

Starred Question No. 93 on the 2nd June, 1964 and state:

(a) the further steps taken to reduce the burden of indebtedness in rural areas;

(b) whether any scheme has been chalked out in this regard; and

(c) if so, the result thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy): (a) to (c). There is nothing further to add to the reply given to Starred Question No. 93, as the detailed report of the All-India Rural Debt and Investment Survey 1961-62 conducted by the Reserve Bank is still awaited.

Unemployment Insurance Scheme

89. { Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Balmiki:
Shrimati Jyotsma Chanda:

Will the Minister of Social Security be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a scheme of unemployment insurance is likely to be introduced;

(b) if so, the main features of the scheme; and

(c) when the scheme is likely to be implemented?

The Minister of Law and Social Security (Shri A. K. Sen): (a) No Sir, excepting that certain benefits in the event of retrenchment and lay-off have been made available to industrial workers and that other proposals to help workers in weaker units with Textile Industry, who are facing difficulties on account of closures, are under consideration;

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Locusts Breeding

90. **Shrimati Savitri Nigam:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any warning has been given to India by London Anti-Locusts

Research Centre that there are chances of locusts breeding in India in the coming months; and

(b) if so, the action Government propose to take in the matter?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shah-nawaz Khan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Limited locust breeding was anticipated in monsoon months in the Scheduled Desert Area. The Scheduled Desert Area comprises of parts of Rajasthan, Punjab and Gujarat and is the centre of locust activity in India. Even before the receipt of warning from Desert Locust Information Service, London (a part of Anti-Locust Research Centre) on the 3rd July, 1964, the Government of India issued instructions for control operations to the staff working in the Scheduled Desert Area by the 30th May, 1964. The staff duly equipped with vehicles, application equipment and insecticides has been posted at strategic places to control localized/scattered breeding where necessary.

There is no possibility of locust breeding in areas other than Scheduled Desert Area. The State Governments are, however, regularly being informed of the locust situation in the country through the Fortnightly Locust Situation Bulletins.

Agricultural Research

91. { Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:
Shri B. P. Yadava:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri Bishanchander Seth:
Shri Dhaon:
Shri Mohan Swarup:
Shri D. D. Mantri:
Shri Sham Lal Saraf:
Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
Shri A. N. Vidyalkankar:
Shri R. Barua:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a foreign team of experts has stated in

its report that 90 per cent of workers engaged in agricultural research in India are unaware of the problems in the field in which they were working;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) the methods adopted to remove the defects pointed out by the foreign experts?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) No. However, during their informal discussions with the Vice-President of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and Special Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Department of Agriculture) the foreign members of the Review Team expressed the view that about 90 per cent of the workers engaged in Agricultural research seem to be unaware of the problems in the field in the areas in which they were working.

(b) and (c). The percentage of workers who are not aware of the problems in the field may not be as high as 90 per cent. Most of the States have provided liaison between research and extension officers through six monthly and annual meetings held at state level when research programmes are reviewed and fresh programmes formulated by research workers in consultation with the Joint Directors and Regional Officers in-charge of Extension. The problems which the experts of Government of India come across during their visits to the field in the different states are brought to the notice of the research section or particular institutions which may be suitably equipped to handle the problem. The Government of India has been corresponding with the State Departments of Agriculture, bringing to their notice the problems in the field as well as solutions which have been successfully adopted elsewhere and which may be applicable to the state in question. In the proposals of the Fourth Plan a considerable

strengthening of the extension set up in the states at all levels is envisaged. With this strengthening the liaison between research and extension will become closer and the research worker will be in a better position to become aware of the problems of the farmers in a more specific and particularised manner than he is at present.

Social Security Schemes in Rural Areas

92. { Shri B. P. Yadava:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri Dhaon:

Will the Minister of Social Security be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to extend the social security schemes in the rural areas in the country;

(b) whether Government are also considering to conduct a survey of all rural industries; and

(c) if so, when the work on the survey is likely to be taken in hand?

The Minister of Law and Social Security (Shri A. K. Sen): (a) The programmes of Khadi and Village Industries Commission mainly cover rural areas. Two new schemes of Old Age Pension and Relief and Assistance for handicapped persons, which will cover the entire country including the rural areas, are also under consideration.

(b) and (c). No decision has yet been taken in this respect.

Credit Requirements of Agriculturists

93. { Shri Laxmi Dass:
Shri Namblar:
Dr. Saradish Roy:
Shri Imbichibava:
Shri P. Kunhan:

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

(a) whether any official or unofficial estimate of the total annual credit re-