

11. At all stages of learning the technique of high-yielding variety cultivation, the Gramsevak (Village Level Workers) was relied upon most for learning the skills by the farmers.

12. At the national level, one among every five farmers did not like the high-yielding varieties grown or propagated in his area.

13. One-third of Orissa sample, one-half of Madhya Pradesh sample, and three-fourths of Kerala sample did not like the propagated high-yielding varieties of crops.

14. 'Not good for consumption' 'requires more investment and resources,' 'susceptible to pests and diseases' and 'low-market value' were the main reasons given by the farmers for their dislike of the propagated high-yielding varieties of crops.

15. Higher percentage of farmers in the regions covered by the special Educational programmes on high-yielding varieties of the Farm and Home Cells of the All India Radio were aware of, interested in, have tried to grow and wanted to adopt the high-yielding varieties of crops.

16. Radio was a first source of agro-information on the high-yielding varieties for one among every five farmers in the Farm and Home Cell areas; whereas radio was a first source for one among every ten farmers in the areas not covered by the broad-casts of Farm and Home Cells of the All India Radio.

17. Over-one-sixth interested farmers in the Farm and Home Cell areas indicated radio as a desired channel to get more agro-information on the high-yielding varieties; but only one among twenty interested farmers in other areas preferred radio.

The findings of the study have revealed the importance of Gramsevaks (Village Level Workers) in the agro-information dissemination process at the village level in India. In the villages it is through the inter-personal sources such as the contracts by Gramsevaks that the farmers have continuing relationship with regard to agro-matters and to learning how to put new ideas into practice.

SALE OF FOODGRAINS IN HARYANA,
PUNJAB AND U. P.

*143. SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE :
SHRI M. R. VENKATARAMAN:
SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA
MENON :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the farmers in Haryana, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh had to sell their foodgrains below the procurement price fixed by Government;

(b) if so, why Government did not step in and purchase the foodgrains directly from the farmers at reasonable price; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to ensure reasonable price to the farmers and to ensure that there will not be any adverse effect on foodgrain production in the next year due to discontent and frustration among the farmers because of low price ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE,
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNA-
SAHEB SHINDE) : (a) No. Madam. 3

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government through the agency of Food Corporation of India, Cooperative Marketing Societies and State Governments are committed to purchase unlimited quantities of foodgrains of approved quality at procurement prices. The procurement prices apart from covering the cost of production contain an incentive element. The purchase operations of the Food Corporation and State Governments in pursuance of this policy have produced a healthy effect on the market in maintaining a steady level through-out the post-harvest season.

विदेशों से कंप्यूटर मशीनों का आयात

* 144. श्री रेवती कान्त सिंह : क्या श्रम तथा पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने विदेशों से कंप्यूटर मशीनों के आयात के सम्बन्ध में कोई नई योजना स्वीकृत की है, जिसके अनुसार उनके