

शराब बनाने के लिये अंगूरों की फसल का विकास

*415. श्री महाराज सिंह भारती : क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सब है कि भारत में उगाये जाने वाले अंगूरों में बढ़िया किस्म की शराब बनाकर करोड़ों रुपये की विदेशी मुद्रा कमायी जा सकती है, और

(ख) यदि हाँ तो इन उद्देश्य के लिये अंगूरों की बेलों को उगाने के विकास के लिये क्या प्रयास किये जा रहे हैं ?

खाद्य, कृषि, सामुदायिक विकास और सहकारिता मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अन्ना साहिब शिन्डे) : (क) अभी तक शराब की निर्यात सम्भाव्यता स्थापित नहीं की गई है।

(ख) खाने के उद्देश्य से अंगूरों के विकास के लिए प्रयत्न किये जा रहे हैं।

Election Campaigning over All India Radio.

*416. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have reconsidered the question of allotment of broadcasting time to political parties for election campaign over AIR in the light of the changed political situation;

(b) if so, the new Government proposals; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) be in negative, the reasons for not going in for reconsideration?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING, AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SATYA NARAYAN SINHA): (a) to (c). Government are willing to consider the question of allowing political parties the facility of broadcasting in connection with their election campaigns provided the parties agree among them-

selves about the basis for the allotment of time and other details.

Programme to Educate Common voters Through mass Media.

*417. SHRI DHIRESWAR KALITA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal before Government to organise mass publicity through all the mass media to educate the common voters about rights and duties of franchise; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING, AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SATYA NARAYAN SINHA): (a) and (b). There is at present no separate programme to organise mass publicity to educate the voters, though in the context of democracy, the [significance of the franchise is brought home to the people using all media. Special information drive in specific terms is taken up only immediately before the General Elections.

Requirement and Import of Tractors

*418. SHRI HIMATSINGKA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the latest annual estimated number of tractors required to meet the country's demand for mechanisation and modernisation of farming;

(b) the number, value and specifications of the tractors imported from each country during 1967-68, 1968-69 to 1969-70 and their number, value and specification proposed to be imported during 1970-71; and

(c) the estimated number of imported tractors lying out of use for want of spares, the requirement of foreign exchange therefor and the steps being taken to secure such spares?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNA-SAHIB SHINDE): (a) to (c). A Statement

giving the required information is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [Placed in library See No. LT.—2819/70]

Paid Holiday for workers

*419. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided on the number of paid National and festival holidays for the workers;

(b) whether the National Commission on Labour has expressed its views on the subject; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI D. SANJIVAYYA): (a) to (c). The National Commission on Labour has recommended that uniformity in the number of paid National and Festival holidays is desirable and each employee in a calendar year should be allowed 3 National and 5 Festival holidays. Government have accepted this recommendation in the sense that such uniformity is desirable and commended the same to the State Governments for taking necessary action.

Helicopter Mail service between Punjab and Himachal Pradesh

*420. SHRI SRADHAKAR SUPAKAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that helicopter mail service is being introduced between Punjab and Himachal Pradesh as an experimental measure; and

(b) if so, whether the economics of such service has been examined in detail?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING, AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SATYA NARAYAN SINHA): (a) A fortnightly helicopter mail service utilising the spare capacity of the service operated for the Border Road Development Board has already been started

between Chandigarh (Punjab) and Keylong (Himachal Pradesh) with effect from 16.2.70 as a regular measure during winter season when the Rohtang pass remains snow-clad.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Canning of Fish

2601 SHRI BABURAO PATEL: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the precise steps taken by Government to supervise the canning of fish and enforce scientific and hygienic processes of canning; and

(b) the steps taken to check up violations of the standards laid down for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) No general arrangements have been introduced by the Central Government to supervise the canning of fish and to enforce scientific and hygienic processes of canning. The Indian Standard Institution has laid down standards for five varieties of canned fish, but these standards are not mandatory. The bulk of the fish canned in the country is exported. Export of canned fish is confined almost exclusively to shrimp. A scheme of pre-shipment inspection for canned shrimp was introduced in April, 1965. This Scheme was operated by the Central Institute of Fisheries Technology until 1st May, 1969 when it was transferred to the Export Inspection Council of India. Compulsory inspections are carried out under this scheme in terms of Section VII of the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963.

For the purchase of canned fish for the Defence Forces the Army Purchase Organisation in the Deptt. of Food have introduced system of registration of suppliers and inspection of their factories.

(b) Under the pre-shipment inspection scheme, samples of consignments of canned shrimp intended for export are subjected to organoleptic and bacteriological tests. Consignment which do not confirm to the