

utmost to see that the capacity is increased in order to make a unit economic. But if they are really beyond remedy, they have to go out.

**श्री क० ना० तिवारी:** यह जो सीनिअर आफिसर्स को कॉफ्रेंट हुई थी उस में जो केन प्रोग्रस है जिन को केन प्रोइंग का एक्सपिरिअन्स है क्या उन को भी कंसल्ट किया गया है ?

**Shri Shinde:** Actually, in the States at the stage of implementing these pilot projects, naturally the farmers, etc. would be consulted. Their participation would be welcome.

**Shri K. C. Pant:** Is the entire 50 per cent increase in production sought to be achieved by increasing productivity or by extension of area also?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** We do not want any extension of area. Just now we have got somewhere near 1.5 per cent of the entire culturable area which is more than enough because, looking to our productivity which is of the order of only 15 tons compared with the world's 50 or 60 tons, there is a large margin and we could do that with profit.

**Shri Vishram Prasad:** The hon. Minister states that the conference took some decisions on irrigation, fertilisers, improved varieties, etc. Have they taken some action on the sugar content on which the Ministry is deciding to fix prices?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** Sugar content also depends upon irrigation, fertiliser and the plant food that the hon. Minister mentions. If, instead of 2-3 waterings, we can get 4-5 waterings in U.P., for instance, the sugar content will also increase, as also the productivity of the sugarcane.

**श्री यशपाल सिंह :** क्या यह सही है जैसी कि यू० १० गवर्नमेंट की रिपोर्ट है कि हमारी २५ परसेन्ट केन क्रॉस को टाप बोर्स खा जाते हैं? यदि हां, तो क्या कोई ऐसी ब्राइटी तैयार हो रही है जिस पर टाप बोर्स का असर न हो?

**Shri Shinde:** There are certain varieties which are resistant to top-borers. Moreover, plant protection measures are also necessary in order to protect the crop from top borers, such as spraying of pesticides, etc.

**Shri S. N. Chaturvedi:** May I know if the cost of these package programmes experiments, in the event of their proving successful, would enable their further dissemination to other areas?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** Of course. That is exactly the idea with which the package programmes are being introduced.

**Shri S. N. Chaturvedi:** I refer to the high cost. If the cost of these experiments is prohibitive, can they be disseminated further?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** It is true, the cost is prohibitive. But the idea surely is not to make it prohibitive. If the relationship to production is maintained, ultimately the farmer gains.

**श्री कमल नयन बजाज:** क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि गन्ने के विकास के साथ साथ इस का भी ख्याल रक्खा जा रहा है कि मिलों की कपेसिटी बढ़ाने की भी गुंजाइश हो सके या नई मिलों को डालने की भी गुंजाइश हो सके ?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** We have taken a policy decision that wherever it is possible to expand the capacity of a mill and if sugarcane is being offered also, we should do it because that makes that factory more economic. We can also have new factories in areas where they do not come into conflict with the existing factories and in areas where the productivity is higher.

#### Micro-Wave Link in Assam

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- \*479. { Shrimati Savitri Nigam:  
Shri Maheswar Nalk:  
Shrimati Renuka Barkataki:  
Shri Basumatari:

Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to introduce a micro-wave link telecommunication system in the State of Assam;

(b) when the work is proposed to be started and the system is likely to be commissioned; and

(c) the estimated cost of the scheme?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Bhagavati):** (a) Yes.

(b) Tenders for the supply of equipment have been invited and preliminary works on the project have already been started. It is planned to complete the scheme before the end of 1964.

(c) The estimated cost of the scheme is approximately Rs. 2.1 crores.

**Shrimati Savitri Nigam:** May I know whether this type of scheme is going to be extended to other areas or not, and whether all the important cities will be covered by this scheme?

**Shri Bhagavati:** This scheme is going to be first installed in the Assam—Calcutta region because of the hilly terrain. Subsequently, it will be extended to Kashmir; that is also a hilly region. In other parts, underground cables are laid.

**Shri Ranga:** What is this micro-wave link? We do not understand what it is.

**Mr. Speaker:** Could the Minister give some idea about this? Hon. Members do not understand what this would be.

**Shri Bhagavati:** This is some sort of a wireless system.

**Some Hon. Members rose—**

**The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** May I briefly say what it is? Micro-wave is a radio wave of short lengths; the waves go up to a distance which is seeable, as far as we can see from the place where the equipments are

installed. In the plains, the distance is small: 30 to 40 miles. If we get a hillock which commands a larger view, the distance may be upto 100 miles. By micro-waves we can increase the channels to a very large number; it will be radio-telephone. If you provide a large number of these, it will expedite the communication system.

**Mr. Speaker:** Next question.

**Shri Narendra Singh Mahida rose—**

**Mr. Speaker:** Because that explanation has been given, I thought there was no use discussing it further.

#### Elections of Panchayats

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\*480. { **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:**  
**Shri Krishna Deo Tripathi:**

Will the Minister of **Community Development and Co-operation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government are in consultation with the State Governments regarding Panchayati Raj elections in different States; and

(b) the advice, if any, tendered by the Central Government and the reaction of the State Governments thereto?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy):**

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Government were advised to postpone direct elections to Panchayati Raj bodies. This was accepted. In view of the latest decision of the Election Commission two States where the question was raised have been advised to proceed with the holding of elections to village panchayats.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** May I know what are the shortcomings and difficulties which have been thrown up in the working of the Panchayati Raj and which the Government propose to get over before the next elections are conducted?