

Government of the U.S.A. have given a loan of 50 million dollars under their AID programme so far, for 1966 for the purchase of fertilisers. The extent of further likely aid cannot be forecast.

Elections in Goa

***134. Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:
Shri Kishen Pattanyak:
Shri Madhu Limaye:**

Will the Minister of Law be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 246 on the 16th November, 1965 and state:

(a) whether the consideration of the matter about holding of general elections in Goa has been concluded;

(b) if so, with what results; and

(c) if not, the causes for delay?

The Minister of Law (Shri G. S. Pathak): (a) to (c). No final decision in the matter has yet been taken because of emergency.

Food Situation in Southern States

***135. Shri Vishram Prasad:** Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Ministers of Southern States met at Delhi in December, 1965 to discuss the food situation; and

(b) if so, the decisions taken as a result of the discussions held?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Govinda Menon): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It was decided that export commitments of Andhra Pradesh and Madras for 1966 could only be determined some time in February or March when the final estimates of kharif production would be available. Meanwhile, Andhra Pradesh would supply to Kerala 40,000 tonnes of rice

during December and January and 25,000 tonnes of rice during February. Similarly, Madras was to supply 50,000 tonnes of rice to Kerala during December and January.

Andhra Pradesh was to supply 5000 tonnes of rice to Mysore also.

Modernisation of Slaughter Houses

***136. Shri Hem Barua:** Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for having not made much headway in the modernisation of slaughter houses in the country for which a sum of Rs. 803 lakhs had been allotted in the Third Five Year Plan; and

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to accelerate the modernisation of slaughter houses in the Fourth Five Year Plan?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Govinda Menon): (a) A provision of Rs. 303.75 lakhs (and not Rs. 803 lakhs) had been made in the Third Five Year Plan for advancing loans to the State Governments for establishment of slaughter houses and meat markets. The reasons for slow progress are:—

(i) low priority accorded by the State Governments to the Project;

(ii) Inadequacy of funds with Municipal Bodies and the State Governments to meet the very substantial expenditure involved in the project;

(iii) Acute shortage of foreign exchange for import of machinery and equipment which are essentially needed for modern slaughter-houses; and

(iv) Inadequacy of technical know-how.