

loan of Rs. 30.00 lakhs has been given to the State Government during 1965-66 for purchase and distribution of cotton seeds.

Joint Farming Pilot Scheme

2587. Shri D. D. Mantri: Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) whether the joint farming pilot schemes are proposed to be organised in Maharashtra during 1966-67;

(b) if so, the amount allocated for the purpose; and

(c) the number of such pilot projects operating at present in Maharashtra and the amount sanctioned for these during the Third Plan period?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shyam Dhar Mishra): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rs. 28.17 lakhs.

(c) (i) 23 pilot projects are functioning in Maharashtra.

(ii) An amount of Rs. 85.91 lakhs has been sanctioned as central share of assistance.

Co-operative Movement in Maharashtra

2588. Shri D. D. Mantri: Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) whether any loan or aid was given by the Centre to the Maharashtra Government during 1965-66 to gear up the co-operative movement in that State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shyam Dhar Mishra): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A loan of Rs. 74.07 lakhs and a grant of Rs. 21.85 lakhs have so far been sanctioned through the

National Co-operative Development Corporation. Further assistance due on the basis of plan outlay will be sanctioned before the close of the financial year on receipt of details of anticipated expenditure from the State Government.

Agricultural Farm in Maharashtra

2589. Shri D. D. Mantri: Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) the acres of land brought under the Centrally-controlled agricultural farm in Maharashtra;

(b) the number of labourers working on it;

(c) the quantum of crop expected from it by the next agricultural season; and

(d) the basis of payment to the workers?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shyam Dhar Mishra): (a) There is no Centrally-controlled agricultural farm in Maharashtra.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Yield per Acre of Rice

2590. Shri P. C. Borooah: Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sought increased technical assistance from Japan for stepping up the yield per acre of rice in India; and

(b) if so, the response from Japan thereto?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shinde): (a) No. But the possibility of some assistance by Japan in increasing the number of Demonstration farms for paddy cultivation is being examined.

(b) Does not arise.