

During the Fourth Plan, the Schemes of kitchen gardens are being continued by most of the State Governments under which seeds, fertilisers, pesticides and kitchen garden kits are supplied at subsidised rates. Details of State Schemes are not available yet.

PRODUCTION OF FARM IMPLEMENTS

*109. SHRI R. P. KHAITAN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any measures to boost the production of farm implements to increase the food production in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE): (a) and (b) A statement furnishing the required information is placed on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

Tractor drawn implements.—All the five units licensed to manufacture tractors in the country have been licensed to manufacture the implements as well, matching with their tractors. Besides these five units, implements are being manufactured by a number of other concerns and also in the small scale sector. No shortage of tractor drawn implements has been reported to the Government.

Bullock drawn implements.—Hand operated and animal drawn implements are manufactured by quite a large number of organised industries in the private sector. Eight State Government workshops are also manufacturing agricultural implements in large number for supply to farmers.

All possible assistance is being given to the manufacturers of agricultural implements. These include supply of steel on priority basis, drawings of newly developed equipment to interested manufacturers, testing of implements and training to personnel engaged in the manufacture and repair of implements.

PRODUCTION OF LOW-PRICED CONSUMER GOODS

110. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Super Bazar in New Delhi has formulated a proposal for production of low-priced consumer goods in collaboration with leading business concerns in the near future; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE): (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no proposal for collaboration in the production of low priced consumer goods. The Super Bazar has only made an arrangement with M/s Chopra Radio Electric Company, Bombay, for the supply of 5,000 transistor radio sets per month for a period of one year at Rs. 75 per piece plus central sales tax, freight, etc. Negotiation are also afoot with regard to the supply of low priced pressure cookers with M/s Masco Private Ltd., Shahdara (Delhi).

SUPPLY OF FERTILISERS TO PUNJAB

*111. SHRI NARINDAR SINGH BRAR: Will the Minister of FOOD, AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of fertilisers supplied to Punjab by the Central Government during the last six months; and

(b) the quantity of fertilisers demanded by the Punjab Government during each year of Fourth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) Allocations of fertilisers distributed by the Central Fertiliser Pool are made on quarterly basis generally about three weeks before the commencement of the quarter. The new States of Punjab and Haryana were formed in the beginning of November, 1966. The allocations of fertilisers to these States were made on combined basis till the end of December, 1966. The third quarter allocation for the period October to December, 1966 was made on 21st September, 1966. However, for the period January to March 1967 separate allocations were made for Haryana and Punjab. The quantity of nitrogenous fertilisers allotted for undivided Punjab for October-December, 1966 and the quantity supplied against this period is as under:—

Nitrogen—	(Tonnes)
Quantity allotted	18,414
Quantity supplied	12,317

The quantity allotted in favour of Punjab for the period January—March 1967 and quantity supplied upto 10th March 1967 is as under:—

Nitrogen—	(Tonnes)
Quantity allotted	5,000
Quantity supplied	8,703*

*NOTE: The excess supplies are against earlier quarter's allotment.

(b) The demand of nitrogenous fertilisers received from Punjab for 1966-67 (including Haryana) and for 1967-68 (Punjab only) is as under:—

Year	Demand (Nitrogen) Tonnes
1966-67	1,03,630
1967-68	1,07,892

With a view to assess the realistic demand of the State Government, having due regard to the availability of fertilisers and the acreage to be brought under various priority programmes, the Central Team in consultation with the State Governments' representatives has re-assessed the requirements for these years as follows:—

Year	Demand (Nitrogen) Tonnes
1966-67	76,246 (Includes Haryana also)
1967-68	97,210 (Punjab only)

The requirements for the subsequent years of the Fourth Plan viz. 1968-69, 1969-70 and 1970-71 will be assessed in due course.

LOADING OF IMPORTED WHEAT IN OPEN WAGONS AT BOMBAY PORT

*112. SHRI JAGAT NARAIN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that unloaded imported wheat at Bombay Port is being transported from the Port in open wagons resulting in damage to a large quantity of wheat;

(b) if so, the number of bags so damaged during the last six months; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE): (a) Yes. Owing to heavy grain imports and urgency for expeditious movement from ports to deficit areas, open wagons have necessarily had to be utilised for such movements because of the inadequacy of covered rail wagons.