

Setting up of Polytechnics on Farming

*10. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up Polytechnics on farming in different parts of the country; and

(b) if so, the aims and objects of such Polytechnics?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main objectives of the Agricultural Polytechnics (KRISHI VIGYAN KENDRAS) will be as follows:—

1. To train skilled middle level workers and technicians at post-school stage in agriculture and allied subjects such as gardeners, tractor drivers, mechanics, farm managers, stockmen, dairymen and laboratory technicians, etc.
2. To impart vocational agricultural education to those who want to have terminal education after VIIIth Class/standard.
3. To provide continuing education for school drop outs in rural areas in the age group of 15—25 years as well as to post-matriculantes who do not go for college education.
4. To impart practical training in the latest scientific methods and techniques with a view to create a self-employment potential in the rural youth.
5. To offer special courses in latest agricultural technology for selected farmers.
6. To spearhead the Technical literacy Drive to enable illiterate farmers to learn new Agricultural Technology.

Sinking of Passenger-cum-Cargo Ship "Saudi" off the East Coast of Africa

*11. SHRI B. S. BHAURA:

SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a passenger-cum-cargo ship Saudi of the State-owned Mogul Line Limited sank recently off the east coast of Africa;

(b) if so, how many people have lost their lives in the accident and how many were missing; and

(c) what was the cause of the accident?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Ten persons have lost life; 28 persons are missing; and 59 persons have survived.

(c) A formal investigation under Section 360 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958, which is judicial in nature, has been ordered. The exact cause of the accident will be known after the investigation report is received.

Response from States to Educated Employment Scheme sponsored by Central Government

*12 SHRI RAJDEO SINGH: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an encouraging response from the State Governments to the scheme of educated employment sponsored by the Central Government;