

has demanded an additional grant from the Central Government for co-operative activities of the weaker sections of society such as rickshaw-drivers, tongawallas and hand-cartmen ;

(b) if so, the extent of grant asked for ; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA) : (a) and (b). The Delhi Administration has approached the Central Government for an additional allocation of Rs. 71,200/- for giving Rs. 70,000/- as loan and Rs. 1200/- as managerial subsidy to Tonga Drivers Cooperative Societies. No proposals have been received for additional allocations for rickshaw-drivers or hand-cartmen's societies.

(c) Government have accepted the proposal necessary funds have been released.

Amnesty for Renewal of Unlicensed Radio and Television sets During 1971

4150. SHRI RAMACHANDRA VEER-APPA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state whether Government propose to grant amnesty for unlicensed radio and Television sets for a period of 3 months to enable holders of unlicensed receiving sets to get them licensed without payment of fine or penalty and without producing authority of ownership during 1970 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SHER SINGH) : No. There is no such proposal under consideration at present.

Import of Four Tractors and Their Distribution

4151. SHRI SADHU RAM : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ford Tractors which are being imported into this country are going to be distributed by the private parties ; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to stop black-marketing in the sale of these tractors ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) and (b). M/s Escorts Ltd. have an approved programme for manufacture of Ford Tractors. The S.T.C. through whom import of Ford Tractors is being arranged, have entered into an agreement with M/s Escorts Ltd. for entrusting the work of clearance, stocking, assembly, pre-sale and after sale services of the tractors to M/s Escorts Ltd. According to the contract the delivery of these tractors has to be made only to the nominees of the State Agro-Industries Corporations and the Ministry of Defence.

Sale of Polish Tractors Through Private Agency

4152. SHRI SADHU RAM : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Agro-Industries Corporations in different States are dealing with fully assembled imported tractors and if so, why fully assembled Polish tractors are proposed to be sold through Private Party ; and

(b) the steps being taken by Government to stop black-marketing in the sale of these tractors ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) The Agro-Industries Corporations are dealing with the import and distribution of fully assembled tractors in the country. However, in the interests of organised service and indigenisation in the case of import of such tractors as are being manufactured in the country, assembly from S.K.D. packs, pre-sale and after-sale services have been entrusted to local manufacturers of the same tractors. Polish tractors are being imported in S.K.D. and P.K.D. condition with deletions and services mentioned earlier have been entrusted to an indigenous manufacturer, namely M/s. Escorts. However, the delivery of these tractors is to be made

to the nominees of the State Agro-Industries Corporations and Director General Resettlement and Employment, Ministry of Defence.

(b) Since the private firm is only to render certain services and delivery of tractors is to be made only to the nominees of the State Agro-Industries Corporations and the Ministry of Defence, no black-marketing is anticipated. However, to guard against any such contingency, STC have entered into an agreement with M/s ESCORTS to ensure that tractors will be sold at controlled prices to customers nominated by the Agro-Industries Corporations Ministry of Defence.

Distribution of Cultivable Waste Land to Poor Handloom Weavers

4153. SHRI N. R. DEOGHARE : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to give cultivable waste land to the handloom weavers ; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) and (b). There is no specific proposal to distribute Government cultivable waste lands to handloom weavers. They can, however, be eligible to allotment of land if they fulfil other conditions laid down in the rules for allotment of Government waste lands.

Setting up a Zoo at Nagpur

4154. SHRI N. R. DEOGHARE : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to set up a Zoo at Nagpur on the pattern of the one in New Delhi ;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND

COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Maharaj Bag Zoo, Nagpur is under the administrative control of Nagpur Municipal Corporation. The State Government is said to be having no suitable land at Nagpur for starting a Zoo on the pattern of Delhi Zoological Park. Nor any proposal has so far been received from the Municipal Corporation of Nagpur in this regard by them.

Wastage of Fruits and Vegetables

4155. SHRI N. R. DEOGHARE : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a big percentage of total production of fruits and vegetables in the country goes waste in various ways ;

(b) if so, the percentage of wastage and the ways through which this wastage occurs ; and

(c) the steps being taken to check this wastage ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) to (c). The post-harvest losses in the production of fruits and vegetables occur due to several factors such as improper methods of harvesting, handling and packing ; bad transportation and inadequate storage. Delays in marketing after arrivals in the terminal markets, and shortage of cold storage or godown space also causes these losses.

No studies have been carried out to determine the extent of these losses in respect of various fruits and vegetables, but from the information collected by the Directorate of Marketing and Inspection during the course of their marketing surveys, it is estimated that on an average this wastage effects 20 to 25% of the production of fruits and vegetables in the country.

The measures already taken or proposed to be taken to minimise these losses are given below :

The Central Food Technological Research Institute has been carrying out research to determine the proper state of