

**Development and Cooperation (Shri Shinde):** (a) It is intended to introduce 200 medium sized trawlers for commercial fishing during the 4th Five Year Plan period by importing part of the requirements.

(b) and (c). Efforts are being made to obtain about 25 shrimp trawlers against credit facilities offered by the Government of Sweden.

(d) The approximate cost of the Swedish trawlers is Rs. 5 lakhs each.

#### Assistance to Farmers

**1694. Shri A. K. Gopalan:** Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Food Corporation of India has selected some places in Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Mysore to help the farmers to grow more food;

(b) if so, the places selected in Kerala and the number of acres covered;

(c) the kind of help the Food Corporation of India would be giving to the farmers;

(d) the criteria for selecting the farmers; and

(e) whether there is any scheme for giving financial credits to the farmers?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shinde):** (a) Yes, Sir. A pilot scheme is under consideration of the Food Corporation of India to help the farmers to grow more food during the ensuing kharif season in the selected areas in these States.

(b) The area tentatively selected is Palghat district in Kerala and will cover about 50 thousand acres.

(c) The Corporation will supply cash and the required inputs like im-

proved varieties of seeds, fertilizers and insecticides.

(d) The criteria for selecting the farmers would be:—

(i) that they should be prepared to use improved seeds and adopt agricultural practices prescribed by the State Agriculture Department concerned and approved by the Corporation; and

(ii) they should be prepared to enter into contract with the Corporation to deliver to it a minimum of one tonne of paddy per acre at the price fixed by the State Government concerned.

(e) Yes, Sir. The Corporation may give as cash 25 per cent of the contracted value of the crop to be delivered for meeting cultivation expenses if necessary.

#### Procurement of Foodgrains

**1695. Shri A. K. Gopalan:** Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Kerala Government have decided on a stiffer procurement programme;

(b) if so, the basis of the new levy;

(c) whether holders of two acres of land are exempted from levy;

(d) whether Government have decided to give higher bonus to those who surrender their crops;

(e) the acres of land exempted from levy;

(f) the machinery to work out the productivity; and

(g) whether Government propose to entrust the work to the Panchayats?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shinde):** (a) and (b). Under the Kerala Rice and Paddy (Procurement by Levy) Order, 1964, a uniform rate

of levy, fixed on an ascending slab basis, was applicable for the whole state. Under the Kerala Rice and Paddy (Procurement by Levy) Order, 1965, the paddy producing areas of the State have been classified into four categories, viz., A, B, C, and D, having regard to the productivity of the Land and different scales have been adopted for the purpose of levy. While for categories A & B there is a slight increase in the levy now imposed, for categories C & D the levy has been reduced for certain slabs.

The Kerala Government have also imposed a levy on 50 per cent of production of a miller or dealer.

(c) No, Sir, except in category 'D'.

(d) In addition to the price of paddy, the State Government will pay a delivery bonus @ Rs. 1.19 per quintal if the delivery is made by the cultivators before certain notified dates and an incentive bonus @ Rs. 5 per quintal for paddy delivered in excess of the notified levy.

(e) The exemption limit is one acre in categories A & B, 1½ acres in category 'C' and two acres in category 'D'.

(f) The productivity of land is assessed by the Bureau of Statistics who conduct a series of crop-cutting experiments for each crop.

(g) No, Sir.

#### Use of Jeeps by Block Development Officers

1966. Shrimati Ramdulari Sinha: Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state the main features of the suggestion tendered by the Members of Parliament in response to the advice sought by him regarding the better use of the Jeeps placed at the services of the B.D.Os.?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shinde): Suggestions of the M.Ps. were sought on the question of safeguarding against the misuse of jeeps for political purposes during elections. It was mainly suggested that effective and concrete measures should be evolved to guard against misuse of jeeps for political purposes with the minimum of dislocation of work in the Blocks.

#### Soil Conservation in Kerala

1967. Shri P. Kunhan: Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of money allotted to the State of Kerala in the Third Five Year Plan for soil conservation;

(b) whether any Soil Conservation Scheme has been carried out in the Cannanore District during the Third Five Year Plan period;

(c) whether Government are aware that hundreds of acres of fertile lands on both the sides of Kariamkodu River in Hasdrug Taluk are washed away every year during the rainy season;

(d) whether the D.D.C., Cannanore District, has sought the help of Government to take preventive steps to control the flooding; and

(e) if so, the steps taken in this matter?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shyam Dhar Misra): (a) A provision of Rs. 120 lakhs was made for Soil Conservation Schemes in the Third Five Year Plan of Kerala State.

(b) During the Third Five Year Plan period, Soil Conservation works on agricultural lands have already been completed in 1700 acres at a cost