



A
Bharat Krishak Samaj
(FARMERS' FORUM, INDIA)
Publication

KRISHAK SAMACHAR

Vol. 4

New Delhi, July 1960

No. 7

Afro-Asian Conference on Rural Reconstruction

Bharat Krishak Samaj Sponsors Another Great Event

Indian Farmers' organisation, the Bharat Krishak Samaj is once again preparing to accord a grand happy welcome to the teams of foreign visitors—the leaders and delegations of various nations from two continents—Africa and Asia, who will visit India in the coming winter for attending the Afro-Asian Conference on Rural Reconstruction.

THE Conference will be held in New Delhi from January 15 to January 24, 1961, when official and non-official delegations from various countries will meet to discuss the role of farmers' organisations in the promotion of Rural Economy; Cooperation as major means of Rural Reconstruction in Developing Countries, Agrarian Reforms; Freedom from Hunger Campaign (launched by the F.A.O.) and throw light on means, methods and resources to tackle the various problems connected with rural areas and provide proper guidance for promotion of rural economy of the concerned countries.

This will be the second session of the Conference, whereas the first session, which was named as the East Asian Rural Reconstruction Conference, was held in Tokyo in 1955, from August 22 to September 1, with H. E. Dr. S. Nasu, presently Japanese Ambassador in India, as its chairman when 13 Asian countries had participated.

The F.A.O. director general and the I.F.A.P. President have assured the sponsors of this great event, the Bharat Krishak Samaj, of their full cooperation and guidance in the matter.

It is proposed also to arrange a post-conference tour for the delegates so that they may be able to see various parts of India and acquaint themselves with the

progress of agricultural sciences in this country. Delegates' visit to the National Agriculture Fair in Calcutta will also be arranged.

India's Agricultural Delegation for Moscow

For the first time an agricultural delegation from India will visit the U.S.S.R. to study cooperative movement, the working of collective farms and the achievements made in the field of agriculture in that great country.

Invited by the U.S.S.R. Minister of Agriculture, Mr. V. V. Matskevich, the delegation will leave for Moscow on July 26, 1960, from New Delhi. Union Minister for Agriculture, Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh will be the leader of the delegation.

The delegation will include Shri K. D. Sharma, Secretary, Bharat Krishak Samaj; Shri Nathu Ram Mirdha, Minister of Agriculture, Rajasthan; Shri Bhaktavatsalam, Minister of Agriculture, Madras; Shri N. Ram Chander Reddy, Minister of Food, Agriculture & Labour, Andhra Pradesh; Mr. Rachiah, Minister of Agriculture, Mysore; Shri Mohan Lal Gautam, Minister of Agriculture, Uttar Pradesh and Shri P. R. Puri, a former Jt. Secretary of the World Agriculture Fair.

All India Farmer's Council 10th Meeting in Bhopal

The 10th meeting of All India Farmers' Council will be held on September 15-18, 1960, in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.

Apart from debates and discussions on various matters pertaining to farmers' interest, cultural programmes and excursion trips will also be organised.

Steps are being taken to obtain Railway Concessions for the members attending the meeting. Railway Concession Forms, Agenda and other necessary information will be supplied to the members in due course.

Commodity Committees Meeting

It is also proposed to hold meetings of the following Commodity Committees to coincide with the All India Farmers' Council Meeting in Bhopal in September, 1960 :-

1. Cotton,
2. Animal Husbandry,
3. Fruits and vegetables,
- and 4. Oilseeds.

Join

Agricultural Machinery Association of India

The Organisation of

- USERS
- DEALERS
- IMPORTERS
- DISTRIBUTORS
- MANUFACTURERS

of Tractors and Agricultural Machinery

PRESIDENT

Dr. PANJABRAO S. DESHMUKH

Union Minister of Agriculture

Users of Agricultural Machinery, individuals, institutions and Co-operative Societies

interested in enrolling themselves as members of the Association may please

see page No. 11 of this issue for details of membership fee,

concessions available to Life Members of Bharat

Krishak Samaj and some of the benefits

they are likely to derive from

the membership of the

Association.

For other particulars write to the Secretary

Agricultural Machinery Association of India

Exhibition Grounds, Mathura Road, New Delhi

Grams: "AGRIMACH"

Tel. 43371

Shame of Hunger a Challenge to Man President Inaugurates Freedom from Hunger Campaign

Inaugurating the Food and Agriculture Organisation's world-wide "Freedom From Hunger Campaign" in a broadcast speech to the Nation over All India Radio on July 1, 1960, the President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, expressed the hope that international cooperation in the field of agricultural production would result in bettering the lot of under-developed regions of the world, and thus exterminating the shame and misery of hunger.

Speaking of the "unprecedented rise in world population" during the last few centuries, the President said that unless countries of the world did something tangible to increase the production of food, hunger might prove to be as deadly an enemy of man as any weapon of war.

The following is the full text of the President's broadcast speech :

"I am glad to have been asked to inaugurate in India the world-wide "Freedom from Hunger Campaign" under the auspices of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. The struggle against hunger is as old as human civilization. There are not many countries in the world today which are able to produce as much food as they need. Though agricultural operations and the actual production of food are matters which fall within the purview of every country's national activities, the need to guarantee sufficient food for all human beings is a matter which has a universal aspect. It is only fitting, therefore, that the call for a campaign against hunger has come from the F.A.O. reminding member countries, which are 88 including India, of their obligation to intensive measures to solve the problem of food. It is particularly gratifying to me to note that at this critical time the head of this great international organisation is an Indian.

RISING WORLD POPULATION

All-round scientific and technological advance and use of improved agricultural methods in some countries and by some communities might obstruct a full and accurate view of the ugly face of this problem. It will do us good to know the actual position and face the realities of the situation. It is a fact that more food is produced today

than at any previous time in history, but we are far away from being able to provide enough good food for everybody. Indeed, the world's food situation is perhaps more serious now than ever before. There are a number of reasons for it, one of the principal among them being the unprecedented rise in world population. In the two hundred years between 1650 and 1850 the population of the world doubled. The population doubled once again in the 100 years between 1850 and 1950. The present rate of growth shows that world population will continue to increase and with it the gravity of food problems in vast areas. The situation is indeed alarming, and unless countries of the world do something tangible to increase the production of food, hunger may prove to be as deadly an enemy of man as any weapon of war. It is, therefore, one of our foremost needs that food production is able to keep pace with the ever larger requirements of the increasing population of the earth.

INDIA'S PROBLEM

All that I have said just now about the world applies as well with ominous force to India, whose food and nutrition standards are among the lowest in the world. The best that we can do by way of fulfilling our obligations under the charter of the F.A.O. is to strive to increase food production in our own country, in which about one-fifth of the world's population lives. It is

true that India is making speedy progress in agricultural production. We have been able to achieve the production targets embodied in our first and second five-year plans. Besides, we have produced substantial quantities of cash crops, particularly jute, cotton, oil-seeds and sugarcane to keep the wheels of our important industries moving. Nevertheless, the fact remains that as a nation we are still unable to produce enough to feed our people. Our diet is not only unbalanced but also deficient in terms of nutrition. Our consumption of cloth per capita is among the lowest in the world. There are large areas in the country where soil erosion is rampant and the fertility of our land is getting rapidly depleted. The income of our agriculturists is not only pitifully low but also extremely irregular as it is largely dependent on the vagaries of weather. On the other hand, our population is rising continuously and it may well be about 480 millions by the end of the Third Plan.

These facts are irritating and no less humiliating for a nation which is still primarily an agricultural country. If we have to meet the challenge of the situation, we must produce more and follow a balanced agricultural programme providing for additional production of dairy and poultry products, fruits and vegetables to meet the demands of an expanding urban and rural population and to promote gradual improvements in diets. It is clear that the targets fixed by our planners can be achieved only if an all-out emergency food programme is undertaken with the full co-operation of the Government, the farmer, the scientist and the public.

THIRD PLAN

Never before has Government been so conscious of the need for giving agricultural production the highest priority. The Third Five-Year Plan is now in the process of being finalised. Provision has been made in it for an investment of Rs. 600 crores on agricultural programmes, Rs. 650 crores on major and medium irrigation projects, Rs. 400 crores on community development and co-operation and Rs. 240 crores for setting

(Continued on page 7)



K. D. Sharma visits East Germany

Secretary of the World Agriculture Fair and the Bharat Krishak Samaj, Shri K. D. Sharma left New Delhi on July 14, 1960, for attending the closing ceremony of the Agriculture Fair at Merkleburg, which ends on July 16. The invitation was extended by the Minister of Agriculture, E. Germany.

For his short stay in that country, Shri Sharma will be treated as a government guest. He has a special interest to study the progress of cooperative movement there.

On his way back to Moscow, to join the agricultural delegation on July 27, Shri Sharma will also visit Poland to study the recent advances made in that country in cooperative field.

In Russia, he will visit some of the most famous Collective Farms, exchange ideas with the farm leaders and visit the All Soviet Agricultural Exhibition in Moscow.

Bombay K. Samaj Bifurcated

As a sequel to the bifurcation of Bombay State, the State unit of the Bharat Krishak Samaj, is now divided into two bodies for Maharashtra and Gujarat States, respectively.

The executive committee of the Bombay State, Krishak Samaj,

Training on Farms in U.S.A. & Australia—Young Indian Farmers Discuss Experiences

Twenty-three Indian farmers, including two women, who received agricultural training in the USA and Australia, discussed their experiences in the host countries and exchanged views on improving Indian agriculture. They were holding their first regional meeting in New Delhi, on Friday, June 24, '60.

Addressing the meeting Dr Panjabrao Deshmukh, Minister for Agriculture, Government of India, and President of the Farmers Forum, India, asked the farmers to "prove yourselves a strong contingent in the vanguard to organise farmers in this country since you are some of the lucky few among nearly 30 crores of Indian farmers to receive training in advanced countries".

which met at the Sochivalaya (Bombay) on June 28, brought about this bifurcation.

Maharashtra Krishak Samaj office will function at 8 Sitalvad Road—Napeon C Road, Bombay-6, and Shri R.R. Pandit will be its Secretary, while Shri Anil Jhaveri continues to be the Honorary General Secretary of Gujarat State Krishak Samaj and the office will function at Lalubhai Sethno Vando, Pankor Naka, Ahmedabad-1.

Shri V. P. Naik, Maharashtra's Revenue Minister, the outgoing President of the Samaj, speaking on the occasion, said that the Samaj had worked in perfect harmony and spirit of co-operation. He hoped that the warm and brotherly relations would be maintained hereafter also and the two State bodies would continue to serve the farmers in their respective spheres.

Shri P.K. Sawant, Minister for Agriculture, who was elected as the new President of the Maharashtra State Krishak Samaj, said that he would strive to continue the good work done by the Samaj.

Shri H.G. Patil, Vice-President of the Samaj, proposed a vote of thanks to the outgoing President.

The two-day meeting ended on the 25th with a visit to farms near Meerut where some of the trained farmers had been working.

The United States Technical Co-operation Mission's farm organization adviser to the Bharat Krishak Samaj, Mr. John H. Webb, discussing the regional meeting, said that so far 268 young Indians had received training in agriculture and allied subjects such as co-operatives, credit facilities and extension work in the USA and Australia under three schemes. One hundred and seventy visited the USA since 1953 under the International Farm Youth Exchange, and 60 under the TCM's Farm Leaders, programme. The remaining 38 went to Australia under the Colombo Plan. The women trainees numbered about 50. Another group of 20 will proceed to the USA for agricultural training as Farm Leaders in August".

All the foreign-trained Indian farmers organized themselves into a body at a meeting in New Delhi early this year. Besides, four regional groups have also been formed. The New Delhi group represents those living in Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, U.P., Punjab, Rajasthan and Jammu and Kashmir.

Discussing the value of training in the USA, a Punjab farmer told his colleagues: "Before my visit to America I under-rated a farming career. Now I value it highly. From what I learnt of American farming I have succeeded in developing waste land into a prosperous farm in Ambala district".

NATIONAL AGFAIR 60-61

National Agriculture Fair in Calcutta will run from December 11, 1960 to January 31, 1961. In the last issue of Krishak Samachar, the closing date of the Fair was printed as February 29, 1961, by mistake.

Research under Field Conditions over 200 Schemes Approved

Agricultural Research Body Meet Concluded

New Delhi, July 5, 1960: The Advisory Board of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research which concluded its three-day session last week, recommended the sanction of Rs. 10 lakhs for carrying out pilot projects for research development on a sufficiently large-scale to assess the results of research under field conditions.

It also recommended the setting up of a pool of agricultural scientists to provide greater employment opportunities. A large number of fellowships were also sanctioned for higher studies in agriculture and animal husbandry as also for promoting research work in the universities and colleges.

Another scheme recommended by the Board related to the award of prizes to those who spot out or evolve outstanding plants of agricultural and horticultural value to the country. Institution of a President's gold medal and prizes for the manufacture and production of improved agricultural implements was also approved.

To promote uniformity and accuracy in the naming of horticultural varieties, a scheme for the establishment of a National Registration Authority and a Rs. 5-lakh horticultural research scheme for Sikkim was also approved.

The Advisory Board meeting which was presided over by Dr. M. S. Randhawa, Vice-President, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, was attended by the State Directors of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry, representatives of central institutions and non-official members.

Animal Husbandry Schemes

In the field of animal husbandry, the Board recommended for sanction 22 new schemes of research. Reviewing the results of researches, the

Board recognized that the results obtained in sheep breeding schemes had conclusively approved that selection for non-hairiness was possible by studying the fleece characters of the breeding stock and recommended more extensive use of the method for improving the indigenous flocks.

It also recommended the utilization of hybrid vigour for improving the productive capacity of all classes of livestock, popularization of the techniques of sexing baby chicks, preparation of milk powder under village conditions through comparatively simple technique developed at the National Dairy Research Institute, and increased utilization of urea for replacing part of the scarce and expensive concentrates for feeding animals.

Appreciating the efforts made by the Council in its publication activities for better dissemination of scientific information on agriculture, animal husbandry and allied subjects, the Board noted that the Council was now publishing nine journals and had brought out 10 books and monographs besides seventeen reports and bulletins during 1959-60. A scheme for producing books in Hindi and four other regional languages was also initiated during this period. The Board approved a comprehensive three-year programme for the production of about 90 scientific books and monographs.

The Board recommended over 200 new schemes and proposals for the extension of current schemes for research in agricultural, animal husbandry and other related subjects.

ALL-INDIA FINAL ESTIMATE OF DRY CHILLIES 1959-60

The All-India Final Estimate of dry chillies, 1959-60 put the current year's area and production at 1,499,

000 acres and 339,000 tons respectively, according to the Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Ministry of Food and Agriculture. As compared with the Partially Revised Estimates of 1,471,000 acres and 326,000 tons for 1958-59, the estimates for 1959-60 show an increase of 28,000 acres or 1.9% in area and 13,000 tons or 4.0% in production.

The increase in area during the current year has been shared mainly by Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar and Madras and is attributed generally to favourable weather conditions at the time of sowing of the crop. The increase has, however, been offset to some extent by decrease in area reported by Punjab.

The increase in production during the current year is accounted for by Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Madras, Rajasthan and Mysore and is due partly to the increase in acreage under the crop and partly to favourable weather conditions during the period of growth of the crop.

RECORD PRODUCTION OF MAIZE IN 1959-60

According to the Directorate of Economics & Statistics, Ministry of Food & Agriculture, the All-India Final Estimate of maize for 1959-60 puts the area and production at 10,457,000 acres and 3,615,000 tons respectively as against the Partially Revised Estimate of 10,457,000 acres and 3,381,000 tons for 1958-59 indicating a substantial increase of 234,000 tons or 6.9 per cent in production of maize during 1959-60 over the previous year, though the area remains at the same level. Production of maize during 1959-60 is the highest on record.

The average yield per acre of maize during 1959-60 works out to 774 lbs which is 6.9 percent higher than 724 lbs. for 1958-59 and 11.1 per cent higher than the average of 698 lbs. for the five years ending 1958-59. The per acre output during 1959-60 is the highest on record.

Increase in area during the current year has occurred mainly in Punjab, Rajasthan and Bombay States and is attributed generally to favourable weather conditions at the time of sowing. This increase

Continued on page 9

POLICY OF CONSTRUCTIVE APPROACH TO OUR PROBLEMS

I hope all of you remember my reference to Mr. James G. Patton, the President of the International Federation of Agricultural Producers. He had been in India for the Eleventh Session of the I.F.A.P. over which he presided. In my previous letter, I did not quote so much from his book entitled 'The Case for Farmers' as from the 'Foreword' to the book contributed by Lord John Boyd-Orr. Mr. James G. Patton is also the President of the National Farmers' Union of America. The full name of this Union in fact is the Farmers' Educational and Cooperative Union of America. It frames an annual Official Legislative and policy programme. I have received a copy of such a programme for the year 1960. That Programme under the heading "The Aims and Principles", says :

"Living in rural America, we live close to nature. Our occupation depends on its life-renewing forces. Our livelihood requires its understanding. Our observation of nature gives us a thoughtful respect for the dignity of the individual human being."

This organisation is actually some 55 to 58 years old but in the Report made to the Annual Convention by President Patton, the progress made by the Union has been summarised as under :

"In 1937, the National Farmers' Union Convention at Oklahoma City very substantially changed the direction of the Farmers' Union from one of fighting the Federal Government and opposing all actions of the federal farm programme to one where cooperation on federal farm programmes was the order of the day. This was a change from being negative to being positive, and the National Farmers Union has come a long way since that change."

"In the past 23 years, we have developed a smooth running office in Washington to represent family farmers. We have established an insurance programme which serves many of the States in the National Farmers' Union and I hope we will serve more. The Farmers' Union cooperatives have grown tremendously in the past 23 years and are now very substantial business institutions."

I quote this portion from a speech in support of the constructive approach to our problems that we have decided upon as the policy of the Bharat Krishak Samaj. The other object I had in quoting the above portion was to show how this Union had undertaken an insurance programme as well as the programme for the establishment of cooperatives. What the Union thinks of the cooperatives is stated in the following quotation :

"Cooperatives and the cooperative technique and other non-profit forms of private corporate

economic organisation have a uniquely significant role to play in building a better world and better farm life as well as to strengthen the economic position of farmers and other citizens."

The Union also claims that its establishment has promoted more cooperatives than any other body in the whole of America. I am happy to say that my own thinking and the decisions of the Bharat Krishak Samaj are in full consonance with this policy.

Strength of a Farmers' Organization in America

In his speech delivered at the Annual Convention of the Union on the 14th March, 1960, Mr. Patton is very hard on the Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. Benson, who is equivalent to the Minister of Food & Agriculture in India. Mr. Patton said :

"The past seven years have been extremely difficult ones for family farmers—a period of very extreme frustration. Six different times agricultural legislation of substantial importance has been passed by the Congress of the United States, with the support of the Farmers' Union, and six times the President of the United States has vetoed this legislation. The vigorous and somewhat successful attempts of the Secretary of Agriculture to put the farmer on the free market has been difficult indeed for all of us.

I would enjoy nothing more than making the rest of this address on the subject of Ezra Taft Benson and his ruinous farm policy, but in a relatively few months Mr. Benson will pass from the scene. He is not a candidate in the November elections, and big problem facing us these days is how to clean up the wreckage—not who is doing the wrecking.

Mr. Benson's place in history is secure. He is already the worst Secretary of Agriculture this country ever had—and he still has about 10 months to become even worst!"

These are indeed hard words to say but apart from ventilating strong feelings of his organisation they probably show the strength of the Farmers' Union of America as well as the strength of the voice of the American farmers although they are just above the 10 per cent of the population of America as against nearly 80 per cent in our country. As you all know this Union is one of the three similar big farmers' organisations in America.

Agricultural Machinery Association of India grants concessions to BKS Life-members

In the first week of this month, we held some important meetings of the Agricultural Machinery Association of India. Among the various decisions we took, it was decided that the office of the Association should keep trace of every complaint received from a tractor-user who is a member of the Association. There are two categories of members of this Association, so far as the users other than cooperative societies are concerned. One is the

ordinary member paying annual subscription of Rs. 10/- with an admission fee of Rs. 5/- for the first year and Rs. 10/- per annum subsequently. There is also a life-membership costing Rs. 150/- plus Rs. 10/- as admission fee. We have, however, linked this organisation with the Bharat Krishak Samaj in respect to membership and made the following provisions :—

Any person who is a life-member of the Bharat Krishak Samaj would be exempt from paying the admission fee of Rs. 5/- if he wishes to join the

Agricultural Machinery Association of India as a member on annual payment basis. He would also get a concession of Rs. 2/- per annum for subsequent years, because he will have to pay only Rs. 8/- against Rs. 10/- per annum for non-life-members. In respect of life-membership, the Bharat Krishak Samaj life-member would have to pay Rs. 125/- instead of Rs. 150/- with Rs. 10/- as admission fee, i.e. he will get a concession of Rs. 25/-.

Panjabrao Deshmukh

Continued from page 3

up fertiliser factories to provide the much-needed fertilisers to the farmers. All these schemes are designed to provide assistance to the farmers in the task of raising food production. But plans of assistance can prove effective only if tillers of the soil are guided properly and educated to take advantage of them. We need for this a country-wide campaign. Top leaders of the nation and village leaders and institutions alike should join in this campaign to inspire all those engaged in agricultural work to develop and to carry out programmes that reach the villages and individual cultivators. Never before has an opportunity presented such a challenge to our scientists to lessen the sinister role played by food shortage and hunger. Our land, generally speaking, is not wanting in natural fertility nor is there lack of water, if our water resources are harnessed and utilised. We need only human efforts and utilisation of scientific methods and equipments to increase the yield per acre. It is, therefore, a challenge not only to the ordinary cultivator but also to the scientists and technicians as also to the Government to see to it that this problem is solved by the co-ordinated and combined efforts. We shall thus remove not only one of our own constant headaches and anxieties but will also be contributing to the stabilisation of world conditions in this respect.

Fortunately, there is enough evidence to show that the great Powers too are becoming increasingly conscious of the role they can play to promote world economic development and international co-operation in the sphere of agricultural production. We welcome the recent agreement under P.L. 480 to supply

Nomination of BKS Members on Government Committees and Commodity Committees

Catalogue being Prepared

It is proposed to prepare a catalogue of Life Members of the Bharat Krishak Samaj giving complete information about them in respect of the size of their holdings, the crops they grow, what

crops are irrigated, special interest in any commodity, what improved agricultural practices they adopt, how they dispose of their produce, etc., etc.

17 million tons of foodgrains to India as a sincere gesture of the U.S.A. to help in our own national development.

Let me express the fervent hope that this spirit of co-operation will grow and further strengthen to enable this "Freedom From Hunger Campaign", which is being inaugurated throughout the world, to achieve concrete results by bettering the lot of the under-developed regions and thus exterminating the shame and misery of hunger."

This information, besides giving a good picture of our Life Members in respect of their economic condition, their commodity and other interests, etc. will enable us to make proper selection of our Life Members for nomination on the various Committees, Boards, etc. of the Central and also of the State Governments as representatives of the Bharat Krishak Samaj, and also for considering their names for Inter-State and International Farm Exchange Programmes, etc.

Information regarding members interests in particular commodities is also required for the purpose of selecting members on the commodity committees of the Samaj, which are to be reconstituted now.

India on Executive of Wheat Council

London, July 1.—India is among eight importing countries elected to the Executive Committee for the next crop year of the International Wheat Council, the 13th session of which ended here on Wednesday.

The other seven are Benelux, Brazil, West Germany, Japan, Norway, South Africa and the U.K. The four exporting countries elected to the executive are Argentina, Canada, Italy and the USA.

The next meeting of the Council will be held in November to review the world wheat situation.

It is intended to call for such information periodically, say after every five years—so as to bring it uptodate and to enable us to assess how our Life Members are progressing.

The Life Members are therefore requested to kindly fill up the form overleaf and return it to the Secretary, Bharat Krishak Samaj, as early as possible. If the space provided in the form is not adequate, an extra sheet of paper may be used. The information should be precise and brief.

BHARAT KRISHAK SAMAJ

(Particulars of Life Members)

Full name (block letters) _____

Address (block letters) Village/Town _____

P. O. _____

Taluk _____

Distt. _____

State _____

Whether Landowner, Owner-cum-tenant or Tenant _____

Date of enrolment as Life Member and Registration No. ...

Position held in State Krishak Samaj. ...

Particulars of land and cultivation

Size of holding (Acres) ...

Acres cultivated: ...

Acres irrigated: ...

Source of irrigation: ...

Crops Grown

Irrigated (Give crops & area): ...

Rainfed " " " " ...

Manures & fertilizers used Including green manuring ...

Improved Cultivation practices adopted, including use of improved seeds ...

Special Commodity interests ...

Nature of work done on farm by member himself ...

How produce is stored and disposed of ...

Approximate annual income from land ...

Any other interest in the sphere of Agriculture or Animal

Husbandry, Farmers Organization, Co-operatives, etc. ...

Countries visited (Give object and year of visit) ...

Any other Information considered useful for the purpose ...

Education and training ...

Age on December 31, 1959. ...

Place _____

Dated _____

Signature _____

TO BE CUT FROM HERE

has however, been offset by the decrease in area reported mainly in respect of Jammu and Kashmir and Bihar.

The increase in production during the current year is accounted for mainly by Uttar Pradesh and Punjab and to a lesser extent by Bihar and is ascribed generally to favourable climatic conditions during the period of growth. The large increase in the case of Uttar Pradesh is also reported to be due partly to intensive kharif campaign. The increase in the above States has been offset considerably by decrease in production mainly in Madhya Pradesh, Bombay and Andhra Pradesh. The decrease in out-turn in these States is due largely to adverse seasonal conditions during the period of growth. The crop sustained heavy damage due to continuous and heavy rains in Bombay and Madhya Pradesh during August-September-October.

BETTER YIELD RATES IN C.D. AREAS

The yield rates of principal crops in Community Development Blocks have been higher than those in other areas during the last four years. This is clearly indicated by the sample surveys carried out under the technical direction of National Sample Survey from 1955-56 to 1958-59.

Yield rate of wheat, is higher by 20 per cent and that of rice by 15 per cent. The difference is most pronounced in respect of jowar where it is as high as 25 per cent.

In the initial year, the survey was confined to C.D. Blocks opened up to 1953 and covered about ten per cent of the geographical area. In 1958-59, the survey extended over three times that area.

SOIL CONSERVATION SCHEMES IN MADRAS

The President has given assent to the Madras Land Improvement Schemes Bill 1959, which seeks to provide for preparation and execution of soil conservation and land improvement schemes in Madras State.

The legislation replaces the Madras Land Improvement Schemes (Contour Bunding and Contour Trenching) Act, 1949, which has been found to be defective and also inadequate for dealing with the

serious erosion problem in districts like the Nilgiris.

A provision has been made in the Bill to implement schemes for conservation and improvement of soil and water resources, protection of land from damage by floods or drought and reclamation of waste land.

The Bill also provides for the constitution of two boards, one for soil conservation and the other for land development in river valley catchment areas and other places.

DEVELOPMENT OF SERI-CULTURE

Bhubaneswar, July 2: Systematic steps are being taken to develop Seri industry in Orissa. A research laboratory has been set up. Steps are being taken to prevent worms being killed by predators. The rearers are supplied with disease free laying from the Tassar and Eri seed station for production of healthy cocoons. Officers and rearers are being sent to different places outside the State to get themselves acquainted with the progress of sericulture industry and methods used for its development. 11 Officers were sent for training at Bhagalpur and Assam and eight rearers have been sent to Bihar on a study tour. Three departmental officers are now under training in All India Sericultural Training Institute in Mysore.

The rearers who are organised on co-operative basis are given share capital and working capital loans. So far 3700 of them have been brought under co-operative fold and a sum of Rs. 2,61,800/- has been given as share capital and working capital. Improved appliances are being supplied to the rearers free of cost. 68 sets of improved *charkhas* have been supplied to the rearers. Three demonstration parties are working to train the reelers and spinners to use improved appliances. The Central Tassar Depot has been established to supply raw materials and market the products.

Sugarcane Soil Survey Scheme

The State Government have sanctioned the Sugarcane Soil Survey Scheme in Andhra for the period upto 31st March 1961. The scheme is to be undertaken in three factory zones viz. Pithapuram, Tanuku and Ghallapalle, the factories concerned having agreed to cooperate.

Research News

Mulching the Cotton Crop proves advantageous

Mulching the cotton crop grown in the dry lands on the West Coast after monsoon paddy, will serve two purposes: tiding over an unfavourable season, and increasing the yields by $2\frac{1}{2}$ times.

On the West Coast, short-duration cotton varieties were tried during the monsoon as well as after paddy in the dry lands. It was seen that while cotton was successful when grown during the monsoon, it did not do well after paddy, mainly due to lack of moisture in the soil.

Therefore, at the Agricultural Research Station, Pattambi, Kerala, mulching with green leaves was tried.

The first mulching was given a week after sowing the cotton, the second one a week after the first mulching and the third a fortnight after the second.

Mulching suppressed the weeds and helped the plants to putforth vigorous growth. The mulched crop gave 242 pounds of *kapas* whereas the unmulched crop gave only 91 pounds.

Better Pepper Yields

Pepper yields are sure to go up if growers do two things: plant a variety known for high yield, and apply sufficient manures to the crop.

Experience shows that you can depend upon varieties like *Kalluvalli* and *Balankotia* for giving you high yields. There are others known for their equally good yields to select from.

Experience also shows that by giving proper manures, pepper vines can be made to give over 50 per cent additional yield. The manuring schedule found effective is a combination of ten pounds of cattle manure or compost, two to four ounces of muriate of potash, four ounces of superphosphate or bonemeal, two ounces of ammonium sulphate and half a pound of groundnut cake or castor cake, per plant per tree. About four ounces of lime should also be applied once in two or three years.

Ammonium Sulphate is best applied, combined with cattle manure or compost, just before the South-West monsoon. The cake should be applied in two doses when the monsoon rains start. Muriate of potash should be applied after the monsoon.

Digging the garden twice a year, once at the start of the South-west monsoon and again at the close of the North-east monsoon, has been found to be a very good aid in getting higher pepper yields.

Raising Green Manure Crops

Farmers in Gujarat and Maharashtra states, wanting to grow a green manure crop in their own farms, are advised by the State Departments of Agriculture that they select a green manure crop that is best suited to their soil and the interval available between the two main crops.

Sannhemp is to be preferred on light and medium soils, and *dhaincha* for heavy, saline or water-logged soils. Both the species are quick-growing and can produce the maximum green matter in about seven weeks' time.

Sesbania speciosa being a slow-growing crop can be successfully grown where four to six months' time is available till the sowing of the next crop. It is suitable for growing on all types of soils, and remains succulent throughout.

Saving Paddy from Crabs

With some DDT and a little boiled rice, it is easy to end the crab nuisance in paddy fields.

Crabs sometimes cause serious damage to the paddy seedlings. In fact, they are a major pest in certain rice growing areas.

DDT is applied as a poison bait. One part of 50 per cent DDT is mixed with nine parts of boiled rice and a little *gur*. This is made into pellets and put in crab holes.

Poison-baiting the crabs in this way is being successfully practised in Maharashtra and Gujarat States.

Manufacture of Cheese

The West Bengal Cabinet at its meeting held on June 6, 1960, decided, among other subjects that an experimental unit for the manufacture of cheese and unsweetened condensed milk should be set up at Kalimpong.

Agricultural Digest

C 285 Variety of Wheat in the Punjab

The valleys of Lahaul and Spiti are situated at high elevations of 10,000 to 11,000 feet above sea level. They remain covered with snow from about November to the middle of April and therefore growing of any field crop during this period of intense cold is out of question. From the end of April to the end of October, however, when warm temperature coupled with high humidity prevails, unlike in the plains, cereal crops like wheat, barley and ray are grown. During July and August, fungal diseases like rust particularly the stem rust severely attack the wheat crop and take a heavy toll. Towards the maturity of wheat crop in October the weather becomes cold due to the onset of winter, consequent upon which the grains do not ripen properly and get badly shrivelled. Due to these, viz., virulent attack of rusts and incomplete ripening of the grains, the yields of wheat crop suffer considerably. It is therefore, of paramount importance that the wheat variety to be recommended in this tract should be early ripening and resistant to rusts. C285, an improved variety combines these two traits with high yield and good grain quality. It was introduced in the Lahaul valley for trials in 1950 and since then it has covered almost all the area under wheat in the valley and has also crossed over to the Spiti Valley.

C285 is a derivative of cross C228 × B256. The former (C228) is resistant to yellow rust possesses flinty bold grains and is early maturing, whereas the latter B256 a Kanya wheat, is resistant to black rust. C285 is a happy synthesis of the virtues of these two parents. This variety has been tested against local

wheat, C591, C224, I.P. 80-5, C253 and N.P. 770 in regular trials in the Lahaul valley since 1950. The results show that C285 is superior to all other wheats and has given on the average from 2.5 maunds to 8.1 maunds more grain yield per acre than other varieties. This variety was also tried on cultivators' fields during 1953, 1954, 1956 and 1957 where too it gave on the average 31.1 maunds per acre against 22.5 maunds of the local standard. Its 100 grains' weight is also about 3.93 grains compared to 1.46, 1.53, 1.78 and 2.02 grains respectively of local I.P. 80-5, C224, C253 and C591 as were obtained from the produce of all these varieties raised in Lahaul valley. Because of all the good points in its favour, the Research Council of the State Agricultural Department granted its approval for bringing C285 on the approved list of the Departmental seeds.

Only Jute has the Answer

Only jute sack could provide a completely satisfactory answer to the ordinary British farmer's handling and storage problems, said Mr. R. D. Marshall, jute trade public relations officer, during a talk to the Angus National Farmers' Union.

Jute sack was easily adaptable to various commercial methods now being increasingly employed to economise on manual labour such as sack loaders, humpers, escalators, tractor platforms and frontal trays.

There was, he said not a single aspect of farm materials handling under British conditions which could not be well looked after by a jute container.

The greatest disadvantage of non-jute packaging, said Mr. Marshall, was its heavy breakage incidence. If an estimate was attempted of the extent of daily destruction of one-trip containers, it would show that several million pounds worth of non-jute sacks, paid for by farmers, went up in smoke every year on the national farm.

India to Contest World Ploughing Championship

National Winners to be Awarded

Decisions of the Agricultural Machinery Association of India

The General Body of the Agricultural Machinery Association of India which met on the 5th July, 1960, unanimously elected the following office bearers, for the year 1960 :

President—Dr. P.S. Deshmukh, Union Minister of Agriculture.

Vice-President—Shri K.R. Patel, Messrs. Associated Exports Imports Corporation, Calcutta.

Vice-President—Shri J.R. Reddy, Representative of the Users of Agricultural Machinery.

Welcoming the members of the General Body, the President, Dr. P.S. Deshmukh stated that the Association was serving a very useful purpose, as before its formation there was no forum to represent jointly the interests of the manufacturers, Importers, distributors, dealers as well as Users of Agricultural Machinery. He added that the Association had arranged for important meetings which were attended by representatives of the various Ministries of Government of India and that various problems facing the members of the Association were discussed in those meetings, evoking sympathetic response in many cases from the representatives of the Government of India.

The Governing Body of the Association also met on the 5th July, 1960, and decided to adopt the following membership fees for Users of Agricultural Machinery :

(1) Ordinary Members

	Annual Fee	Admission Fee
Users of Agricultural Machinery—individual or Institution.	Rs. 10/-	Rs. 5/-

(2) Cooperative Societies

Cooperative Societies of farmers using Agricultural Machinery with a share capital :—

(i) upto Rs. 2,500/-	Rs. 15/-	Rs. 10/-
(ii) above Rs. 2,500/ and upto Rs. 20,000/-	Rs. 25/-	Rs. 10/-
(iii) above Rs. 20,000/-	Rs. 50/-	Rs. 10/-

LIFE MEMBERS will pay Rs. 150/- plus admission fee of Rs. 10/-.

Life Members of the Bharat Krishak Samaj, (Farmers' Forum, India) will be entitled to the following concessions in the membership and admission fees :

Ordinary Membership

- (a) Exemption from payment of admission fee of Rs. 5/-

- (b) A rebate of Rs. 2/- in the annual renewal fee.

Life Membership

- A rebate of Rs. 25/- in the membership fee.

Ploughing Championship Contest

The Governing Body also decided to hold the First National Ploughing Championship Contest during the First National Agricultural Fair to be held at Calcutta from 11th December 1960 to 31st January 1961. Participants of National Championship Contest would be drawn from winners of State Championship Matches which would be held in each State before January 1961. The National Champions would be sent to France to take part in the World Ploughing Championship Contest, in October, 1961. The World Ploughing Championship trophy comprises of a golden plough. This trophy is a miniature of 18th Century Norfolk Plough and it is held for a year by the Ploughing Organization to which the World Champion belongs. The winners are presented with a small replica.

The rules for Ploughing Championship Contests to be held in India will be circulated to the public as soon as possible.

Standing Committee Meets

The 5th meeting of the Standing Committee of the Agricultural Machinery Association of India was held on the 4th July, 1960, under the Presidentship of Dr. P.S. Deshmukh. The Committee discussed at length proposals for arranging suitable concessions and other facilities for the User-Members of the Association.

A Sub-Committee has been appointed to make detailed investigations as to how best could the Association render useful service to the Users in the present circumstances when imports of tractors had been drastically curtailed, and the trade channels were not functioning normally on that account.

The Committee also decided to prepare a questionnaire and collect information regarding the difficulties which the Users of Agricultural Machinery were facing at present.

It was decided by the Standing Committee that the Association should approach the Ministry of Finance for allowing rebate on Excise Duty on Diesel Oil and Powerine and also to exempt Excise Duty on Trailers used for Agricultural Purposes. The Ministry of Finance are also being approached to revise the procedure of initial deposit of Rs. 2,500/- as excise duty on Agricultural tractors and its refund after procurement of End.-Use-Certificate, as the same was causing hardship to the farmers.

High Salaries at the Cost of Farmers

Dr. Deshmukh Condemns Strikers' Attitude

Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh, Union Minister of Agriculture, President, Bharat Krishak Samaj and Young Farmers' Association of India, has appealed to the farmers to help in the maintenance of peace and order during the strike period. Asking for farmers' help he said on July 7, 1960: "If all the efforts that are being made to avert the impending strike do not succeed, I appeal to the farmers of India and especially the members of the Bharat Krishak Samaj and the Young Farmers' Association of India to stand by the country and do everything in their power to help to maintain peace and order. All the instructions that may be issued from time to time should be implicitly carried out although they may mean certain amount of inconvenience and trouble. I hope the farmers of India would always be the strongest force on which the people of the country may always rely in facing such situations created by the organizations of various kinds of employees irrespective of the sacrifice the country has always made for them. Let the nation always count upon farmers, old and young, to uphold the country's cause, keep their balance and do their utmost to see that the orderly administration of the country is not permitted to be disturbed."

Subsequently, after failure of the efforts made to avert the strike, Dr. Deshmukh made the following statement on July 12, 1960:

"When I prepared my speech I was still hoping that better sense will prevail and we will not have to face this strike. Unfortunately, this has not happened and now we are in the midst of a strike by the Central Govt. employees. I am, however, happy that most of the employees from Punjab have shown exceptional good sense and have not allowed themselves be drawn in this anti-national act. It was only because of this that I could travel last night from Delhi to Jullundur and am expecting to reach back tomorrow morning. I congratulate these employees very heartily for exercising

so much self-control. Even an unsuccessful attempt of this nature can do incalculable harm to not only the present but the future of India. In view of the assurances given by the Prime Minister and the consistently sympathetic consideration which has always been given to the claims of the organised labour in the country, there was no legitimate cause for this strike. Those who have, therefore, encouraged people to strike must be regarded as irresponsible persons who are prepared to hand over the destiny of this country to chaos or some stray adventurers. Distinction between this type of strike and the other strikes that the country has faced before is now quite apparent. I firmly believe that many of these people get salaries much in excess of the contribution they make to the building of the country but due to their strong organisations they have always been able to dictate terms. They, however, forget that all their high salaries are at the cost of the farmer and the farm labourer. **If we have any proper calculation of the effort put in and results achieved, it will have to be conceded that the man who produces from the soil—the food that all of us need, gets far less in the end than every one of those who have no connection with the land and directly or indirectly live on the toil of the farmers and the farm labourers.** The rural people, therefore, must stand up against all this nonsense and do everything to see that these few stray individuals who create constant trouble will not succeed in their designs and that they will not dare to do such a thing again in the future. The failure of the strike will depend upon the assistance the right-minded people give to the Government and contribute, by their peaceful and solid support, to all the steps which the Government are forced to take in this emergency. The members of the Farmers' Forum have already pledged their services to Government, wherever they are. I feel sure that they will distinguish themselves as the most loyal and the patriotic citizens of the nation in the present crisis".

Agriculture University

on U. S. Pattern

Opens in Uttar Pradesh

The first agriculture university in India to be set up on the pattern of the U.S. Land Grant College began its first academic session on July 7, at Phoolbagh.

The university, called U. P. Agriculture University, is located in the Terai, with the Kumaon Hills providing a picturesque backdrop.

Addressing the first group of students, the Vice-Chancellor, Mr. K.A.P. Stevenson said the opening of the university marked a new era in university education in India.

He said that besides introducing the Land Grant College Pattern, endeavours had been made to introduce in this university some measure of reforms recommended by the University Education Commission and last month's conference of Vice-Chancellors.

Distinctive Features

Among the distinctive features of the university, he said, were the advisory system, the course system, the credit system and the frequent examinations system.

Under the advisory system, he said, each student would be assigned to an adviser whose duty it would be to help him in all matters—academic, spiritual and moral. The adviser would also help the student before registration to choose the course most suited to his educational background.

Under the course system, Mr Stevenson explained, the curriculum was split into courses, all of which were taken separately and examined separately. The credit system was a method of measuring the educational content of courses. The whole curricula was measured in terms of credits.

Under the frequent examinations system, the Vice-Chancellor told the students, each student would be given marks in examinations held from time to time and every grade which he received would count towards his final grade at graduation,