

Rs. 150 per month is required to be paid by the P and T Department ;

(c) whether it is a fact that Post Master General, Bihar Circle *vide* his No. UD-14-1/70 dated the 23rd February, 1970 has admitted that Dr. Ansari is not doing the services for which he is appointed in the P and T Dispensary, Patna and in his subsequent letter P. M. G. Bihar has already recommended for transfer of Dr. Ansari ; and

(d) if so, the action proposed in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SHER SINGH) : (a) An inspection was conducted by a Departmental Officer on 31st March, 1970. Another inspection is being conducted.

(b) Yes. This reference was, however, received on a proposal received from some other P. and T. Circle for asking the Civil Surgeons to visit the P. and T. dispensaries periodically and give them technical advice. The proposal was considered and as some State Governments did not agree to permit the Civil Surgeons to undertake this work, because they were already extremely busy, the proposal was dropped.

(c) and (d). Yes. Suitable action is being taken in the matter.

**Financial Aid from Sweden for Construction of Foodgrain Godowns**

2683. SHRI G. VENKATASWAMY :  
SHRI V. NARASIMHA RAO :

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

(a) whether Sweden has offered financial aid to India for construction of godowns for storage of foodgrains ;

(b) if so, the total amount of aid offered ; and

(c) the total number of godowns proposed to be built with this aid ?

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

(b) and (c). The Swedish aid authority and the International Development Association (the soft loan affiliate of the World Bank) have been examining the possibility of giving assistance to India for setting up silos and godowns having a storage capacity of 300,000 tonnes of foodgrains. The approximate amount of external assistance and the relative share of the two aid giving authorities and yet to be decided.

**Demand by Punjab Agro-Industries Corporation for Enquiring into Import of Defective Tractors from German Democratic Republic**

2684. SHRI G. VENKATASWAMY :  
SHRI V. NARASIMHA RAO :  
SHRI N. K. SOMANI :  
SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN :  
SHRI N. SHIVAPPA :  
SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY :

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

(a) whether the Punjab Agro-Industries Corporation has demanded a high level probe into the circumstances leading to the import of 3,000 defective tractors from the German Democratic Republic ;

(b) whether the Corporation has asked the Centre not to allocate or import these tractors ;

(c) whether the tractor testing unit situated in Madhya Pradesh has given an adverse comment about these tractors ;

(d) the reaction of Government in regard thereto ; and

(e) the total amount of foreign exchange involved in this case ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) The Government of Punjab have reported that Punjab Agro-Industries Corporation had not demanded any high level probe in the matter. 1,998 RS-09 tractors at a total cost of Rs. 212 lakhs and not 3,000 tractors, have only been imported from G. D. R.

(b) In addition to the initial allotment of 500 tractors made in January, 1969, the Punjab Agro-Industries Corporation requested the Government of India on 25-7-1969 to allot additional 500 RS-09 tractors as it had pending registration of 1,462 for this tractor. The Corporation reported that the tractor was most suitable for interculture and spraying operations etc. Later, on 14-10-1969, it withdrew the additional demand.

(c) The tractor had been tested at Tractor Training and Testing Station, Budni (Madhya Pradesh) in 1965, and was recommended to be a suitable machine. Copies of the Test Report have already been supplied to the Lok Sabha Secretariat. However, a copy of the Summary and comments of the Test Report is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—3956/70].

(d) Government suspended the import of RS-09 tractors after reports of complaints had been received from the Andhra Pradesh State Agro-Industries Corporation in December, 1969. A Committee of Technical Experts was simultaneously appointed to make an on the spot study of the performance of these tractors in various States. The recommendations made by the Committee have generally been accepted by the G. D. R. Suppliers and are being implemented by them. The G. D. R. Suppliers have, also supplied five modified RS-09 tractors and these are currently being tested at various places in the country. One more modified tractor is being flown from G. D. R. for test.

(c) Rs. 212.00 lakhs.

### Shortfall in the Production of Cotton, Jute and Oilseeds

2686. SHRI SHARDANAND :  
SHRI J. B. SINGH:  
SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA :  
SHRI RAM AVTAR SHARMA :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a shortage of production in key raw materials such as cotton, jute and oil seeds ; if so, how much ;

(b) the shortage of these items in the last three year ;

(c) whether it is also a fact that this has led to price rise ; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take so that the shortage is removed in the next years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. In the case of cotton the shortages during the last three years have been of the following order :

Year	Net Shortage (in Lakh Bales)
1967-68	5.46
1968-69	2.40
1969-70	6.87

In the case of Jute, there has been no shortage except during the year 1968-69, when 6.10 lakh bales were imported to make up the shortage.

In the case of Oilseeds, following quantities of Soyabean and Sunflower oils have been imported during the last three years :

	Soyabean Oil	(Tonnes) Sun Flower Oil
1967-68	1,12,163	
1968-69	73,372	
1969-70	82,477	5,000