

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has recommended and released a new Cotton Strain namely, 'Suyadhar' for cultivation in certain parts of Mysore State; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to introduce the said Strain in other parts of the country?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) The Indian Central Cotton Committee at its meeting held in February, 1963, recommended the release of the strain 'Suyadhar' for cultivation in the eastern dry tract of Dharwar in North Mysore.

(b) This strain has been found suitable for cultivation only in the above tract in North Mysore. There is no proposal for its introduction in other parts of the country.

Co-operatives for Washermen

1939. { Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:
Shri Murali Manohar:
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:

Will the Minister of Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that States have been asked by the Central Government to set up co-operatives for the trade of washermen in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme;

(c) whether the dhobis will get subsidies for organising their trade; and

(d) if so, the contribution of the State and Central Governments?

The Deputy Minister of Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shyam Dhar Misra): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). A copy of the scheme indicating the details and pattern of financial assistance is as under:—

SCHEME

The question of organisation of washermen's cooperatives was considered by the Special Working Group

on Cooperatives for Backward Classes which *inter-alia*, recommended that:—

- (i) Cooperatives for dhobies can be effectively organised wherever a large and regular clientele is available and services of a number of dhobies are required. Training establishments, hotels, hostels and hospitals offer good scope for such societies. The membership of the society should be open to the persons actually engaged in this work.
- (ii) The society should supply washing material and other requisites to members. After some experience, equipment for dry cleaning and other improved facilities may be installed.
- (iii) Authorities incharge of various institutions and government departments should adopt the policy of encouraging such cooperatives and entrusting work to them.

2. The Working Group also made recommendations with regard to financial assistance to dhobies' cooperatives and it has been decided to provide assistance to dhobies' cooperatives on the following pattern:—

- (i) Loan for working capital and equipment.

State governments may provide loan to each society upto a maximum of Rs. 10,000. The central government will provide loan to the State Governments to the extent of 75 per cent of the amount advanced by them to the societies, repayable in 15 years. 50 per cent of the loan may be utilised by the societies for purchase of equipment and 50 per cent for working capital.

- (ii) *Managerial subsidy.*

Upto a maximum of Rs. 1,200 may be provided per society, to be spread over a period of 3—5 years and to be

shared by state and central government on 50 : 50 basis.

3. The scheme will form a part of the state plan and the outlay on it will be included in the state plan.

Crushing of Sugarcane

1940. { Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:
Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:

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

(a) the latest position with regard to crushing of sugarcane in various States;

(b) whether indications were available that all the standing sugarcane would be crushed by the mills or otherwise in all the States; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) The quantity of cane crushed by factories in different States during the period 1st November, 1963 to 15th March, 1964 is given below:—

State	Quantity of cane crushed ('000 Tonnes)
U.P.	10,192
Bihar	2,201
Assam	46
West Bengal	104
Punjab	775
Orissa	58
Rajasthan	80
Madhya Pradesh	222
Maharashtra	3,944
Gujarat	281
Pondicherry	82
Madras	675
Kerala	76
Mysore	758
Andhra	1,806
ALL INDIA	21,300

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Raipur-Vizianagram Section

1941. { Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:
Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any progress has been made for doubling the Railway line on the Raipur-Vizianagram Section on the South Eastern Railway; and

(b) if so, the nature of the progress made?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy):

(a) Doubling of two small sections viz. (i) Lanjigarh Road to Ambodala (13.5 K.M.) and (ii) Bissamcuttack to Theruvali (18.5 K.M.) is only being carried out and the work on these is nearing completion.

(b) The doublings referred to in part (a) above will be opened to goods traffic very shortly.

Pre-Investment Survey of Forest Resources

1942. { Shri Pottekkatt:
Shri A. V. Raghavan:

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

(a) whether the U.N. Special Fund assistance has been secured for the "Pre-investment Survey of Forest Resources";

(b) if so, the States selected for carrying out this project; and

(c) when the work will commence?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) The U.N. Special Fund has promised to assist in the implementation of the project. However, the details of assistance have not yet been finalised.