

Phosphate. It has been, however, noticed that manufacturers of superphosphate, who had organised their marketing and promotional arrangements efficiently, had no difficulty in selling their output.

#### Stamps on Indian Flora and Fauna

\*325. SHRI VISHWANARAYAN SHASTRI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) how many postage stamps were issued by the Postal Department on Indian flora and fauna during the last three years ;

(b) whether there is any scheme or proposal to issue more stamps on Indian flora and fauna ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SATYA NARAYAN SINHA) : (a) Only four stamps, on Indian Birds were issued on 31-12-68.

(b) and (c). Stamps on flora and fauna require printing in multicolour. For want of multicolour printing machinery no scheme could be formulated to print such stamps.

The proposal to issue stamps on Indian Flora and Fauna will be considered with the installation of multicolour printing equipment sometime next year.

#### Import of Foodgrains

\*326. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA :  
SHRI CHANDRA SHEKAR SINGH :  
SHRI VASUDEVAN NAIR :  
DR. RANEN SEN :  
SHRI SARJOO PANDEY :  
SHRI GADILINGANA GOWD :  
SHRI PRAKASH VIR SHASTRI :  
SHRI SHIVA CHANDRA JHA :  
SHRI SITARAM KESRI :

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

(a) the estimates of production of foodgrains during 1968-69 ;

(b) the targets fixed for import of foodgrains for 1968-69 ;

(c) the quantity of foodgrains imported so far and the value thereof ; and

(d) the quantity of foodgrains expected to be imported in the remaining period of the current year and the names of countries with whom agreements have been made in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) Firm estimates of production of foodgrains crops for 1968-69 would become available only after the close of the current agricultural year 1968-69 i.e. some time in July-August, 1969.

(b) According to present assessment, a quantity of about 5.1 million tonnes is likely to be imported during the financial year 1968-69.

(c) The total quantity of foodgrains imported during the period 1st April, 1968 to 31st January, 1969 amounted to 45.4 lakh tonnes valued at approximately Rs. 293.64 crores.

(d) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—217/69].

#### Provident Fund Arrears

\*327. SHRI VISHWNATHA MENON :  
SHRI GANESH GHOSH :  
SHRI K. M. ABRAHAM :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2579 on the 28th November, 1968 and state :

(a) whether the sub-Committee appointed by the Central Board of Trustees of the Employees Provident Fund to go into the question of defaults has submitted its report ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the action taken thereon ; and

(d) if not, when the report is likely to be submitted and the reason for delay ?