

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV); (a) The foodgrains production target for the current year (1988-89) has been fixed at 166.57 million tonnes keeping in view the potential already created in the country. The actual production might exceed the target.

(b) Does not arise.

Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme

368. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state;

(a) whether there is a proposal to cover non-loanee farmers also under the comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme; and

(b) if so, by when this proposal is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) and (b) The long-term changes in the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS) including coverages of non-Japanese farmers are under the consideration of the Government. A decision in the matter is likely to be taken shortly.

369. [Transferred to the 2nd March, 1989].

Reduction in Subsidy on Fertilizers

370. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Union Government's proposal to reduce fertilizer subsidy and also to extend the time limit depreciation of fertilizer plants has put the fertilizer industry in jeopardy; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to ensure smooth functioning of the fertilizers industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The proposal to rationalise the retention price scheme by fixing differential levels of capacity utilisation and longer economic life of plant and machinery while reducing the subsidy will also enable the fertilizer manufacturing units to function more efficiently.

Plan Of Action for Revival of Country's Rural Economy

371. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state;

(a) whether some experts have suggested a plan of action for reviving the country's rural economy, including freedom to the farmers to sell their produce by removing all controls on movement, processing, marketing and trade of farm products; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Suburban Rail Transport System in Delhi

372. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government have since taken any decision regarding the investment in a suburban rail transport system in Delhi; and

(b) if not, at what stage does it rest now?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a)

and (b) The Regional Plan as approved by National Capital Region Planning Board has identified certain suburban rail transport schemes to serve the National Capital Region, including Delhi as part of the NCR transportation study. Decision on implementation of this proposal will depend on availability of resources.

Processing of Tomatoes in Andhra Pradesh

373. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:-

(a) whether it is a fact that Andhra Pradesh grows a considerable quantity of tomato crop and a large part of the same is wasted every year due to lack of storage facilities;

(b) whether Government propose to provide suitable processing facilities in the area; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c) Production of Tomatoes in Andhra Pradesh during 1985-86 is 267630 tonnes as per the statistics of the Department of Horticulture, Government of Andhra Pradesh.

No estimate has been made about the wastage of tomatoes due to lack of storage facilities.

»As on 1-1-1989, there were 138 units licensed under the FPO for manufacture of fruit and vegetable products including tomato products. Out of these more than 80 units are equipped for the manufacture of tomato products in various parts of Andhra Pradesh. Government have no proposal to set up fruit and vegetable processing units in Andhra Pradesh.

Persons of South Indian Origin working in AIR and Doordarshan

374. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) how many persons of South Indian origin are working with the All India Radio and Doordarshan establishments in New Delhi as full time employees at present;

(b) how many of them are actually working in the programme sections of AIR and Doordarshan; and

(c) what is the percentage of South Indian personnel on the rolls of AIR and Doordarshan establishments in New Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT):

(a) to (c) The recruitment to various posts in All India Radio and Doordarshan is made in accordance with the notified Recruitment Rules. The postings/transfers of the staff are decided, keeping in view the requirements of a particular post and the suitability and experience of the person concerned. The regional background of a person is not relevant in such cases. No records of regional background of the employees are maintained separately.

Improved Breeds of Goats and Sheep for Meat Purpose

375. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state;

(a) what breeds of goats and sheep are now recommended by Government for consumption as meat and what facilities are made available to farmers throughout the country to raise such breeds;

(b) whether any foreign assistance is being taken to improve native breeds, and if so, the details thereof;