

FUNDS TO STATES FOR CASH CROPS

*179. SARDAR NARINDAR SINGH BRAR : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to allocate some funds to help the States to raise the production of cash crops during the current year ; and

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

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

(b) Funds aggregating to more than Rs. 3'30 crores have been sanctioned to the States during 1967-68 over and above their Plan ceilings to help them in increasing the production of selected cash crops by the adoption of package of practices in the areas with maximum potential.

ISRAEL'S OFFER OF FOODGRAINS

*180. SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any offer of foodgrains either by way of sale or gift was made by Israel recently; and if so, what are the details thereof ; and

(b) whether Government have accepted the offer ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

BONUS PAID TO SURPLUS STATES

382. SHRI JAIRAMDAS DAULAT-RAM : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of bonus paid or payable by the Central Government to each surplus State in 1965, 1966 and 1967 for food supplied to each deficit State;

(b) the reasons for paying this bonus;

(c) the use to which this bonus amount was applied by each surplus State ; and

(d) the total amount of bonus paid by the Central Government during the above period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE) : (a) No bonus was payable or paid in 1965 and 1966. An amount of Rs. 30 lakhs has been paid to Andhra Pradesh Government against 1966-67 crop and a claim of about 16 lakhs of the Government of Punjab is under examination. Payments that may be due to other States will be finalised as soon as claims are received from them.

(b) Bonus is paid to State Governments mainly for implementing schemes for stepping up agricultural production.

(c) The Government of Andhra Pradesh reports that the money received as incentive bonus goes into the financial pool of the State out of which agricultural production schemes are financed.

(d) Rs. 30 lakhs.

INFRINGEMENT OF PAYMENT OF WAGES ACT

383. SHRI T. V. ANANDAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that infringement of Payment of Wages Act is on the increase ; and

(b) if so, the number of cases which have been filed in the Labour Courts by the workers in the country for the period ending March, 1967 ?