

assist him. Unless he completes six months' continuous service he cannot be put on the temporary cadre.

INCENTIVES TO FARMERS

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

(a) whether Government, in consultation with the Planning Commission, have formulated any scheme to give incentives to farmers; and,

(b) if so, the details of the scheme and how and when it will be enforced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) Yes.

(b) The incentives which are commonly being given to the agriculturists all over the country to induce them to increase production take the form of Governmental assistance and award of prizes. Assistance is given to the cultivators by the Central and State Government in the form of subsidies and loans, short, medium and long-term, under the various agricultural production schemes included in the Third Five Year Plan.

Prizes are awarded under the scheme of 'Crop Competitions' and 'Community Awards', which are already in force. Under the former, individual cultivators participate in crop competitions at the village, block, district, state and All-India levels and try to raise the yield per acre by adoption of improved farming practices. Prizes in cash or in kind are awarded to the first two or three winners at each level of competition. Besides, certificates of merit are also awarded to the prize winners. The first prize winner in respect of each

crop at the all India level is awarded a certificate of 'Krishi Pandit.'

The Community Awards, as distinguished from Crop Competitions, are linked with increases in production over larger areas. Each State and District where the total production of foodgrains exceeds by 15 per cent or more, the average out-term of the corresponding preceding three years qualify for a Community Award, the value of the State level award being Rs. 75,000/- and that of the District level award being Rs. 15,000/-. In addition, the State achieving the highest percentage increase in production is awarded a 'Rashtra Kalash' (Silver Trophy) and, similarly, the highest producing district in each State, gets a 'Rajya Kalash'. A separate award called the 'Rashtrapati Kalash' has also been instituted in the case of Union Territories from 1960-61. The Award money earned by States/District is utilised for the benefit of cultivators.

SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: From the statement it appears that assistance is given to the cultivators by the Central and State Governments in the form of subsidies and loans, short, medium and long-term, under the various agricultural production schemes included in the Third Five Year Plan. May I know from the hon. Minister what has been the amount of assistance and loans granted and has any survey been made as to what have been the benefits derived out of this assistance given to them?

SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH: The total value of the awards granted by the Centre to State Governments under the scheme for award of community prizes, is over Rs. 65 lakhs for 1958-59 to 1960-61. So far we have made no assessment though of course we know roughly the effect that has been created by the utilisation of these sums.

SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: May I know if the Planning Commission's Panel on Agriculture has expressed its feeling that the incentives offered to the farmers are not being properly utilised and that the administrative machinery that is dealing with this problem needs to be geared up and if it is correct what steps are being taken in this direction?

SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH: We know our own minds and I think that the administrative machinery is quite effective. If we notice any deficiency we will certainly rectify that.

SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: My question was whether the Planning Commission's Panel on Agriculture has pointed out this fact or not. The hon. Minister has not said whether the Planning Commission has pointed out this discrepancy or not and I would like to know it from the hon. Minister.

SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH: It has not been brought to our notice ;—et.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: In view of the fact that the landlords have now begun to call themselves farmers, may I know whether the Government has made any proper definition as to what 'farmer' actually means? Does it mean the tiller of the soil or does it also include the landlords and other big farm-owners?

SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH: I do not think it is a good thing to go on propagating what existed prior to achievement of independence because since independence virtually every State in India has effected land reforms and landlords of the type which the hon. questioner has mentioned are not in existence.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Is it the hon. Minister's contention that there are no such people who can be called land-owners, who do not cultivate either with the help of their families or with their own hand but employ agricultural labourers and others? If

so, I would like to know whether it is not a fact that much of the assistance provided by the Government is going to these exploiting classes rather than to the tillers of the soil.

SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH: In the field of agriculture there is no exploiting class as my hon. friend says.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, how do you like this answer?

SHRI B. K. GAIKWAD: May I know whether the benefits of the scheme to give incentives to farmers would go to the small holders? Because when loan is given to the farmers, some land has always to be shown as security and the small holders will not have that much land. That is why I am putting this question whether the benefits of this scheme will go to the small holders.

SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH: Sir, this is a very relevant question and we are trying to do our best to help these small holders; not only the small holders, but also the landless agriculturists and it is from that point of view that co-operatives, etc. are being launched and in those cooperatives the landless agriculturists are given fair representation.

श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौरङ्गिया :
क्या श्रीमान् यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि कृषकों को उत्पादन का उचित मूल्य मिले, इसी दृष्टि से उपराष्ट्रपति महोदय ने जब राष्ट्रपति के कर्त्तव्यों का भार संभाला था तो उस समय अपने अभिभाषण में यह कहा था कि उनको उचित मूल्य मिलना चाहिए, लेकिन हमारे शासकीय फार्म जैसे मूरतगढ़ फार्म में हमको सारी सुविधाएँ होने के बाद भी, चूँकि कीमतें इतनी कम हैं उत्पादन की सामग्री की कि उसकी वजह से घाटा होता है, तो ऐसी स्थिति में कृषक को उसके उत्पादन का उचित मूल्य मिल सके

इसके बारे में जांच करने की शासन या प्लानिंग विभाग कोई योजना बना रहा है ?

श्री राम सुभग सिंह : शासन की दृष्टि में यह बात बिल्कुल स्पष्ट है कि किसानों को उचित मूल्य मिलना चाहिये और उसको दिलाने के लिए हम हर संभव प्रयास कर रहे हैं और इसे पूरा करेंगे ।

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: May I know if the Government propose to start small stations for supplying tractor* to small farmers in the various Blocks as has been given out by the Punjab Government?

SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH: Yei, Sir. It is a part of our scheme and that is why it is being given out by the Government of Punjab.

श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौरड़िया :
क्या श्रीमान् को . .

MR. CHAIRMAN; Mr. Chordia, thii is your second supplementary qu*i-tion.

श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौरड़िया :
जी हां । तो क्या श्रीमान् को यह ज्ञात है कि सूरतगढ़ फार्म में सारी सुविधायें हैं और बिल्कुल बेस्ट मैनेजमेंट है आपका, इसके बावजूद जिस बाजार भाव को आप उचित मानते हैं उसके कारण उस फार्म में सन् १९६२-६३ में ७,५५,७५७ रु० का घाटा रहा, तो ऐसी स्थिति में उचित मूल्य के संबंध में क्या शासन विशेष जांच कराने का प्रयत्न करेगा ।

श्री राम सुभग सिंह : मैंने यह कभी नहीं कहा कि जो भाव इस वक्त है वह उचित मूल्य है । सूरतगढ़ फार्म में घाटे के कई कारण हैं जिनमें एक मुख्य कारण घग्घर नदी में बाढ़ का आना है जिससे खड़ी फसल बह जाती है । पिछले वर्ष भी वहां इसका असर पड़ा ।

•187. [The questioner (Shri Surjit Singh Atwal) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 1273-74 infra.]

CONTRACT WITH ANTWERP BELL COMPANY

•188. SHRI A. D. MANI: Will the Minister of POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS be pleased to state:

(a) 1 whether it is a fact that Gov ernment have entered into a contract with the Antwerp Bell Telephone Company of Belgium for expansion of the t&lephone service in that country; and

(b) if so, what is the nature of the expansion covered by the contract?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THI DEPARTMENT OP POSTS AND TELE- GRAPHS (SHRI B. BHAGAVATI): (a) The Government has indicated to Bell Telephone Company of Belgium the intention of placing an order on them for supply of equipment or expansion of telephone service in India. Discussions are in progress with the Engineers of the Company for the finalisa-tion of specifications etc., with regard to this order.

(b) The nature of the expansion, covered by the order, is for the supply of 48,00Q lines of local exchange equipment and 6,500 lines of trunk exchange equipment.

SHRI A. D. MANI: As a result of this expansion how many more telephone connections will' be available in the country?

SHRI B. BHAGAVATI: It is not possible for me to indicate that just at present. Telephones will be more. Now we shall have:

Bombay	..	30,000 lines
Delhi	..	13,000 lines
Madras	..	5,000 lines