

MR. CHAIRMAN; What is your question?

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: The question is whether any assessment of the performance of the various dairies has been made all over India.

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Yes, Sir, a continuous review is made and in some places the dairies are doing exceedingly well. In other places they are not doing so well, and we hope they will do better.

DR. SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA: Is it a fact that no foreign exchange has been released for milk schemes in West Bengal?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: No, Sir, it is not a fact.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: There is the Council of Gosam- verdhan appointed by this Government and this Council recommended last year that the rates for buffalo and cow milk should, be the same. May I know if the rates in these dairies are the same just as they are in Delhi?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Sir, I shall require separate notice.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: Sir, the . . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA; The cows are in the Congress election symbol.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: The hon. Minister is replying.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA; You have messed up food. Now it is dairy.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: Sir, the question was put with regard to the prices of buffalo's milk and cow's milk, and the answer is that the recommendation made was that the same price should be paid for both. But people prefer buffalo's milk because of the higher fat content in it. In spite of that, for the development of the cow in the country we have made this recommendation to the various State

Governments. Some of the State Governments have accepted this recommendation; some other State Governments are considering this proposal.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA; Is the hon. Minister aware that instead of developing dairies, for the milk supplied under the aegis of the Government of West Bengal they have passed the Milk Control Order banning *vindesh* and certain other sweets, and also their preparation in the shops. Has the hon. Minister been consulted in this matter and has he examined the implications of such an Order, to what extent this is going to facilitate milk supply to the consumer? Has the matter been gone into?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: It is a completely different question. If the hon. Member is interested, he can put a separate question and I shall get all facts from the West Bengal Government.

WORKING OF CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

*5. SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state whether there is any proposal before Government to streamline the working of co-operative societies in the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI B. S. MURTHY) : Government appointed a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Ram Nivas Mirdha to suggest measures for the sound development of the co-operative movement by elimination of non-genuine societies and vested interests. The report of the Committee is awaited. The Committee has, however, given in advance a summary of its conclusions and recommendations. A copy of this is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix Liii, Annexure No. 1]. These suggestions will be examined by Government.

SHRI N. RAMA REDDY: Sir, a very big document in the form of various suggestions has been placed here, out of which I would like to take one:

"The problem of dormancy of a large number of agricultural credit | service societies is very disturbing and quick action is needed to eliminate societies which have no chances of revival."

I would like to know if the hon. Minister can give the number of such societies and their proportion to the actual number of societies registered.

SHRI B. S. MURTHY: Sir, it has been stated that the full report has not yet reached the Government and that it is only a summary of the Committee's conclusions and recommendations. Once the full report is available to Government, all the 52 recommendations made will be gone into, and consultations with the State Governments also will be held.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: It is also revealed by the Statement that a large number of societies have been started all over the country without providing properly for their audit and control and supervision. I would like to know whether sufficient arrangements for supervision and audit had been made, or had been assured to the members before any society was registered and asked to function.

SHRI B. S. MURTHY: Yes, Sir; the audit section is being strengthened.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: Is it a fact that much of the muddle in the cooperatives is due to the fact that Government 'treat the co-operatives throughout the whole country on the same basis, that the same sort of uniform principles are applied to one and all? While in many States like Maharashtra co-operatives are working with great efficiency, in other States, specially in those of the eastern region, co-operatives are political

rackets. And why should they then be treated on the same basis? Do Government realise it?

SHRI B. S. MURTHY: Sir, I do not know how far we can use the word 'racket' in this connection. We have always said that the eastern States are weak as far as the co-operative movement is concerned, and all steps to improve them are being taken.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: Sir, a few months back a circular was sent to the State Governments pointing out that there were many bogus societies working in the country and advising the State Governments to suspend such bogus ones; may I know, Sir, how many of them have been suspended up to now?

SHRI B. S. MURTHY: I would like to have notice.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: The hon. Member, Mr. Sinha, very rightly said that co-operatives are a racket; I only fill in the blank there; it is a racket of the ruling party. Has his attention been drawn to this particular fact that the co-operatives in West Bengal, Assam and Orissa and in the eastern parts as pointed out by him, have been seized by a number of Congress people there and utilised for party ends?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You want to know whether they are used for party ends.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Whether they are seized by them and then used for their party ends, I want to know. The question is whether the hon. Minister is aware, being a member of the Congress Party, that his Party has succeeded in capturing most of the co-operatives and running them in the interests of the Party

SHRI B. S. MURTHY: Am I to understand that the hon. Member says that the Communists have not been successful?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: In how many cases Communists have been successful?

SHRI M. R. SHERVANI: May I know, Sir, if the Government is aware of the fact that the model constitution of the co-operatives needs drastic changes inasmuch as the members and the boards of directors of the cooperative societies have no powers to manage their affairs properly and are almost ineffective? Is the Government contemplating revision of the model constitution to decentralise the individual societies and give more power to the board of directors to manage their affairs?

SHRI B. S. MURTHY: Yes it is under consideration.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: For how long will it continue to be under consideration? It is very important. I am told that it has been under consideration for the last twenty years.

(No reply)

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: Is it a fact that when members belonging to the opposition parties try to organise cooperative societies, hurdles are put in their way and the Registrar refuses to register these co-operative societies?

SHRI B. S. MURTHY: Sir, no such information has been brought to the notice of this Ministry and I shall request the hon. Member to bring such cases to our notice and I assure that full justice will be done.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: In the final recommendation the Committee has suggested that a detailed annual report not only containing the relevant facts and figures regarding the co-operative movement in the State but also bringing out the weaknesses in the movement should be placed before each State Assembly. I would like to know, in view of this recommendation, whether the Minis-

try is prepared to place such a statement before this House also for discussion and approval.

SHRI S. K. DEY: The Ministry is submitting the annual statement to the Parliament on the subjects which it is dealing with. All that this recommendation implies is that the State Governments also should do likewise.

SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN FOOD

*6. PROF. SATYAVRATA SIDDHANTALANKAR; Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a statement made by Dr. M. S. Randhawa, Director General, Intensive Agricultural Areas Scheme, Government of India, to the effect that the country's dependence on food imports could be totally wiped out within the next two years, provided the total internal demand for fertilizers for intensifying agricultural activities was met; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to put the production of fertilizers on a war footing?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) Fertilizer use is known to be one of the most potent factors in stepping up agricultural production. In the districts, where the Intensive Agricultural District Programme (Package Programme) is being implemented, increases in fertilizers consumption, in combination with other inputs, have led to appreciable improvement in the crop yields. In this country the intensity of fertilizer use on an acre of land is still very much below the level attained in some of the agriculturally advanced countries and there is considerable scope for stepping up the fertilizers use in order to secure maximum yields from the soil. There is no doubt that if the total demand of fertilizers in the country, which far exceeds the available sup-