

The white tigress has not been brought here to replenish the species, but to infuse new blood for improvement of progeny.

(b) The Bristol Zoo had purchased a pair of white tigers 'Champak' and 'Chameli' in 1963 from the erstwhile Maharaja of Rewa. Champak the white tiger (male) died in 1970 and 'Chameli' has been without a mate since then. The breeding of white tigers in the Bristol Zoo stopped, as they had no other mature-male tiger. They approached the Delhi Zoo for exchange of one of their females with a male, which was agreed to and the exchange was executed in October, 1972. The exchange is beneficial to both the Zoos as Bristol Zoo has a large number of female white tigers, while there is a preponderance of male white tigers in the Delhi Zoo. The freight charge for the transport of both the tigers to and from U.K., has been met by the Bristol Zoo.

ENCROACHMENT OF FOREST LANDS

1325. SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made any survey regarding the encroachment of Government forest lands; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. SHER SINGH) : (a) and (b) The required information is being collected from the State Governments and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha in due course. No survey has been conducted by the Central Government.

VISIT OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL ORGANISATION

1326. SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Director General of Food and Agriculture Organisation, Dr. A. H. Boerma, visited India recently; and

(b) what views and suggestions he expressed regarding self-reliance in Food production of our country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASABEB SHINDE) : (a) Yes, Dr.

A. H. Boerma, Director General, Food and Agriculture Organization visited India to attend the Eleventh Session of FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Far East held at New Delhi from 17th—27th October, 1972.

(b) Dr. Boerma, in his opening address to the Eleventh Session of FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Far East, did not specifically express views and suggestions about India's self-reliance in food production. He only expressed concern about the sharp drop in the agricultural production in the Asia and the Far East Region. He stated that from the three per cent increase recorded in 1970, the preliminary figures for 1971 in the Region unfortunately showed a sharp drop and for the developing world as a whole the increase seemed to have been only between one and two per cent. He further stated that the overall increase of two per cent in the Region was disappointing when compared with the Second Development Decade target of four per cent. He, however, pointed out that the two per cent increase mentioned by him obscured the fact that India's food production grew by a much more satisfactory percentage—a matter of some significance in the light of the present world cereal situation. He also made a favourable reference to the bufferstock of 9 million tons built up in the country.

ESTABLISHMENT OF UNIVERSITY IN PONDICHERRY

1327. SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN : SHRI K. A. KRISHNASWAMY :

Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to establish a University in the Union Territory of Pondicherry; and

(b) if so, when it will be established ?

The Minister of EDUCATION SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S. NURUL HASAN) : (a) and (b) The Pondicherry Administration has proposed that a Central University may be established at Pondicherry. The proposal is being examined in consultation with the Planning Commission.