

for the procurement, storage and supply of the essential commodities to the outlets of the public distribution system.

The State Governments and Union Territory Administrations are enforcing the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and the Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supply of Essential Commodities Act, 1980 to curb the activities of anti-social elements indulging in hoarding and blackmarketing of essential commodities.

Cash credit facilities at concessional rates of interest are being made available through Commercial and Cooperative Banks to the State level agencies entrusted with procurement and distribution of essential commodities.

Central Government Suggestion to Grow more Trees

1096. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Government has suggested the State Governments to grow more trees; and

(b) if so, how far Central Government have got success in this regard and the ways suggested to various States to seek the co-operation of people in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Governments are now taking up larger plantation programme on the appeals issued by the Central Government from time to time. Various tree plantation schemes have been included in the Sixth Five Year Plan and normal programme of the States and Uts.

During 1980-81, the total number of seedlings planted in all states was about 84 crores. For 1981-82 the target has been enhanced to 134 crores.

All states have been asked to set up extension wings under the Forest Department for educating the people and obtaining their cooperation in tree plantation programme. The extension wings are expected to educate the public about the importance of tree planting through various publications, talks, slides, films and exhibitions.

टोंक जिले में व्यावहारिक अनुसंधान के ड खोलने की योजना

1097. श्री एन० के० शेजवलकर: क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि ग्राम पंचायत लावा, मालपुरा, जिला टोंक में 150 से अधिक गडरिये रहते हैं, और उनके पास 8000 से अधिक भैंसे हैं; और

(ख) यदि हां तो क्या उक्त स्थान पर एक व्यावहारिक अनुसंधान केन्द्र खोलने की कोई योजना है?

कृषि और प्राणी पुनर्निर्माण मंत्रालयों में राज्य मंत्री (श्री आर० बी० स्वामीनाथन): (क) जी हां श्रीमान।

(ख) केन्द्रीय भेड़ तथा ऊन अनुसंधान संस्थान, अहमदाबाद की भेड़ तथा ऊन विकास पर एक परिचालन अनुसंधान प्रायोजना पहले ही 1981 में लावा, मालपुरा, जिला टोंक में स्थापित की जा चुकी है।