

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

harvesting of some fruits. It has also developed some techniques to minimise damage during transit and storage. The Extension Agencies in some of the major fruit growing States are educating the growers in these methods of harvesting and handling. Cold storages have been licensed to ensure proper condition of storage. Their number has increased from about 70 in 1965 to over 1200 at the end of 1969. It is proposed to expand this facility further all over the country. To speed the transit of perishables, the railways have been requested to increase refrigerated transport and to run special "green line" express trains for their speedy movement. They have also been advised to provide insulated wagons for the movement of perishables instead of ordinary steel wagons in which damage often occurs on account of absence of ventilation and presence of excessive heat. In addition to this, an Agricultural Marketing Research-Cum-Training-Cum-Demonstration Institute is being set up at Nagpur during the Fourth Five Year Plan with the assistance of the FAO and UNDP. This Institute will study problems relating to handling, packing, transport and storage of perishables and evolve and demonstrate application of techniques for reducing wastages which are practicable and economical for the trade.

#### Production of teak Wood and its Price

4156. SHRI N. R. DEOGHARE: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the areas in the country where teak wood is grown and the annual production of this wood during the last three years ;

(b) whether the production is sufficient to meet the country's demand for this wood ;

(c) whether any special efforts are being made to increase the production of the teak wood, if so, the details of efforts ; and

(d) the reasons for increasing price of the teak wood in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) to (c). The major teak producing areas are in the States of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Mysore and

Kerala though it is also found to a varying extent in Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Manipur.

Man made forests of teak are also being established in the above States besides several other States/U.T's in the country.

The information regarding annual production of teak wood and extent of man-made forests thereof established during the last three years is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha. However till 1966-67 an area of about 2.26 lakhs hectares have been planted up with the teak.

(d) There has been no appreciable increase in price of Teak in the country from 1967 to 1969.

#### Amendment of land Reforms Act of Tripura

4157. SHRI KIRIT BIKRAM DEB BURMAN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Land Reforms Act in force in Tripura is being amended so as to give to Bargadars to sell the land in their possession and to protect the Bargadars from eviction ; and

(b) if so, the precise nature of the amendments sought to be introduced in the existing law thereby ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) and (b). Proposals for amending the Tripura Land Revenue and Land Reforms Act 1960 are under consideration for conferring further rights on the share-croppers. The details with regard to the proposals are being finalised.

#### Scheme for Providing land to Landless Tribals of Tripura

4158. SHRI KIRIT BIKRAM DEB BURMAN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of landless agricultural labourers in Tripura and the number of such labourers who are tribals ;

(b) whether there is any scheme for providing them with land particularly for tribal landless agricultural labourers ; and