

Agricultural Policy943. **Shri D. C. Sharma:****Shri K. Lakkappa:**

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

(a) the steps taken to achieve a break through in agriculture to accelerate the process of economic development;

(b) the details thereof; and

(c) the success achieved so far?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasaheb Shinde): (a) Agricultural programmes envisaged for the Fourth Plan aim at securing quick and perceptibly large increases in agricultural production mainly through increases in per acre yields. The New Strategy adopted has the following important programmes:

(i) Applying a package of practices, comprising water management, high-yielding varieties of seeds, pest control and a sufficiency of fertiliser application along with good cultural practices covering an area of 32.5 million acres in 1970-71, and

(ii) Introducing short-term varieties in the major cereals of the country which are as good yielders as the long-term varieties under a suitable package of practices; thereby allowing for the growing of a major second crop in the irrigated areas of the country where only one crop was being grown under irrigated conditions. This programme is expected to reach 30 million acres in 1970-71.

These programmes together with the normal programmes for minor irrigation, soil conservation and land development are expected to create a production potential of 30 million tonnes in 1970-71 over 1965-66 and will have their certain impact on the economic development of the country.

(b) The principal elements of the agricultural production programmes which are being implemented in 1967-68 in pursuance of the new strategy are as under:

(i) High Yielding Varieties Programme will be undertaken over 15 million acres.

(ii) Multiple Cropping Programme will be organised over nearly 7.5 million acres.

(iii) Fertilisers to the extent of 13.5 lakh tonnes of nitrogen, 5 lakh tonnes of P_2O_5 and 3 lakh tonnes of K_2O will be made available for the various programmes.

(iv) An additional area of 3 to 3.5 million acres will be covered by minor irrigation works.

(v) The area to be benefited by plant protection measures will be extended to 126 million acres (gross).

(vi) Benefit of soil conservation measures on agricultural lands will be extended to an additional area of 3.9 million acres.

(vii) Supporting arrangements for the supply of inputs (e.g. seeds, pesticides, machinery and credit) training of extension personnel and of farmers, have also been made.

(c) The year 1966-67 was a year of experimentation and results so far achieved show that the High Yielding Varieties Programme is acceptable to the farmer and his response is most encouraging as will be seen from the following:—

(i) The willingness of the farmer to try out the new varieties and even experiment with them using large amounts of fertilisers and pesticides for plant protection;

(ii) The willingness of the farmer to invest in supplementary irrigation projects like open

wells, pump sets, filter-points and tuowells; and

- (iii) The willingness of the farmer to take to proper land leveling for optimum use of water including contour terracing and his readiness to invest money in this programme.

Despite adverse weather, the yields from the High Yielding Varieties Programme have been encouraging during 1966-67. The Programme in all its aspects has been taken up only from 1967-68 and given normal weather, the full impact of the new policies and programmes is expected to be felt more clearly during the coming year.

समस्तीपुर सेन्ट्रल शूगर कम्पनी लिमिटेड

944. श्री भोलेन्द्र झा : क्या साध तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने जनवरी, 1964 में समस्तीपुर सेन्ट्रल शूगर कम्पनी लिमिटेड का प्रबन्ध अपने हाथ में ले लिया था ;

(ख) क्या 13 जुलाई, 1967 को इसकी अवधि समाप्त होने पर इसका प्रबन्ध पुराने प्रबन्धकों को सौंपन का प्रस्ताव है ;

(ग) क्या पुराने प्रबन्धक अब इस चीनी मिल का प्रबन्ध सम्हालने के लिये समर्थ हैं ; और

(घ) यदि हाँ, तो क्या सरकार का विचार इस मिल का प्रबन्ध स्थायी रूप से अपने हाथ में लेने के प्रश्न की जांच करने का है ?

साध, कृषि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री धन्ना-साहिब सिन्घे) : (क) जी हाँ।

(ख) कारखानों को पहली जलाई, 1967 से पूर्व भारतीय सुरक्षा नियमों के अधीन नियन्त्रण से मुक्त करने का विचार है।

(ग) कारखानों के हिरसा धारियों से नये निदेशक चुनने के लिये कहा गया था जो इसका कार्य भार सम्हालेंगे लेकिन उन्होंने इस प्रस्ताव का एक प्रस्ताव पास किया कि वे इस समय प्रबन्ध वापस लेने के अनिच्छुक हैं।

(घ) जी नहीं।

Tourist Week (March, 1967)

945. श्री K. N. Pandey:
Shri Dhirendranath;

Will the Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have assessed the impact of the Tourist Week celebrated in March, 1967 on the tourist traffic in the country; and
(b) if so, the result thereof;

The Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation (Dr. Karan Singh): (a) and (b). The Tourist Week held in March, 1967 was celebrated only in Delhi. Similar Tourist Weeks have also been held in Madras, Jaipur and Chandigarh, and other States plan to celebrate Tourist Weeks during the course of the year.

It is too early to assess at this stage the impact of the International Tourist Week celebrations on the tourist arrivals in this country. The various facilities, concessions and other activities which are being observed as part of International Tourist Year are likely to show results by the end of 1967, when it will be possible to compare the tourist arrivals with those of last year.

Federal Road Transport Authority

946. श्री K. N. Pandey: Will the Minister of Transport and Shipping be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal for setting up a Federal Road Transport Authority; and
(b) if so, its functions and composition?