

received from abroad so far both through Governmental and non-official agencies for the scarcity areas during 1967-68 ;

(b) the form in which this help has been received ; and

(c) the total quantity supplied to West Bengal out of this ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) and (b). A statement showing the assistance received by the Government of India from abroad during the year 1967-68 for relief of scarcity in the country is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-842/68.*]

(c) The gifts included large quantities of foodgrains which were merged in the Central pool. The drought affected States were allotted foodgrains for free distribution to the extent required.

The following commodities received as gift were allotted to the Government of West Bengal for free distribution during the year 1967-68 :—

Commodities	Quantity allotted
1. Milk powder	1,157.735 tonnes+99 cartons
2. Wheat	5,000,000 tonnes
3. Barley	3,000,000 tonnes
4. Maize	8,094,000 tonnes
5. Dehydrated potatoes	9,470 lbs.

Growing Onion along with Sugarcane

7006. SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA :
SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO :
SHRI D. N. DEB :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a farmer of Gurgaon has disclosed to scientists at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute recently that if onion is grown along with sugarcane in the same field there is no threat to either crop from insects and pests ;

(b) if so, whether the scientists have looked into this new experiment ; and

(c) if so, what is their reaction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) Yes, one of the visitors to the Pusa Krishi Vigyan Mela held at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute from 20th to 23rd March, 1968 made the claim indicated in the Question.

(b) This type of inter-cropping has not been examined with specific reference to its effect on pests and diseases.

(c) The suggestion of the farmer is being examined by the scientists of Indian Agricultural Research Institute.

Cattle Breed Scheme

7007. SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA :
SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO :
SHRI D. N. DEB :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that attempts are being made to improve cattle breed in the country under a Rupees two-crore project ; and

(b) if so, the progress made so far in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) A project at a cost of Rs. 1.87 crores spread over a period of five years has been undertaken at the Central Livestock Research-cum-Breeding Station, Haringhata, District Nadia, West Bengal.

(b) The project has just commenced (27.12.67).

Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun

7008. SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA :
SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO :
SHRI D. N. DEB :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of U.S.A. have sanctioned Rs. 3.25 lakhs for the Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun, for the improvement of forests ; and