

(d) whether the Members of Parliament and the Members of the State Legislature who are being included in the said Committee will be drawn from the U.F. Party or parties; and

(e) whether in choosing these M.Ps. and M.L.As. the United Front Government of West Bengal will be consulted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) :

(a) The new Programme Advisory Committee for AIR, Calcutta will be constituted very shortly.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir. The West Bengal Government have no objection to the Subject Matter Specialists proposed to be included in the Committee.

(d) and (e) The two Members of Parliament who have been nominated in consultation with the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs belong to PSP and Congress. The two Members of State Legislature have been nominated by the West Bengal Government.

LAND REFORM MEASURES IN BIHAR

781. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that land reforms measures remain yet to be fully implemented in Bihar; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE) :

(a) Zamindaries have been abolished in Bihar and some measure of security has been given to tenants and in respect of homestead lands. Ceiling legislation has been enacted. President's Acts have also been enacted for restricting land alienations on the one hand and enabling members belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes to obtain institutional credit on the other.

(b) Instructions have been issued for effective implementation of the existing laws.

SALE OF FERTILIZERS

782. SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report appearing in the Economic Times of September 4, 1969 stating that there has been a painfully slow progress of the sale of fertilizers in the open market in most parts of the country; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The report states that the two inhibiting factors have been lack of credit facilities and virtual absence of worthwhile distribution organisation. Steps have been and are being taken to provide credit facilities in greater measure especially through institutional sources, including commercial banks. As regards distribution, it is for the States to evolve the most suitable system of distribution for maximising availability of fertilisers to farmers. With a view to broad-basing the same and increasing sale-points, the system of licensing of dealers has been replaced by a liberal system of registration of dealership.

JOB SECURITY IN OIL COMPANIES

783. SARDAR HARCHARAN SINGH DUGAL : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government recently convened a tripartite meeting to consider the Gokhale Commission Report on job security in foreign oil companies;

(b) if so, the details of the discussions that took place together with the names of firms which participated in the meeting and what were their respective view points on this issue; and

(c) what results have emerged as a result of the discussions held at the said meeting?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir, on 15th October, 1969.

(b) and (c) The employers and workers representatives presented their respective and not always common view points on the main recommendations of the Commission at the meeting. Following the exchange of views, the parties agreed to hold bipartite discussions on the recommendations of the Commission with a view to coming to an amicable settlement on all issues within a month, failing which to report on their differences to the Labour Ministry for a further meeting; during the period of negotiations and till the next meeting is called, the employers also agreed to maintain the 'status-quo'. Reports on the bipartite discussions are still awaited. A list of the persons who participated in the meeting on the 15th of October is enclosed. [See Appendix LXX, Annexure No. 46.]

MILK AND DAIRY DEVELOPMENT

784. SHRI M. K. MOHTA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have formulated a Scheme for stimulating milk and dairy development in the Country with the Cooperation of World Food Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of the States in which the Scheme is proposed to be introduced;

(d) the considerations for introducing the Scheme in these States; and

(e) the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred by Government in the execution of the Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHAB SHINDE) : (a) Yes.

(b) to (e) In response to a project request made by India, the World Food Programme authorities have agreed to supply, free of cost, during the next five years, in a phased programme,

1,26,000 tonnes of skimmed milk powder and 42,000 tonnes of butter oil at the international valuation of Rs. 41.90 crores. These commodities, when reconstituted into liquid milk, will generate funds worth about Rs. 95.40 crores. These generated funds will be utilised for expanding the milk processing facilities of the four Public Sector dairies in Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Madras and for increasing the milk production and procurement in the rural milk shed areas of the four metropolitan cities located in 10 States of Punjab, U.P., Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal and the Union Territory of Delhi, which will be done through improved breeding, feeding and management of milch animals. As a result of this arrangement, the indigenous production of milk in the milk-shed areas of these cities will be stepped up so that by the time the supply of imported skimmed milk powder is tapered off, the level of supply from the dairies is sustained through increased local milk. The project will also help in salvaging about 1 lakh high-yielding milch animals (and their calves) which are brought to the cities and pre-maturely destroyed after they go dry. Furthermore the Project will help India's most disadvantaged rural people, namely, the landless, who will be assisted to undertake animal husbandry activities and thereby to increase their earnings through increased milk production.

A.I.R. BROADCASTS

785. SHRI M. K. MOHTA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government of India has been drawn to the news item published in the Times of India dated 7th September, 1969 under the heading 'sight and Sound' commenting on the observations made in regard to the announcements and broadcasts from the A.I.R.; and

(b) if so, the remedial measures taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.