

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state whether Government have received any representation from the Pine-apple Canning Industry in Trichur for help; if so,—

(a) what is the nature of the help solicited; and

(b) what steps Government have taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. P. JAIN): No, Sir.

(a) and (b). Do not arise.

FARM MACHINERY AND IMPLEMENTS PRESENTED BY U.S.S.R.

*390. SHRI H. V. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the answer given to part (b) of Unstarred Question No. 64 in the Rajya Sabha on the 13th August, 1957, and state the reasons for not utilising so far 60 per cent. of the machinery and farm implements presented by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. P. JAIN): For want of adequate irrigation facilities, the agricultural operations at the Farm have been confined to about 5,000 areas so far and the machinery is being used to the extent it is actually needed. It may also be mentioned that this farm has been functioning only for a year and is in its initial stage of development. The entire machinery is expected to be brought into use by 1959-60 when perennial irrigation water supply is likely to be available from the Bhakra Project and when the entire culturable area under the Farm is brought under cultivation.

CULTIVATION AT CENTRAL MECHANISED FARM AT SURATGARH

*391. SHRI H. V. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of land proposed to be cultivated at the Central Mechanised Farm, Suratgarh; and

(b) the area of land which it is proposed to bring under cultivation during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. P. JAIN): (a) 22,670 acres.

(b) About 7750 acres.

ALLEGED CORRUPTION AND MISMANAGEMENT IN SUGAR FACTORY IN ANDHRA PRADESH

*392. DR. R. B. GOUR: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any report alleging corruption and mismanagement in the Nizam Sugar Factory in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so whether Government propose to take any action under Section 15 of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. P. JAIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As the Andhra Pradesh Government own about 72 per cent of the Share Capital the complaints have been referred to them for investigation and necessary action. It is premature to consider any action by the Government of India under Section 15 of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act.

FLAG STATIONS OR HALTS ON NORTHERN RAILWAY

*393. SHRI JAINARAIN VYAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any flag stations or halts on the Northern Railway where booking of tickets is done on commission basis;

(b) if so, what is the number of such stations or halts; and

(c) what is the rate of commission given to extra departmental personnel for tickets sold at those stations or halts?