

(c) The following assistance is given to the private producers:—

- (i) Crop loans for the cultivation of tapioca, banana and pineapple at the rate of Rs. 65 per acre for tapioca, Rs. 500 for banana and Rs. 800 for pineapple;
 - (ii) Banana suckers are being produced and distributed at 50 per cent subsidised rate;
 - (iii) Seed material of improved varieties of tapioca, sweet potato and vegetables
 - (iv) Normal subsidies on phosphatic fertilizers and pesticides etc.
- (d) Yes.
- (e) Does not arise.

Santhanam Committee Report on Panchayat Institution

2521. **Shri V. V. Thevar:** Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations of Santhanam Committee Report on Panchayati Raj Finances, 1963?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shinde): The recommendations of the Santhanam Study Team on Panchayati Raj Finance were classified into the following three categories:

- (i) recommendations on which action is due by the State and Central Governments;
- (ii) recommendations on which action is due by the State Governments; and
- (iii) recommendations of a general nature to be kept in view while formulating policy in future.

All the State Governments except Jammu and Kashmir have considered the recommendations. A statement indicating the present position regarding implementation of the important recommendations falling in the first two categories mentioned above, and having common application to all states, is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT- 5832/66].

Production of Newsprint

2522. **Shri Lakhmu Bhawani:** Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Forest Research Institute at Dehra Dun is working on some method of producing newsprint at cheap rates in order to save foreign exchange; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shinde): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Work on production of newsprint grade pulp from several indigenous woods has given encouraging results and may lead to the establishment of newsprint mills based on *Alnus nepalensis*, *Anthocephalus indicus*, *Butea monosperma*, *abies pindrow*, *Acer campbellii*, *Ailantius grandis* and *Backlandea populnea*.

Full details of the work on these woods are given in the publications listed below:

1. Indian Forester 1965,91, No. 8, 593
2. Indian Pulp and Paper 1963,17, No. 9, 511
3. Indian Forester, 1961,87 No. 9, 546
4. Indian Forester, 1965,91, No. 6, 371
5. Indian Forester, 1960,86, No. 5, 302
6. Indian Forester, 1965,91 No. 4, 203