

be refunded to the farmers shortly. The GDR Suppliers' Representatives have sent a cheque of Rs. 84,401.78 as an advance towards the cost of returned tractors to the Corporation, and have also promised to remit the balance amount immediately after receiving the formal bill from the Corporation.

The Punjab Agro-Industries Corporation has offered 171 Nos. of RS-09 tractors for inspection to G.D.R. Representatives. Of these, 157 tractors have already been inspected by them. Mutual agreements have been reached between the Corporation and the Representatives on the return of 67 tractors, so far.

#### Soil Erosion in Punjab

7016. SHRI TEJA SINGH SWATANTRA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether huge areas of cultivable and agricultural waste land, besides forest land, are facing soil erosion in the State of Punjab;

(b) if so, the acreage in such case ; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHER SINGH) : (a) and (b). An area of about 20 lakh acres is facing problem of soil erosion in the State of Punjab. The areas facing soil erosion are not available separately for cultivable, agricultural waste land and forest land.

(c) Soil conservation measures such as contour bunding, terracing, diversion channels, check dams, drop structures and gully plugging etc. are being carried out. During the Fourth Plan, an area of 15,000 acres is likely to be treated under this programme. Besides this, land development and water use programme will be carried out on 1.15 lakh acres during the Fourth Plan period.

#### Representation from Union of Gram Sewaks and Sevikas from Punjab

7017. SHRI TEJA SINGH SWATANTRA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any representation has been received from the Union of Gram Sewaks

and Gram Sevikas of Punjab State in the year 1971 ;

(b) if so, whether the copies of the same will be placed on the Table ;

(c) whether any assurance was given by the then Minister of Development for the Punjab State to the Union for the acceptance of the demands ; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Punjab Government to implement the assurances ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHER SINGH) : (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Punjab Government have stated that there is nothing on record to show that any assurance was given by the then Development Minister of the State during 1971 to the Union.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Earth Work on Dhoot-Sosaha Dhurian Sarain Link Road in Punjab

7018. SHRI TEJA SINGH SWATANTRA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount spent by 31st March, 1971 out of Rs. 42,000 deposited by Panchayat Samati Bhunga and Market Committee Hoshiarpur (Punjab) for earth work on Dhoot-Sosaha Dhurian Sarain Link Road approved under village Co-operative Road Development Programme ;

(b) the work done on the road in each of the year 1968-69, 1969-70 and 1970-71 ;

(c) the work proposed to be done in 1971-72 ; and

(d) when the work on this 3.5 mile road is expected to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNA SAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha.

#### Scarcity in Rewa Region, Madhya Pradesh

7019. MAHARAJA MARTAND SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that Rewa region of Eastern Madhya Pradesh is

hit by scarcity every 3rd/4th Year, thus precipitating conditions of famine ;

(b) whether Government have made any assessment of the conditions ; and

(c) if so, the long and short term steps taken or proposed to be taken, by Government to remove this problem ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHER SINGH) :** (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Refugees in Assam from East Bengal

**7020. SHRI ROBIN KAKOTI :** Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of refugees who entered Assam up to the end of December, 1970 from East Bengal ;

(b) the amount spent by Government to rehabilitate these refugees during the above period ; and

(c) how many of these refugees returned to East Bengal during this period ?

**THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) :** (a) 7,05,350 refugees had entered Assam upto the end of December, 1970.

(b) and (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

#### Unregistered Evacuees from Bangla Desh

**7021. SHRI ROBIN KAKOTI :** Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether hundreds of unregistered evacuees have gone to various towns and even to interior areas of Assam ;

(b) whether Government are aware that inspite of Assam Chief Minister's appeals, these evacuees did not register their names which is causing a tension among the local youths ; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by Government to register the names of these evacuees and to keep them in camps ?

**THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND**

**REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) :** (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) The Government of Assam have instructed all police stations to detect and locate the unregistered refugees and get them registered under the provisions contained in Section 3 of the Foreigners Act 1946.

#### Pisciculture and Fishery Development Projects with Foreign Collaboration

**7022. SHRI ROBIN KAKOTI :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the number of Pisciculture and Fisheries development projects established in various States with foreign collaboration, cooperation and grant, upto the end of 1970, State-wise ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHIB P. SHINDE) :** The number of pisciculture and Fisheries development projects established in various States with foreign collaboration, Cooperation and grant upto the end of 1970 is nine. State-wise details are given below :

#### *Located in the State of Kerala*

##### 1. *Indo-Norwegian Project*

This project was established under a tri-partite agreement between the Government of India, the Government of Norway and the United Nations on 17th October, 1952. The Project has vessels of various sizes for survey of resources and fishing, a model workshop and slipway, and ice plants, freezing plant and frozen storage. It has contributed towards the mechanisation of coastal fishing. Personnel are trained at the Project in navigation, fishing, processing and refrigeration. The latest supplementary agreement signed in March, 1967 is effective upto the end of March, 1972.

##### 2. *Pelagic Fishery Project on the West Coast*

A UNDP assisted scheme of Pelagic Fisheries Investigation on the South West Coast has started functioning with headquarters at Cochin from October 1970. The purpose of the project is to undertake resources surveys to assist in the development of Sardine and Mackerel fisheries on the South West Coast.