

(c) The approval of the Central Government was sought on the specific proposal for raising the price of deshi gram

(d) The Central Government accorded its concurrence to the proposal mentioned in (c) above

State Mechanised Seed Farms with Soviet Assistance

- *470. Shri Indrajit Gupta.
 Shri Ramachandra Ulaka
 Shri Duleshwar Meena
 Shri Heerji Bhal
 Shri K. Pradhani.
 Shri A. K. Gopalan
 Shri P. Gopalan
 Shri P. Ramamurthi:
 Shri Onkar Lal Berwa
 Shri Onkar Singh:
 Shri Vasudevan Nair:
 Shri C. Janardhanan
 Shri P. C. Adichan
 Shri A. Sreedharan
 Shri P. Vishwambharan

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) the progress made so far in setting up the State mechanised seed farms offered by the Government of USSR, and

(b) the reasons for the delay in the selection of sites and commencement of farming operations?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde) (a) Under an agreement signed with the Government of USSR in November, 1966 they have agreed to supply as a gift to the Government of India machinery for setting up 5 Seed Farms during 1966-68. One such Farm has already been set up in Orissa and two more are likely to be set up in the next few months. The remaining two Farms are expected to be set up early in 1968

(b) Does not arise

Intensive Agricultural District Programme

- *471. Shri Yashpal Singh:
 Shri Sideshwar Prasad.

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether any action on the Report of the Study Team on the assessment and evaluation of the Intensive Agricultural District Programme has been taken, and

(b) if so, the nature thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Soon after the release of the report, it was forwarded to the State Governments for examination and initiating suitable action to implement the recommendations. The findings and recommendations contained in the report were also discussed at the Regional Conferences and the Central Conference of Key personnel connected with the Intensive Agricultural Programmes, held in October-December, 1966. Follow up action on the report is being regularly pursued with the State Governments and other concerned organisations. Some State Governments have informed that they have taken necessary steps to remove the impediments coming in the way of the programme, as pointed out in the report and to ensure its smooth functioning.

Proposals for the reorganisation of administrative set up in IADP district, which was a major recommendation of the Expert Committee, are currently under consideration of the Centre in consultation with the State Governments.

Purchase of Foodgrains by Food Corporation of India

*472. Shri Rane: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) the shortfall in the purchase of foodgrains by the Food Corporation of India in the year 1966-67,