

of foreign exchange earned in 1964, 1965 and 1966 are as under:—

Year	Quantity (Lakh tonnes).	Foreign exchange earnings (Rs. crores)
1964	2.34	19.08
1965	2.67	11.24*
1966	4.41	17.99*

*Estimate

3. [Transferred to the 31st March, 1967].

INCREASE IN THE YIELD PER ACRE OF COTTON

4. SHRI A. D. MANI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any attempts have been made by Government to increase the yield per acre of areas under cotton cultivation; and

(b) whether any advice was sought from the State Department of Agriculture of the United States of America in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) Yes. Efforts are being made to increase per acre yield of cotton as there is no scope of increase in area, by the application of intensive methods i.e., by the use of improved seeds fertilisers and the adoption of plant protection measures. Special package areas have been selected in irrigated and assured rainfed areas for this purpose and out of 20 million acres under cotton 13 lakh acres are now covered under this programme where all the package practices are being applied. As the State Plans cannot finance such heavy programmes, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme has been sanctioned with a total cost of Rs. 139 lakhs to ensure the success of the above programme in additional 7 lakh acres during the year 1967-68.

(b) No.

DEVELOPMENT OF PORTS

5. SHRI A. D. MANI: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rs. 234 crores have been allocated for the development of eleven major ports during the Fourth Five Year Plan period;

(b) what steps are going to be taken to augment the capacity of the existing ports to catch up with the growing volume of trade; and

(c) what steps are going to be taken to fulfil the directive of the Planning Commission.

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING (PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO): (a) to (c) A programme for the development of Major Ports during the Fourth Five Year Plan envisaging a total investment of Rs. 234 crores has been included in the Draft Outline of the Fourth Five Year Plan. Apart from new dock systems to be established, programmes for modernisation of the existing handling facilities at ports and rationalisation with a view to increasing operational efficiency are included in the programme. It is expected that these measures will enable the ports to cope with the anticipated increase in traffic.

SALE OF SEIZED INDIAN VESSELS BY PAKISTAN

6. SHRI N. R. M. SWAMY:
SARDAR RAM SINGH:

Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Pakistan propose to sell 1193 Indian vessels which were seized by them in East Pakistan during the 1965 conflict; and

(b) if so, what action have been taken by Government in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING (PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO): (a) and (b) Presumably the reference is to a report carried by the

'Pakistan Observer' of 25th December 1966 to the effect that 190 Indian inland transport vessels and other river craft seized by local authorities in Pakistan in September-October 1965 were to be given away to some local shipping companies at nominal prices. The Government of India have lodged a strong protest against this move with the Government of Pakistan.

PRODUCTION OF HYBRID SEEDS

7. SHRI M. C. SHAH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the cooperative progress achieved in production of hybrid seeds in jowar, maize and bajra during the last year, in the States which are deficit in food-production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): It is presumed that the Hon. Members wants to know the progress achieved in production of hybrid seeds of jowar, maize and bajra in the Cooperative Sector in the States deficit in food-production.

According to information available, Cooperatives have taken to hybrid seed production in Bihar and Maharashtra. In view of the need for promoting the organisation of Cooperative Societies in the field of seed production, a Model Scheme for setting up Seed Producers' Cooperative Processing-cum-Sale Societies was circulated by the National Cooperative Development Corporation to the State Governments in May 1966. Financial assistance has also been sanctioned by them to the Cooperative Society set up in Maharashtra under this scheme.

FOODGRAINS TRADE BY F.C.I.

8. SHRI M. C. SHAH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the names of the States which have so far asked the Food Corporation of India to take over the trade in foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): The Food Corporation of India is already functioning in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Haryana, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Mysore, Madras, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal as also in the Union Territories of Delhi and Pondicherry. The foodgrains handled and the scope of its functions in the foodgrains trade vary from State to State and are determined in consultation with the State Governments concerned.

9. [Transferred to the 23rd March, 1967.]

ADDITIONAL BUSES IN DELHI TRANSPORT UNDERTAKING

10. SARDAR RAM SINGH: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi Transport Undertaking have recently added more buses to its fleet; and

(b) if so, on how many routes additional buses have been put and whether their frequency has improved?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING (PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Additional buses have been provided on 26 routes on which the frequency of services has correspondingly improved.

राज्यों के खाद्य-आवंटन में कटौती

11. श्री राजनारायण :

सरदार राम सिंह :

क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताएंगे कि कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि विदेश के पनाज का आयात कम होने की आशंका है,