

Towards Increased Production

A meeting of Manipur Krishak Samaj was held on December 3, 1962 to discuss ways and means for increased food production, with Shri David W.M. Duncan, Addl. Deputy Commissioner (Dev.) in the Chair.

The Chairman, at the outset, explained to the members the necessity increasing food production, at this hour of National Emergency, in order to strengthen our economy which is essential from the point of view of our National Defence.

The question of adopting Japanese method of paddy cultivation was discussed and it was decided to take up this method in three Valley Blocks viz. Jhonbal, Imphal East and Bishenpur and that the Director of Agriculture would supply the required fertilizer and implements at 50% subsidised rate to all the farmers who adopt this method.

Regarding hill blocks where terracing had been in practice, it was decided to construct more terrace fields and to encourage dry cultivation. Supply of fertilizers, manure mixtures etc. would be the responsibility of the Director of Agriculture at the same subsidised rate of 50%.

The Director of Agriculture also agreed to supply plant protection implements at normal rates, 75% of which would be contributed by the Government.

A sub-committee was formed to do intensive propaganda in all these blocks.

The Director of Agriculture also assured to produce sufficient quanti-

ties of seeds to encourage the cultivation of pulses in Hills and Valley Blocks.

The Chief Fishery Officer stated that 25 lakhs fish fry of different kinds would be made available from Government fishery farms to the Blocks and individual pisciculturists at normal subsidised rates.

The Chairman stated that he would initiate necessary action to divert 50% of water pipe schemes for the excavation of water tanks to serve both drinking and fishery purposes.

The Director of Agriculture further assured that the price of fruit plants would be reduced to Rs. 1.25

Invest In National Defence Certificates

nP. from Rs. 5.50 nP. from 1962 1963.

Maharashtra

Exemption from Income tax

Replying to the debate on the Agricultural Income Tax Bill, Shri S.G. Barve, Minister for Finance, Government of Maharashtra told the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly on November 29, 1962 that the lower and middle income farms in the State had been exempted from the new agricultural income-tax because the tax burdens they already bear were quite heavy.

Bihar

Relief for Jute growers

The Bihar Government is purchasing jute by paying Re. 1 a maund more over the prevailing market rate at important jute centres like For-

besganj, Kishanganj, Katihar and Gulabgach in North Bihar, according to the District Magistrate of Purnea.

The measure, he told a Press conference, was aimed at building up a buffer stock and to give relief to jute growers.

Rajasthan

Land Ceiling Schedules Finalised

According to a report the Rajasthan Government has finalized the schedules of agricultural land ceilings for different areas of the State. The schedules have been worked out in the light of the provisions of the Rajasthan Tenancy Act as amended in February 1960.

The Act had fixed the ceiling area for a family of five members or less at 30 standard acres, a standard acre being the area of land which with the reference to its productive capacity, soil or situation, is likely to 10 maunds of yield wheat yearly. In case of land incapable of producing wheat, the other products were to be determined so as to be equivalent in terms of money value to 10 maunds of wheat.

Maximum Ceiling

When the members of a family exceeded five, the ceiling was to be increased by five standard acres for each additional member. But the maximum for a family was not to exceed 60 standard acres. To prevent evasions, no transfers of land made after Dec. 9, 1959, were to be recognized.

The provision called for fixing of land ceilings area by area, because the yield and crops varied considerably from district to district, sometimes from village to village.