

जाती है। 1968 में राजस्थान से प्रकाशित होने वाले 21 साप्ताहिकों के दावों की जांच की गई थी।

(घ) 30 साप्ताहिकों, जिनसे 1969-70 के लिये आवेदन पत्र आये थे, को अलाट किए गए अखबारी कागज की कुल मात्रा 94.28 मीटरी टन थी। चालू वर्ष के लिए आयातित अखबारी कागज की करार की गई कीमत 1,190 रुपये प्रति मीटरी टन है।

New Building for Telephone Exchange at Jaipur

2665. SHRI NAVAL KISHORE SHARMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the present Building for the telephone exchange at Jaipur city is quite insufficient;

(b) if so, whether Government think to have a new building;

(c) if so, when the work is likely to start and by what time the building is proposed to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING, AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS: (SHRI SHER SINGH): (a) The present building for the telephone exchange at Jaipur City is quite adequate to meet both the present telephone demand and the demand for a few years more.

(b) To meet further demands in future a piece of land is proposed to be acquired. The matter is under negotiation with the State Government.

(c) Does not arise at present.

Check on Coarse Grain Price

2666. SHRI NAVAL KISHORE SHARMA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of foodgrains, particularly of coarse grain, have fallen in the last few months; and

(b) whether Government have taken any steps to check the falling prices to help the agriculturists and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) Prices of foodgrains have generally shown a downward tendency since September/October, 1969.

(b) Purchases by Government agencies at remunerative procurement prices have already commenced.

Israel Expert to check Spread of Desert in Rajasthan

2667. SHRI NAVAL KISHORE SHARMA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Specialist from Israel has agreed to come to Rajasthan to do away with the desert of Rajasthan at the instance of Rajasthan State Government;

(b) if so, whether Government of India have refused such a permission; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof and whether Government are prepared to reconsider their earlier decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) The Government of India is not aware of any recent offer of a specialist by Israel to the Rajasthan State Government to do away with the desert of Rajasthan.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

AGRO-Industries Corporation

2668. SHRI SARJOO PANDEY:
SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA:
SHRI R. K. BIRLA:
SHRI VASUDEVAN NAIR:
SHRI K. HALDER:
SHRIMATI SUDHA V. REDDY:

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

(a) how many States have so far set up Agro-Industries Corporation;

(b) the assistance which the Central Government provides to the States in setting up such Corporation;

(c) whether Government have reviewed the working of these corporations; and

(d) if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) So far Agro-Industries Corporations have been established in 15 States, viz., Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Kerala, Mysore, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, U.P. and West Bengal.

(b) These Corporations are Government Companies, within the meaning of Section 617 of the Companies Act (Act I of 1956). In the case of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Kerala, Mysore, Orissa and West Bengal Corporations, the respective State Governments and the Central Governments contribute towards the share capital in the ratio of 51:49 and in respect of the remaining Corporations at 50:50. Apart from participation in equity capital, the Central Government assists the Corporations in the implementation of their projects and in procuring farm machineries, etc., from abroad and gives technical guidance, wherever necessary. It also allots iron and steel for fabrication of implements, etc.

(c) and (d). The progress made by the various Corporations was reviewed at the Conference of the Chairman and Managing Directors of the State Agro-Industries Corporations held in July, 1969. Though it is difficult to make any critical appreciation of the performance of these Corporations as their period of existence has been rather short, the Conference noted with satisfaction the achievements made by the Corporations in different fields of activities. These Corporations are at various stages of development and yet the progress made by a few Corporations has been quite impressive.

The activities of the Corporations are also periodically discussed at the meetings of their Board of Directors on which the Government of India is represented through the Directors nominated by it. At these meetings necessary guidance is given in all matters of vital concern.

Gratuity for Colliery Workers

2669. SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA:
DR. RANEN SEN:
SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:
SHRI J.M. BISWAS:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coal Mines Unions have demanded introduction of gratuity scheme in the coal fields;

(b) whether the Unions have also demanded the abolition of coal mines recruiting organisations; and

(c) if so, what decisions have been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD): (a) and (b). Yes.

(c) The matter was discussed at the Meeting of the Industrial Committee on Coal Mining held on the 6th November, 1969 when it was announced that Government had accepted in principle the need for a Gratuity Scheme and that the details of the Scheme would be finalised shortly. As regards the Coal field Recruiting Organisation, the employers stated that they had no objection to its abolition. The Chairman then announced that the Government of India had decided to withdraw from this recruiting activity in respect of Gorakhpur labour.

Issue of Milk Tokens by Delhi Milk Scheme

2670. SHRI V. NARASIMHA RAO:
Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Milk Scheme has decided to issue fresh milk tokens;

(b) if so, the number of tokens proposed to be issued;