

reference to subsidising fertiliser in unirrigated areas was made in the discussions at the Conference of Key Personnel on Intensive Agricultural Programmes held in New Delhi from 22nd to 24th February, 1968 but the Working Group or the Conference did not recommend such a proposal.

(b) Government does not propose to subsidise the sale of fertilisers in unirrigated areas.

MID-TERM ELECTIONS IN HARYANA

*766. SHRI YASHPAL SINGH : Will the Minister of LAW be pleased to State :

(a) whether Government are aware that thousands of persons have submitted their applications in Haryana for being enrolled as voters;

(b) whether it is a fact that these voters are residing outside Haryana;

(c) whether it is also a fact that some political parties are taking interest in getting their names in the voters lists entered to cast their votes at the time of mid-term elections; and

(d) if so, the action taken by Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW (SHRI GOVINDA MENON) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Complaints from individuals as well as political parties were received by the Commission alleging attempts to get residents of Delhi, Meerut District of Uttar Pradesh Punjab and of Rajasthan enrolled in the electoral rolls of the border constituencies of Haryana.

(d) The Commission has taken timely action in the matter by directing the Electoral Registration Officers that in all the constituencies in which an abnormally large number of claims for inclusion of names have been received, every claim should be checked by an on the spot verification. This has been done and all bogus claims have been eliminated.

INDUSTRIALIZATION OF INDIAN AGRICULTURE

*767. SHRI D. C. SHARMA :
SHRI BENI SHANKER SHARMA :
SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN BAJPAI :

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

(a) whether the need for industrialisation of Indian agriculture has been examined;

(b) if so, with what results; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) and (b). The new strategy for agricultural development envisages the introduction of new technologies in farming. This involves the assured supply of inputs to farmers and initiating them into efficient farm management techniques. In regard to the supply of inputs, it has been the endeavour to assess and promote the demand and to ensure supply either from indigenous production or from imports. Since this is contingent on adequate capacity in the industrial sector efforts have been made to create this capacity in respect of the various inputs like farm machinery and equipment, fertilizers, pesticides, irrigation equipment etc. Wherever the indigenous capacity is inadequate all out efforts are made to augment it. It may be mentioned in this connection that in order to promote scientific agriculture with the help of modern equipment Government are setting up agro-industries corporations which aim at promoting activities in the agro-industrial sector and enabling farmers with modest incomes to acquire farm equipment.