

**SHRI MEETHA LAL
MEENA :**
SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any back-sliding in the programme of spreading the use of high yielding varieties of rice and wheat in the country ; and

(b) whether the average yield during 1966-67, 1967-68 and first half of 1968-69 after adoption of hybrid quality of seed has been keeping pace with the target and if not, why ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) No. In fact, the progress under these crops has been very encouraging and the area under them is progressively increasing. There is however some difficulty about the suitability of some of the paddy varieties in some areas during the Kharif season. Efforts have been directed first, to organise inputs to get the best results from the existing high yielding varieties, secondly to evolve new varieties more adapted to local/conditions. Two new high-yielding varieties of paddy viz. Jaya and Padma have recently been released and other varieties are at various stages of trials/research.

(b) The yield data for Kharif, 1968 has not yet become available from the States. The analysis of yield data reported from various States during 1966-67 and 1967-68 shows that the high yielding varieties have given yields sufficiently higher than those of the traditional varieties and the average yields of these varieties are in keeping with their yield potentials.

Super Bazars in Delhi

1894. **SHRI S.K. TAPURIAH :**
SHRI R. K. AMIN :
**SHRI GADILINGANA
GOWD :**
SHRI M. L. SONDHI :
SHRI R. V. NAIK :
SHRI ONKAR SINGH :
SHRI J. B. SINGH :
SHRI SHARDANAND :

**SHRI KANWAR LAL
GUPTA :**
SHRI SITARAM KESRI :
SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK :
SHRI RANJIT SINGH :
SHRI D. C. SHARMA :
**SHRI BENI SHANKER
SHARMA :**
SHRI HARDAYAL DEVGUN :
SHRI SAMAR GUHA :
SHRI K. LAKKAPPA :
**SHRI SURENDRA NATH
DWIVEDI :**
SHRI J. AHMED :
SHRI DINKAR DESAI :
**SHRI MANGALATHU-
MADAM :**
SHRI RABI RAY :
SHRI S. C. SAMANTA :
**SHRI RAM GOPAL
SHALWALE :**
SHRI YASHPAL SINGH :
SHRI D. N. PATODIA :
SHRI DEVEN SEN :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) total loss suffered by the three Super Bazars in Delhi during fiscal years 1967, 1968 and 1969 and the reasons therefor ;

(b) whether attention of Government has been invited in this regard to a report in the Statesman of the 8th January, 1969;

(c) how these mounting losses are proposed to be made up by the Government of India so as to fulfil the purpose for which Super Bazars were established in Delhi and other parts of the country : and

(d) the steps taken to run them profitably ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI M. S. GURUPA-DASWAMY) : (a) The total loss suffered during the cooperative year 1966-67 was Rs. 7.08 lakhs ; for the year 1967-68, the loss is estimated to be Rs. 13.04 lakhs, subject to audit ; and the position for the year 1968-69 will be known after the close of the cooperative year on the 30th June, 1969. The main reasons for loss are high promotional, administrative and operatio-

nal costs, including the rent of the building in Connaught Circus,

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) It is for the management of the Cooperative Store Ltd., New Delhi which runs the Super Bazars in Delhi, to take steps to make up the losses incurred by it, by cutting down costs, streamlining administrative and operational procedures, and increasing sales. In spite of the losses, the Super Bazars in Delhi continue to fulfil the purpose for which they were intended by selling consumer goods at reasonable prices, maintaining quality and adopting healthy trade practices.

(d) The steps taken by the Cooperative Store Ltd., New Delhi, to run the Super Bazars profitably include: economy in establishment and operational expenses, rationalisation of stock level, prevention of leakages, streamlining of administrative and accounting procedures, standardisation of purchase policies and expansion of business turn over. The Managing Committee of the Cooperative Store Ltd., New Delhi, has also been reconstituted. The services of a senior Government official have been placed at the disposal of the Store to work as its General Manager.

Farmers' Debts in Co-operative Societies

1895. SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH :
SHRI HIMATSINGKA :
SHRI A. SREEDHARAN :
SHRI GADILINGANA
GOWD :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Farmer's Debts in Cooperative Societies have been mounting year after year ;

(b) if so, the total amount of overdues at the end of the years ended June 30, 1966, 1967 and 1968 ; and

(c) what are the main reasons for the continued rural indebtedness and what steps Government are contemplating for ameliorating the condition of the peasants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY) : (a) to (c). The position

regarding the outstanding loans which became overdue as on 30th June, 1966, 30th June, 1967 and 30th June, 1968 is given below :

	(Rs. in crores)		
	Overdues as on		
	30-6-66	30-6-67	30-6-68
	(Provisional)		
Short and medium-term loans.	125.36	160.15	156.92
Long-term loans.	4.42	5.74	7.43

Increased borrowings of the cultivators from cooperatives are to a large extent accounted for by the growing working capital requirements for use of modern inputs like fertilizers and the increased outlay needed to finance capital investments in minor irrigation and land development works of a semi-permanent and permanent nature under the intensive agricultural programmes.

The seasonal character of agricultural enterprise imposes a time-lag between expenditure in the form of inputs and realisation of income out of the final produce. The farmers, especially those with moderate means, require credit to undertake agricultural operations under such a situation. In areas where farming is uneconomic due to unfavourable natural factors like poor soil, lack of irrigation facilities and inadequate rainfall, the repaying capacity of the farmers is limited. Even in other areas unforeseen natural calamities may sometimes lead to a partial failure of crops and cause increased overdues. As the cooperative loans are mostly given for agricultural production requirements, and help to increase production, the increase in loan outstandings should not be necessarily considered as a sign of growing indebtedness.

Import of Rice from Philippines

1896. SHRI BABURAO PATEL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the salient terms of the contract dated the 26th September, 1968 with Philippines for the purchase of 25,000