

[English]

Milk Booths

1160. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Delhi Milk Scheme booths constructed recently;

(b) the number out of them which are supplying milk to residents of Delhi;

(c) whether some of the milk booths constructed recently are occupied by unauthorised persons; and

(d) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to get them vacated and make the milk booths functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b). The Delhi Milk Scheme (DMS) have got constructed seven milk booths during 1993 in replacement of the old milk booths. Milk is being supplied to the residents from all the seven booths.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Harvesting of Sugarcane

1161. SHRI. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Council of Agricultural Research or private organisations have evolved suitable machinery for harvesting sugarcane which is otherwise a very cumbersome process;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the probable cost of machinery; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to make available this

machine to farmers at reasonable rate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b). In view of the need of appropriate mechanization of sugarcane harvesting operation, Indian Council of Agricultural Research has been undertaking research to develop a tractor rear-mounted sugarcane harvester. Prototypes of the design developed at Indian Sugarcane Research Institute, Lucknow are under extensive evaluation. Based on the above design; Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana is undertaking research to develop a two-row tractor front-mounted sugarcane harvester. Simultaneous efforts are underway for possible collaboration with small-scale manufacturers for product multiplication. The estimated cost of prototype of above machine is around Rs. 50,000/-.

It is understood that a few Indian Manufacturers are making efforts to collaborate with leading Australian firms for introduction of sugarcane harvester in India. As per available information, such tractor-operated single row machines cut the wholestic cane and drop them at right angle to the row on soil where the crop is to be topped manually. Such machines may cost about Rs. 5.00 lakhs.

(c) I.C.A.R is a research organisation. The research designs, which found fieldworthy, will be made available to the interested organisations for further exploitation.

[Translation]

New Divisions in Bihar

1162. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUHARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of divisional offices