

ment have their own programme of construction of hotels.

(c) The matter is under consideration of the Government.

Use of Fertilisers

258. Shri Raghunath Singh: Will the Minister of **Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any study about effectiveness of mixtures of commercial fertilizers and organic manures for raising agricultural production; and

(b) whether Government have taken suitable steps to popularise the mixture?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shyam Dhar Misra): (a) large number of field experiments have been conducted to study the effect of chemical fertilizers and organic manures applied in various combinations. The results of these trials have generally shown that while the application of a single nutrient like nitrogen continuously is not desirable, application of a balanced combination of nitrogen, phosphorous and potash fertilizers nutrients over long period has given good response whether applied with organic manures or not. These studies mainly pertain to the major crops like rice, wheat and sugarcane. The larger crop residues produced by the application of fertilizers itself provide considerable organic matter to the field. This may possibly explain satisfactory results obtained with the balanced application of chemical fertilizers alone continuously.

(b) Yes. Use of fertilizer mixtures is being popularised in all the States in relation to principal crops under the All India Fertilizer Demonstration Scheme. Each State has formulated different grades of fertilizer mixtures considered suitable for their area.

Sethusamudram Project

259. Shri Muthiah: Will the Minister of **Transport, Aviation, Shipping & Tourism** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Technical Committee set up by his Ministry has completed its study and scrutiny of the Sethusamudram Project Report submitted, by the Madras Government;

(b) if so, its main observations and recommendations;

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay; and

(d) the steps Government have taken for the effective and speedy implementation of the Project during the Fourth Plan period?

The Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): (a) to (d). The Technical Committee appointed by the Ministry of Transport & Aviation to examine the Project Report for the Sethusamudram Project prepared by the State Government of Madras was of the view that detailed surveys were necessary to arrive at a realistic estimate of the Project. A separate organisation has been set up under a Chief Engineer for this purpose, and a Project Officer has also been appointed.

Detailed surveys, trial borings, both on land and in the sea and tracer studies are being carried on by this Organisation. Further action on the Project will be taken on receipt of the Technical report and the estimates for the Project.

Delhi Milk Scheme

260. Shri Jedhe: Will the Minister of **Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of persons who are drawing milk under the Delhi Milk Scheme as on 1st July,

1966 and the total number of litres of milk (categories-wise) distributed daily;

(b) the number of persons out of (a) above who were drawing milk, other than toned milk, more than one litre per day;

(c) the number of applicants who are on the waiting list for the issue of milk cards for milk other than toned milk as on the 1st July, 1966; and

(d) the action Government propose to take to issue milk cards to all those who are on the waiting list?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shinde): (a) Precise data regarding number of persons drawing milk under the Delhi Milk Scheme is not available as each person may hold a number of milk cards for various types of milk separately for mornings and evenings. The total number of cards holders is estimated at about 2,50,000.

The following quantities of milk of various types are being distributed daily:—

Standard milk	97,747 litres
Toned milk	61,599 „
Cow milk	3,318 „
Double Toned milk	16,765 „
Total	1,79,429 „

(b) Precise data is not available for reasons explained in (a) above.

(c) About 15,000 applicants were on waiting list for all categories of milk as on 1st July, 1966. Applications are not registered separately for various categories of milk.

(d) Steps are being taken to increase the procurement of milk. When more milk is procured cards will be issued to the people in the waiting list.

Programme for Food Production

261. Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development & Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) the nature of the country's programme for food production for this year;

(b) to what extent this programme is being fulfilled effectively;

(c) whether it is a fact that even seed and light diesel required for agricultural purposes has not been made available causing loss in production; and

(d) whether a statement of the details of distribution of high-yielding seed and light diesel as against the demand promise and supply in respect of each State will be laid on the Table?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shyam Dhar Misra): (a) The programme of agricultural development for 1966-67 was circulated among the Members of Parliament during the Budget Session in April, 1966.

(b) During the last three months, preliminary steps for the implementation of the programme have been taken and the progress is being constantly watched.

(c) If the reference is to the *kharif* season of the current year, then the position regarding the supply of seeds and light diesel may be seen in the answer to part (d).

(d) A statement on the area expected to be brought under High Yielding Varieties of seeds during the current *kharif* season and another statement regarding the availability of light diesel oil are laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Lib. See No. LT-6481/66].