

AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNA-SAHIB SHINDE) : (a) In Kerala, rice is issued directly from FCI depots to the fair price shops and other nominees of the State Government on the basis of authorizations issued by them. The allotments are always to F. C. I. depots in Kerala. The Government of Kerala had requested that adequate stocks of rice be maintained in the FCI depots in Kerala so that full rice ration of 160 grams per adult per day could be issued through fair price shops in the State during the lean period. The stocks in Kerala depots at present are sufficient to meet the requirements of public distribution.

(b) and (c). The rising trend in the prices of rice during the lean season is a normal feature in any State. In Kerala, the whole State is covered by statutory distribution of foodgrains. Maximum price of rice is also in force. However, transactions in the open market at high prices could not be eliminated completely and the quotations in this market in May 1969 were Rs. 1.70 to Rs. 2.00 per Kg. against a quotation of Rs. 1.55 to Rs. 1.90 during the April 1969. During 1968, quotations for May were Rs. 1.80 to Rs. 2.25 per Kg. and for April Rs. 1.90 to Rs. 2.08 per Kg.

Data to Benefit the Small Farmers

1683. SHRI MOHAMMAD ISMAIL : will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any data to show how the 'new strategy of agricultural development' has benefited the small farmers ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the new strategy is likely to enable the agriculturists with adequate resources to reap substantial benefits ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The various evaluation studies carried out on the implementation of High-Yielding Varieties Programme have shown that the farmers, both big and small, have participated in the production efforts. The programme Evaluation Organization of the Planning Commission in their latest report on the evaluation of the High-Yielding Varieties Programme for Kharif 1968 have given the following distribution of selected participants :—

Crop	Total No. of selected participants for study,	No. of participants in the Size-Group of Cultivation Holding					
		Below 2.5	2.5 to 5.0	5.0 to 10.0	10.0 to 20.0	20.0 to 50.0	50.0 above.
Paddy	602	158	161	147	79	44	13
Maize	106	6	12	25	25	31	7
Bajra	187	4	11	36	48	74	14
Jowar	79	0	7	18	20	21	13

All farmers big and small, who participate in the new strategy realise benefits accruing from the programme.

International Telephone Exchange at Bombay

1684. SHRI N. K. SOMANI :
SHRI MAHANT DIGVIJAI NATH :
SHRI MOHAMMAD ISMAIL :

SHRI S.M. BANERJEE :
SHRI YASHWANT SINGH KUSHWAH :
SHRI NAMBIAR :
SHRI C.K. CHAKRAPANI :
SHRI E.K. NAYANAR :
SHRI DEORAO PATIL :
SHRI D.C. SHARMA :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION