their names and locations;

(b) the criteria for declaring an area as a National Park and the assistance rendered to it by Government; and

(c) whether it is a fact that Kaziranga, the home of the World-famous and rare one-horned rhinoceros, has not yet been declared a national park?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Ananashib Shinde): (a) There are three National Parks in the country, names and locations are:

1. Corbett National Park in Uttar Pradesh.
2. Kanha National Park in Madhya Pradesh.
3. Shivpuri National Park in Madhya Pradesh.

(b) National parks are defined as areas 'Dedicated by statute for all time to conserve the scenery and natural and historical objects of national significance, to conserve wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations, with such modifications as local conditions may demand'.

As Wild Life is a State subject, the legislation for the creation of parks is to be enacted by the Legislatures of the States concerned.

The development of National Parks can be included under the Scheme 'Nature Conservation' in the State Sector and the pattern of assistance for all State schemes in the Fourth Plan is 30 per cent loan and 20 per cent grant.

(c) Kaziranga has not yet been declared a 'National Park'.

Aerodrome in Gwalior

894. Shri Atam Das: Will the Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to construct a civil aerodrome at Gwalior in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, when it will be constructed?

The Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation (Dr. Karan Singh): (a) and (b). There is no proposal to construct a civil aerodrome at Gwalior.

Development of Delhi Villages with Financial Assistance from Lebanon

895. Shri Atam Das:
Shri Mohan Swarup:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the three villages of Delhi State are proposed to be developed with the financial assistance from the Lebanon Government;

(b) if so, the nature of the proposed development;

(c) whether any such assistance has been received from other countries for the development of villages in Madhya Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community