

practical difficulties in developing the strip for heavier aircraft and other economic reasons, it was not found possible to accept it.

Foreign Exchange spent on Imports

3. **Shri A. K. Gopalan:** Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by Government in foreign exchange during the year 1963-64 for commercial purchases from U. S. A. outside P.L. 480; and

(b) the amount spent on freights to import the commodities under P.L. 480 programme during the same period?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Govinda Menon): (a) There was no commercial purchase of foodgrains from U.S.A. outside PL—480 during 1963-64.

(b) The amount spent on freight to import the commodities under PL—480 programme during 1963-64 was Rs. 10.59 crores in foreign exchange and Rs. 11.46 crores in Indian currency.

Land Survey Records in Kerala

4. **Shri A. K. Gopalan:** Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Co-operation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the preparation of land survey records in Kerala has not yet begun;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) if not, when the work will begin;

(d) when it will be completed; and

(e) whether it is a fact that because of the absence of these records, land Reform legislations are being held up?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shinde): (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha.

Settlement of Landless Agricultural Labourers in Kerala

5. **Shri A. V. Raghavan:** Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in carrying out the scheme for the settlement of landless agricultural labourers in Bhoodan and Gramdan lands in Kerala;

(b) the amount sanctioned during the Third Five Year Plan;

(c) the amount spent so far; and

(d) the steps taken to implement the scheme?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Co-operation (Shri Shinde): (a) to (c). A scheme for the settlement of 1000 landless agricultural families on 3000 acres of Bhoodan and Gramdan lands in Kerala State at a total cost of Rs. 5 lakhs was sanctioned by the Government of India in December, 1965.

(d) The scheme is being implemented by the State Government. A Bhoodan Bill to facilitate the distribution of Bhoodan lands has been formulated.

Airfields in Assam

6. **Shri Liladhar Kotoki:**
Shri Hem Barua:

Will the Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme has been drawn up for the construction of new air-fields and landing grounds in the various important towns in Assam which have not yet been connected by air services; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): (a) No, Sir.

Construction of civil aerodromes is planned on the basis of the requirements of operators. The existing aerodromes in Assam are adequate for this purpose.

(b) Does not arise.

Cooperative Organisations

7. **Shrimati Ramdulari Sinha:** Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the Eastern States, the co-operative organisations were required to contribute to various defence funds; and

(b) if so, the total amount of contribution made by the cooperative sector of the various States in the Eastern Zone to the various funds so far?

The Deputy Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shinde): (a) Not only in the Eastern States, but all over the country, it was suggested to the cooperatives that they should contribute funds, from their profits, for the welfare of the jawans and their families.

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

Functions of Block Development Officers

8. **Shrimati Ramdulari Sinha:** Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States in which the functions of the Block Development Officers and Revenue Officers are still vested in one and the same person;

(b) the reasons for continuing such an arrangement contrary to the advice of the Central Government; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government for prompt acceptance of their advice?

The Deputy Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Co-operation (Shri Shinde): (a) Only in parts of Bihar State the same person discharges the functions of Block Development Officer and Revenue Officer.

(b) and (c). The combination of revenue and development functions at the block level in Bihar was originally devised as an interim measure till the revenue records were brought up to date. The arrangement has been continued by the State Government mainly on considerations of the cost and availability of suitable personnel for effecting bifurcation. The Government of India have steadily pursued the matter with the State Government and urged them to have separate functionaries. The State Government have since agreed to bring this about gradually. The bifurcation has already been ordered in 248 blocks out of a total of 575.

Central Acts

9. **Shri Shree Narayan Das:** Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases in which the whole or part of the provisions of the Central Acts were declared ultra vires by various High Courts and the Supreme Court of India during the year 1965;

(b) the names of Acts so affected;

(c) the cases in which appeals against the High Court decisions were filed in the Supreme Court and the decision of the Supreme Court thereon; and

(d) the number of cases which are still pending in the courts?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Law (Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.