

Indian Institute of Rural Sciences and National Farmers' Bank to be set up

BKS Convention Passes Resolutions

The following resolutions were passed at the sixth National Convention of Farmers which was held at Talkatora Gardens, New Delhi, from 11 to 14 February, 1960. This four days convention was attended by more than 10,000 farmers representatives from all parts of the country besides, agricultural experts, Govt. Officers and Ministers from various states and Representatives of 45 farmers' organizations from 28 countries who were here in connection with the World Agriculture Fair.

The convention was inaugurated by the President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad and its closing ceremony blessed by the Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru who gave away prizes to the farmers who were adjudged to be "Better Producers".

The Union Finance Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, the Union Agriculture Minister, Dr. Panjabrao S. Deshmukh, Member of the Planning Commission, Shri Shriman Narayan and Mr. G. Heinrich, Deputy Minister of German Democratic Republic also addressed the different sessions of the convention.

Farmer's Memoranda

Res. I The Sixth National Convention of Farmers of India resolves that the views expressed by the farmers of India in the meeting of the All India Farmers Council be conveyed to the various Ministries of India and to the Planning Commission in the form of a Memorandum, and the Ministries be requested to include these suggestions in the Third Five Year Plan which is being drafted at the present moment. It may also be impressed on the Ministries of the Government as well as the Planning Commission that the Farmers of India are facing a large number of difficulties, which, if not solved, may seriously limit the plan of furthering the agricultural production in the country. Therefore, the views expressed by the farmers need careful consideration.

National Agriculture Fair

Res. II The Sixth National Convention of Farmers of India resolves that it should hold annually and at the venue of the Convention, an Indian Agriculture Fair in the country. The organisation of the Fair will afford the

needed opportunity to the Ministries of the Government of India and also the various States as well as the private participants, who have participated in the World Agriculture Fair, to perfect the agricultural displays which they had prepared for the Fair, and show the progress made from year to year. This will also enable the country to have, in a couple of years, a perfect Agricultural Exhibition which may make it possible for it to set up a permanent Agricultural Exhibition in a suitable place.

Indian Institute of Rural Sciences

Res. III This Convention resolves that the Bharat Krishak Samaj should establish at an early date an Indian Institute of Rural Sciences which may have the following Divisions ;—

- Division of Agricultural Extension
- Division of Rural Cooperation
- Division of Rural Economy and Marketing.
- Division of Home Economics.

At present, there is no such Institute in the country, which is devoting its attention to the study of the problems of the farmers. It is necessary that proper research and studies be conducted in these Institutes on the problems of the farmers, falling under various categories so that suitable suggestions could be put before the Govt. from time to time.

Freedom From Hunger Trust

Res. IV This Convention resolves that the Bharat Krishak Samaj should create a 'Freedom-From-Hunger Trust' as envisaged in the suggestion contained in the proposals put before the Tenth Meeting of the Food & Agri-

culture Organisation of the United Nations held in Rome during October, 1959. The President had made a mention of this subject in his address on the occasion of the inauguration of the World Agriculture Fair on December 11, 1959. This Convention hopes that the institution of this Trust will further the cause of farming and agriculture in India, and will help substantially to improve the social and economic condition of the Indian farmer.

World Agriculture Fair Commemoration Museum

Res. V The Sixth National Convention resolves that a 'World Agriculture Commemoration Museum' may be established at an early date in New Delhi which may contain a display of the agriculture progress which has been achieved in the country.

National Farmers Bank

Res. VI The Sixth Convention of India reiterates the Resolution passed by it in its Fifth Session in Mysore, to establish a National Farmers' Bank in the country after consultation with the Ministries concerned. It calls upon the farmers of the country to help the Samaj to collect the necessary capital for the establishment of the Bank, and initiate the activities to establish the Bank latest by the 1st March, 1961.

A few more resolutions were passed by crop and other committees formed separately, by the Samaj, namely, Sugarcane Committee; Cotton Committee; Animal Husbandry and Dairying Committee; which will be included in the detailed report to be published by the Bharat Krishak Samaj very shortly.

BKS NEWS

THE Bharat Krishak Samaj has decided to observe April 3, as "Farmers' National Day" by holding farmers' meetings and seminars at Taluka, District and state levels.

ANOTHER Membership enrolment competition is proposed to be started by the Bharat Krishak Samaj, from April 3, 1960. Prizes will be awarded to the successful competitors. April 3 to December 31, 1960, is proposed to be the competition period for these prizes.

It has been tentatively decided to hold the next meeting of All India Farmers' Council in Kashmir, sometime in September, this year.