

(d) Representations from three individuals were examined and it was found that no injustice had been done to them. The general representation of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Association is under examination.

SHORTAGE OF TRACTORS, ETC.

♦30. SHRIMATI VIMAL PUNJAB
DESHMUKH: SHRI B. D.
KHOBARAGADE:

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

(a) whether any representations regarding shortage of tractors, power tillers and improved agricultural implements have been received from the farmer's organisations;

(b) whether it is a fact that shortage of above-mentioned implements will affect the production of food-grains; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to provide adequate quantity of agricultural implements to farms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE): (a) There are some representations about shortage of tractors. No representation has, however, been received about shortage of power tillers or improved agricultural implements.

(b) Availability of more tractors would no doubt result in larger production.

(c) The existing manufacturing units are given all possible assistance for achieving the maximum production of tractors. A proposal to set up a public sector project for the production of tractor* is also under consideration. With the limited foreign exchange resources, imports of trac-

tors are also being arranged. Regarding power tillers, one factory is now manufacturing power tillers and two other firms have been licensed. Power tillers are also being imported from Japan. Implements for tractors are being produced in the country and some imports are also allowed. There is no shortage of bullock driven and manually operated agricultural implements.

PRICE OF SUGAR IN ORISSA

1. SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the price fixed for sugar produced in the sugar mills of Orissa and for sugarcane purchased by mills from the agriculturists in that State;

(b) how does it compare with that of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar; and

(c) if there is any difference in prices of sugarcane and sugar, between different States, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN, THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE): (a) and (b) A statement giving the required information is attached.

(c) The ex-factory prices of sugar differ from region to region as these are fixed region-wise on the basis of the average recovery and duration of the season obtained by factories in the respective regions and also having regard to the relevant cost schedules drawn up by the Sugar Enquiry Commission. The price of sugarcane payable by each factory is fixed on the basis of the basic minimum price fixed for the season and the recovery obtained by it during the preceding, crushing season.