

Impending Food Crisis in the Country

1311. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE
be pleased to state :

(a) whether the country is likely
to face food crisis reminiscent of
1960's;

(b) whether these observations
have been made by the Science Advi-
sory Board to the Prime Minister;

(c) if so, what are the main points
put forward by them in predicting
such crisis;

(d) whether series of measures have
been suggested as to how the food
crisis is to be met;

(e) whether the existing plans for
food grains production would be
sufficient to meet the crisis; and

(f) if not, what are the other steps
being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICUL-
TURE AND COOPERATION IN
THE MINISTRY OF AGRICUL-
TURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL
YADAV): (a) to (c) The Science Advi-
sory Council to the Prime Minister
while making a perspective projection
of food production, in a document
entitled 'An Approach to a Perspec-
tive Plan for 2001 AD: Role of
Science and Technology—Recom-
mendations for Action' have expressed
the fear that if the projected level
of food production is not achieved by
the turn of the Century, India is likely
to face a food crisis that will be re-
miniscent of the 1960s.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f) The Government is
fully aware of the country's require-
ment of food and to meet these
requirements, several programmes
and schemes have already been
initiated to push up the production
to the required level.

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**News Item Captioned 'West Bengal
not consulted on Panchayat meet'**

1312. SHRI GURUDAS DAS
GUPTA: Will the Minister of
AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's atten-
tion has been drawn to the news item
under the caption 'West Bengal not
consulted on Panchayat meet' which
appeared in the Telegraph dated the
25th March, 1989; wherein it has been
stated that Government of West
Bengal was not consulted during
Panchayat meet; and

(b) if so, what is Government's
reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL
DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINI-
STRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI
JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and
(b) We have seen the report. The
news item does not fully reflect the
arrangements made for the conduct
of the Panchayati Raj Sammelan of
the Eastern & North-Eastern States at
Calcutta. In fact the Agriculture
Minister had written to the Chief
Minister about the intention of the
Government of India to hold the
Sammelan at Calcutta and sought the
State Government's cooperation to
make it a success. As desired by the
West Bengal Government, the Panch-
ayati Raj Sammelan held in Calcutta
from 3rd to 7th April, 1989, was
hosted by the State Government.
There was no misunderstanding be-
tween the State Government and the
Government of India in the organiza-
tion of this Panchayati Raj Sammelan.

Import of Phosphoric Acid by IFFCO

1313. SHRI JASWANT SINGH:
Will the Minister of AGRICUL-
TURE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of phosphoric
acid imported by IFFCO during the
last three years; and

(b) the sources where from this item was imported, and at what prices ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILI-

ZFRS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU) : (a) and (b) The information on quantity, price and sources of phosphoric acid imported by IFFCO for its use during last three years, is as under :—

Year	Rate/MT P2O5 in US S	Quantity in '000' MT of P2O5
1986		
1st half	366.0	153
2nd half	332.0	167
1987		
1st half	325.0	180
2nd half	350.0	105.4
1988		
1st half	385.0	172.4
2nd half	425.5	171.0

The sources of phosphoric acid supplies are :—

- (1) M/s OCP, Morocco
- (2) M/s ICM, Tunisia
- (3) M/s SIAPE, Tunisia
- (4) M/s ICS, Senegal
- (5) M/s Phoschem, USA
- (6) M/s Mitsui & CO.,
- (7) M/s Gardiniers, USA, etc.

Enquiry against Incharge of Moti Nagar Godown of NCCF

1314. SHRI T. CHANDRA-SEKHAR REDDY ; Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question 950 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 24th February, 1989 and state whether the major penalty proceedings have been completed and disciplinary action taken against the guilty Assistant Manager, if so, the

details thereof and if not, what are the specific reasons for the inordinate delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SUKH RAM) : The NCCF have reported that the review of the case has since been completed and action is underway.

Concentration on Activities of Water Supply

1315. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether more concentration on activities under the problem oriented national drinking water mission has been envisaged and whether any projects have been approved in this regard and if so, the details thereof :