

aircraft used and the mileage of the sectors involved.

(c) No, Sir.

Agro-Industrial Labour Co-operatives

*1229. { Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of Community Development and Co-operation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to establish a network of Agro-Industrial Labour Co-operatives throughout the country; and

(b) if so, the brief outlines of the proposal?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The scheme is still being processed. The outlines will be placed on the Table of the House after being finalized.

Sugar Marketing Board

*1230. { Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:
Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri Firodia:
Shri M. G. Thengondar:
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:
Shri Rajdeo Singh:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 298 on the 25th February, 1964 and state:

(a) whether the matter in regard to setting up a Sugar Marketing Board before the next season to deal with the distribution of sugar for internal consumption as well as export has since been considered by Government; and

(b) if so, the result thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri

A. M. Thomas): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Government have decided to set up a Sugar Corporation.

Sandal Spike Disease

*1231. { Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri Bishwanath Roy:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sandal wood worth rupees two crores is destroyed every year by the sandal spike disease which is spreading unchecked through the forests of Mysore, Madras and Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether an expert from F.A.O. had examined the causes of the disease in 1958-59;

(c) if so, what were his main recommendations; and

(d) how many of them were implemented?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) Sandal spike disease is prevalent in many forest districts of Mysore and Madras States but not in Andhra Pradesh. The extent of damage caused to sandal wood is, however, not known.

(b) Yes, Sir. In 1959-60 (not 1958-59).

(c) In order to control the disease the expert recommended experimental work mainly under the three categories viz., (i) Diagnostic work, (ii) Transmission studies and (iii) Control measures.

(d) Experiments under the above three categories have been initiated at the Forest Research Laboratory, Bangalore and the work is in progress.

Students offering Agriculture and Veterinary Sciences

2531. **Shri Sidheshwar Prasad:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the University-wise number of students offering agriculture and