

SHRI RAMANAND YADAV :
Mr. Speaker, Sir, let him put the question.

(English)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : You are pleased to permit me to put the question. My question has not been answered.

(Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : He has not answered my question.

MR. SPEAKER : He said, he will look into it.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : You are promising to "look into it" on his behalf. He has not replied to my question.

(Translation)

SHRI RAMANAND YADAV : You may ask.....

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : I was asking that in 1957-88 no new schemes ..
(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMANAND YADAV : I will understand your English, you may speak in English.

MR. SPEAKER : We shall see.

(English)

That is what he said.

(Translation)

We shall see.

Indo-Soviet cooperation in agriculture

+

*361 SHRIMATI BASAVARAJES-
WARI :

SHRI P. M. SAYEED :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a long term agreement for cooperation in agriculture between India and Soviet Union was signed recently;

(b) If so, the main features of the agreement;

(c) the extent to which the Soviet Union has agreed to improve agricultural schemes in India; and

(d) the time by which the implementation of the agreement is likely to start ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) to (d) A Statement is given below.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir. A Long Term Programme of Cooperation between the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of India and the State Agro Industrial Committee of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, in the field of agriculture upto 2000 AD was signed on 12-2-1987.

(b) Economic and Technical Cooperation

The Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of India and the State Agro Industrial Committee of the USSR, have agreed to cooperate for mutual benefit on the basis of economic viability through the establishment of 100% export oriented units, joint ventures, technical collaborations etc. in the following areas :—

(i) Soyabean processing;

(ii) Production and processing of vegetables and fruits for export;

(iii) Production of chemicals such as furfural and citric based on agro-industrial wastes;

(iv) Construction of modern scientific

- storage facilities including silos for grains, oilseeds and edible oils;
- (v) Production of ethyl alcohol from potatoes;
 - (vi) Production facilities for essential oils;
 - (vii) Establishment of goat and sheep breeding farms for processing of meat for export;
 - (viii) Establishment of modern abattoirs for export of meat;

Both the sides have further agreed to exchange experts for :—

- (i) Evolving modalities for strengthening and upgrading the laboratories for plant quarantine services, testing insecticides and seeds;
- (ii) Identifying equipment required for modernising animal disease diagnostic laboratories; and
- (iii) Identifying pure lines of poultry in USSR suitable for propagation in Indian conditions.

Scientific and Technical Cooperation

In addition, both the sides have agreed to promote scientific and technical cooperation for the mutual advantage upto 2000 AD in the agricultural sector between the cooperative institutions of India and USSR, by way of seminars/symposia, exchange of specialists, samples, information, research results, joint studies etc. Both the sides have also agreed to formulate working plans of cooperation every two years on matters of mutual interest arising out this L.T.P. and also to identify new areas of cooperation for implementation.

(c) & (d) The Long Term Programme of Cooperation has come into effect from

12-2-1987. It is too early to assess the impact of this Agreement on agricultural production.

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Accord signed with the U.S.S.R. has been for the first time on farm cooperation? Is there any such Accord which has been signed by the Government of India with any other country?

May I know whether this agreement provides for bringing wastelands and uncultivated lands under use in various States?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : Sir, the question is very specific and it is regarding the protocol signed between India and the Soviet Russia. So, the question does not arise about the other agreements, whether we have signed the other agreements, with other countries also. But here I have information regarding this question only.

So far as co-operation is concerned, it is in scientific and technical areas. Also in the recent agreement which we have signed, we are co-operating in economic areas also, i.e. 10 per cent export oriented schemes of the agriculture.

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether the Government has undertaken any intensive training for some progressive farmers and to report back when the new technology on farming is introduced and, if so, whether the Government will assure me that at the time of selection of such persons and institutions, the factors like availability of raw materials, suitable topography and favourable conditions will be taken care of.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : Sir, this is regarding the selection of farmers for the training. So far as the training of farmers is concerned, we have *Krishi Vigyan Kendras* all throughout the country and the farmers are trained there.

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : I could not follow what you have said.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA :
Madam...Sir,

MR. SPEAKER : This is a clear case of privilege!

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA :
Sorry, Sir. I was addressing you, not her.

MR. SPEAKER : That is why, you said. Is that why you said "Madam"?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA :
Sir, I wanted to inform the hon. lady Member, through you, that the training of the farmers is taken care of, through the Krishi Vigyan Kendras.

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI :
Care should be taken to see, while you select some institutions, that you select such farms where raw materials, suitable topography and many other facilities are available.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA :
The farmers in the area of the Krishi Vigyan Kendra are selected by the Vigyan Kendra. They come there and stay; and they are trained.

(Translation)

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister of Agriculture in how many districts Krishi Vigyan Kendras have been established in which training is imparted to the farmers. Are there some districts in your knowledge where such centres have not been established till now? There are many districts in the country with vast stretches of agricultural land where agricultural production is also very good. But in these districts Krishi Vigyan Kendras have not been opened. What are the reasons behind the non-establishment of such kendras in predominantly agricultural districts. By when will the Krishi Vigyan Kendras be opened in such districts?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA :

This question does not arise from the main question because it dealt with the Indo-Soviet Cooperation in the field of agriculture and with the long term agreement signed in this regard. But as I told to the hon. lady Member, we impart training to the farmers in the Krishi Vigyan Kendras. As such I want to tell the hon. Member as well that in every State, in some or the other district a Krishi Vigyan Kendra has been established.

SHRI ANANDA GAJAPATHI RAJU : The agreement that has been concluded with the Soviet Russia with regard to agriculture covers a number of items. This goes to show that there is a multi-pronged approach towards solving the problem; but such an approach does not help, because all these problems continue to remain there.

In the case of pulses and oilseeds, what are the steps you are going to take, to see that this recurring problem does not occur year after year? Even after you provide irrigation and even after you provide better seeds, the problem is still there. How do you solve it? How will it find a place in the protocol between USSR and India?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA :
Everything is taken care of, *(Interruptions)* because this is a protocol consisting of agricultural items, including pulses and oilseeds. So far as oilseeds are concerned, we have recently got some seeds of five varieties of Sunflower from Soviet Russia. The germination test is being carried out; and on an experimental basis, we have cultivated it. We are looking forward for the results of it, and then we will decide whether we can import such seeds from Soviet Russia, or not.

Earnings from advertisements and sponsored programmes

+

*362. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH :
SHRI YASHWANTRAO
GADAKH PATIL :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :