

of Agricultural Research was concentrated on irrigation farming and neglecting fifty per cent farmers who worked on unirrigated land; and

(d) the steps being taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) Yes, the symposium on cropping patterns was organised by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, from 27th January to 31st January, 1968.

(b) 127 papers were contributed by the Central Research Institutes, Agricultural University, State Department of Agriculture, Meteorological Department and a few eminent scientists.

(c) Dr. D. R. Gadgil, Dy. Chairman, Planning Commission presided over the General Session of the symposium in which a review of these papers was presented. At the end of the session in the fore-noon of 28th January, 1968, Dr. Gadgil stated that despite our emphasis on irrigation, bulk of the cultivated area in the country is still unirrigated. The problem of un-irrigated areas has to be examined and given due priority in our research programmes.

(d) The Regional committees of the symposium which discussed the detailed papers on cropping patterns from each region also had in view the suggestions of Dr. Gadgil. They finally came to the following conclusion among others:—

"In spite of the emphasis on increasing the area under irrigation, the rainfed area will continue to form the major cropped area in all the regions, particularly, Southern, Northern and Western regions of the country. It is, therefore, recommended that a coordinated research programme on dry farming should be taken

up to evolve newer methods of agronomy, soil and water conservation and cropping patterns in the unirrigated areas".

Food Zones

*225. SHRI D. N. PATODIA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the State Governments propose to enlarge the Food Zones to enable the farmers get a better price of their produce;

(b) whether the Central Government have been approached by the State Governments in this regard; and

(c) whether concurrence has been given by the Centre and if so, the alterations in the Food Zones that are proposed to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) to (c). The Himachal Pradesh Government and the Delhi Administration have been suggesting that these Union territories should be included in the Punjab Food Zone. This together with the continuance or otherwise of Food Zones in general will as usual be considered at the next meeting of the Chief Ministers being held to consider the Rabi grains policy.

Reorientation of Community Development Projects

*226. SHRI SITARAM KESRI:
SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA:

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

(a) whether Government have finalised any plans for the reorientation of the Community Development projects; and

(b) if so, the broad details thereof