

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-