

rural youth. As a matter of fact, there is a central scheme which came into existence in 1962. We have already trained 22,000 youths in various camps.

श्री झारखंडे राय : क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बतलाने का कष्ट करेंगे कि विभिन्न प्रदेशों में जो पड़ती जमीन पड़ी हुई है जैसे उत्तर प्रदेश में ही 25 लाख पड़ती बंजर जमीन पड़ी है तो ऐसी जमीन को भी उपजाऊ बनाने का प्रयास इस ग्रामीण युवक कार्यक्रम में शामिल होगा और इस कार्य के लिए क्या उनका इस्तेमाल किया जायगा ?

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY : The various kinds of activities undertaken by rural youths are horticulture, fisheries, poultry and various other educational activities. There is a big list.

श्री रवि राय : अध्यक्ष महोदय, सवाल क्या है और जवाब वह क्या दे रहे हैं ?

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY : I am coming to that. He raised the issue of activities and also utilisation of waste land. There is a big list.

श्री रवि राय : सवाल तो आप ने समझा नहीं है ।

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY : Wastelands have been identified..... (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER : We will go to the next question No. 749 by Shri Rabi Ray. The Minister may also answer along with this Nos. 755 and 756 as they are inter-related.

श्री झारखंडे राय : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं ने यह पूछा था कि जो लिस्ट आप बतला रहे हैं उस लिस्ट में पड़ती, बंजर जमीन को उपजाऊ बनाने का भी कार्यक्रम है या नहीं ?

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY : That is also included.

SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN FOODGRAINS

*749. **SHRI RABI RAY :**

SHRI D. C. SHARMA :

SHRI BENI SHANKER SHARMA :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that agricultural scientists have opined as reported in the Hindustan Times of the 27th February, 1968 that the country will be surplus by 1975;

(b) if so, what are their findings and recommendations in this regard; and

(c) the steps which Government propose to take to implement those recommendations in order to achieve the said target ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNA-SAHIB SHINDE) : (a) Yes. This view was expressed by members of a Panel discussing on the topic "Will there be a famine in 1975".

(b) and (c). Only certain views were expressed and there were no specific recommendations. The Government of India is already committed to working towards self-sufficiency in foodgrains by 1971.

EVOLUTION OF HIGH-YIELDING STRAINS

*755. **SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI :** Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the progress made in the evolution of high-yielding strains in the country had been rather slow;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps which have been taken to intensify research on high-yielding strains ?