

CATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Buddhists of Ceylon have protested against India's decision to issue postage stamps bearing the image of Buddha to mark the Mahatma Gandhi Centenary Celebration ;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ; and

(c) the reasons assigned by the Buddhists of Ceylon for three objection ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING, AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SATYA NARAIN SINHA) : (a) Certain comments appeared in the Ceylon Press though no direct protests were received.

(b) Government has since decided not to issue any postage stamp depicting Gandhiji with Buddha's image in the background.

(c) The Ceylonese Buddhist organisation had felt that it was improper to use Buddha's image in any form on a postage stamp.

Agricultural Development in Uttar Pradesh

*1727. SHRI VISHWA NATH PANDEY : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) amount proposed to be spent on the agricultural development out of the total proposed outlay for the Fourth Five Year Plan of Uttar Pradesh ;

(b) whether in view of the famine conditions experienced in certain areas of Uttar Pradesh Government propose to draw special schemes for development of agriculture in Uttar Pradesh with a view to attain self-sufficiency in foodgrains during the Fourth Five Year Plan period in that State ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a). According to the Draft Fourth Five Year Plan, a sum of Rs. 220.18 crores is proposed to be spent on agricul-

tural development (including cooperation, community development and panchayats) out of the total Plan outlay of Rs. 951 crores for the State during the Fourth Five Year Plan period.

(b) and (c). The main steps being taken for raising foodgrains production in various States include High-Yielding Varieties Programme, multiple cropping, minor irrigation for intensive cultivation, organised distribution of inputs like fertilisers and pesticides, timely and liberal credit facilities including institutional finance, farmers' education and training and intensification of research. Moreover, for areas affected with recurring drouget, special scheme have been drawn up. These include execution of extensive soil and water conservation measures and provision of irrigation wherever feasible.

Disposal of Sweepings of Skimmed Milk Powder by Delhi Milk Scheme

*1728. SHRI HUKAM CHAND KACHWAI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of the sweepings of skimmed Milk Powder disposed of by the Delhi Milk Scheme during the last three years ;

(b) whether it is a fact that M/s. Imperial Agency Bureau, Delhi is the only party, who have been purchasing the powder sweepings ;

(c) if so, the location and functions of the above party ; and

(d) whether there are some other parties also who have purchased milk sweepings ; if so, their location and the nature of their business ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND

CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAAIB HINDE) : (a)

Year	Qty. of sweepings disposed of by Delhi Milk Scheme.
1966-67	10 tonnes
1967-68	Nil
1968-69	31,851 tonnes

TOTAL	41,851 tonnes

(b) to (d). Out of 41,851 ton of sweepings of skimmed milk powder disposed of by Delhi Milk Scheme as at (a) above, 36,851 tonnes were sold to M/s. Imperial Agency Bureau, Delhi. The remaining 5 tonnes were sold to U.P. Government Poultry Farm, Babugarh run by the Government of U. P. The Central Government is not aware of the nature of business in which M/s Imperial Agency Bureau, Delhi are engaged. The sweepings were, however, sold to them on the clear understanding that these were unfit for human consumption and were suitable only as poultry or animal feed.

Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack

*1729. SHRI V. NARASIMHA RAO : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Rice Research Institute at Cuttack has successfully developed a new variety of high-yielding paddy known as "Padma Paddy";

(b) if so, whether steps are being taken to popularise it with the rice-growing farmers in the country; and

(c) the average yield per acre of this paddy ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Range of yield obtained is 4½ tons to 7 tons/ha. with an average yield of 5 tons per hectare.

Demarcation of Forests on Functional Basis

*1730. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether necessary steps have been taken to demarcate forest on functional basis; and

(b) if not, whether Government propose to take steps to collect statistics so that maximum benefits could be derived from the forest wealth ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) No, Sir. In the National Forest Policy Resolution 1952, forests in the country have been classified functionally as follows :—

- (i) Protection forests
- (ii) National forests
- (iii) Village forests, and
- (iv) Tree forests

For administrative convenience, classification of forests according to legal status as given below is adopted by the Forest Departments of the States and Union Territories, and statistics are maintained accordingly in respect of them :

- (i) Protected forests
- (ii) Reserved forests, and
- (iii) Unclassed forests

(b) Yes, Sir.

West Bengal Government's Suggestions on A.I.R.

1731. SHRI HEM BARUA :
SHRI SAMAR GUHA :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the West Bengal Government have made certain suggestions towards the working of the A.I.R. on a new pattern; and