

Cultivation of Almonds of Papers shell Variety

111. SHRI JAGJIT SINGH ANAND : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that almonds of paper shell variety have been successfully cultivated at certain selected farms by the Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana; and

(b) if so, what is the expected yield and whether it would be possible to extensively cultivate such almonds in the northern region of India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION : (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. Four almond varieties of thin and paper shell type have shown good promise.

(b) The plants which are now four years old yield 2 to 4 kg. of dry nuts per tree and this yield is likely to increase as the trees grow in age. It would be possible to grow almonds in northern region in areas where low temperatures below 7.2°C are prevalent during December and January for atleast 250 hours.

Service Rules for Non-Teaching Employees in Universities

112. SHRI JAGJIT SINGH ANAND : Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the University Grants Commission had formulated model service rules for the non-teaching employees of the Universities all over the country; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S. NURUL HASAN) : (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission, it had constituted a Committee to make recommendations regarding the service con-

ditions of non-teaching staff of the Universities. In its report the Committee, *inter alia*, recommended a set of rules regarding the terms and conditions of service of non-teaching staff of the Universities. In February, 1970, the Commission sent a copy of the report to all the Universities for their information and guidance.

Increase in agricultural production due to use of chemical fertilizers

113. SHRI LEONARD SOLOMAN SARING :

SHRI SYED NIZAM-UD-DIN :
SHRI GIAN CHAND TOTU :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether any assessment has been made with regard to the average cost of chemical fertilizers as input per acre of land; and

(b) if so, whether the expenditure on chemical fertilizers is compensated by the corresponding increase in production of different agricultural commodities ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL) : (a) Estimates of average cost of fertilizers per hectare, which have become available under the Comprehensive Scheme for Studying the Cost of Cultivation of Principal Crops, are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) While detailed studies have not been carried out in this regard, limited information available on yardsticks of additional production from the use of fertilizers on high yielding and locally improved tall varieties of cereals, as derived from the fertiliser trials conducted on cultivators' fields under the All-India Coordinated Agronomic Experiments Scheme, broadly indicate that under irrigated conditions the increase in crop production more than compensates the expenditure on chemical fertilisers. It may be added that generally the farmers in unirrigated areas do not use much fertilizers because of the high risk involved.

Statement

Cost of Fertiliser Per Hectare

Crop	State	Year	Cost of fertiliser per hectare
			Rs.
WHEAT	Haryana	1971-72	99.15
		1973-74*	92.22
	Madhya Pradesh Punjab	1970-71	4.14
		1971-72	230.61
		1972-73	224.76
		1973-74	299.06
		1974-75*	421.33
	U.P.	1971-72	94.88
		1972-73*	78.04
		1973-74*	103.25
PADDY	Andhra Pradesh Assam	1971-72	158.41
		1971-72	Neg.
	Orissa	1971-72	20.53
		1972-73	22.09
	Tamil Nadu	1971-72	140.48
		1972-73	187.25
	West Bengal	1971-72	39.85
COTTON	Punjab	1972-73	84.71
JOWAR	Karnataka	1971-72	4.26
		1972-73	6.43
	Maharashtra	1971-72	7.57
BAJRA	Gujarat	1971-72*	28.60
		1972-73*	22.61
		1973-74*	39.13
	Rajasthan	1971-72	1.91
		1972-73	Neg.

*Estimates are provisional.

Neg. : Negligible.

NOTE :—These estimates represent the average conditions obtaining in the States in respect of fertilizer use for the selected crops, and are based on data collected from all the sample holdings under study including those which may not have used any fertilizer. The average cost of use of fertilisers would naturally be higher than the figures given in the above statement if farms using fertilisers are alone considered.

Jersey Breeding Project

114. SHRIMATI SUMITRA G. KULKARNI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 111 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 10th March, 1976 and state the progress so far made for the establishment of Jersey Breeding Farm at the Sabarmati Ashram Dairy ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL) : The administrative approval of the Government of India to the establishment of the exotic Cattle Breeding farm at

Sabarmati Ashram Dairy Bidaj was conveyed to the Government of Gujarat in March 1976, indicating the amount that will be released in the remaining part of the Plan period. Allocation for 1975-76 has already been released to the State Government.

Action has been initiated for the establishment of the farm, and construction of buildings, cow sheds & Land development work is in advanced stage.

Central Land Acquisition Authority

115. SHRIMATI SUMITRA G.

KULKARNI :

SHRI S. W. DHABE :