

great discontentment in the farming community, ultimately resulting in adverse effect on all efforts to increase food production.

The Committee further decided to avoid further delay in the selection of the tractor proposed to be manufactured by the Co-operative Society sponsored by the State Krishak Samaj.

The meeting observed two minutes silence as a mark of respect for late Mr. Kennedy and the officers of the Armed Forces who were victims of the helicopter crash.

## Annual Convention of Punjab Krishak Samaj

The Annual Convention of the Farmers' Forum, Punjab (Punjab Krishak Samaj) was held at Bhatinda on the 5th and 6th February, 1964.

As the farmers all over the country, and especially the Punjabi farmers have always been in the forefront both in production and defence of the country, it was decided to hold a joint rally of the Samaj and the Gram Raksha Dal on the 6th February.

The Convention was presided over by Dr. Punjabrao S. Deshmukh.

The opening speech was made by Gen. Mohan Singh on the Role of G.R.D. vis a vis Germination Community. Home Minister Pt. Mohan Lal also spoke on the role of farmers to meet the demands of Defence and Development of the country.

An exhibition by the Agriculture Department on agriculture and allied subjects was also arranged on the occasion. A cultural show, mainly dwelling on the agricultural themes was also arranged at night on the 5th.

## Sonepat Tehsil Krishak Samaj

A meeting of Sonepat Tehsil Krishak Samaj was held on January 18, 1964 under the presidentship of R.B. Ch. Ramdhan Singh, retired Principal of Government College, Lyalpur.

The meeting congratulated Shri Amrik Singh Cheema on his appointment as Director of Agriculture, Punjab.

The meeting requested that the election of the Chairman of the Sonepat Market Committee be held immediately.

The meeting demanded that the powers to issue permits for manure be given to Co-operative Society or Gram Panchayat in place of issuing permits by Permit Officer. Moreover, it was also demanded that the agriculture implements be sold direct by the fabricator.

The meeting requested the Government that the 17th Amend-

ment to the Constitution be withdrawn. The meeting demanded that M.C.C. on electric consumption for tube wells should be abolished and rates of electric consumption be decreased. The meeting expressed resentment on the behaviour of P.B. & B.D., Sonepat towards farmers in collecting Re. 1 extra per bag of cement in the name of Defence Fund.

The meeting reminded the Chairman of State Marketing Board, Patiala that nothing had been done so far regarding the amendment of the Market Act.

The meeting demanded that in weighing the produce, weighing scale be used instead of weighing balance.

The meeting was of the opinion that huge amount of money which was lying with A Class Market Committee might be used for the betterment of agricultural produces.

## Rohtak District Krishak Samaj

The meeting of the Executive Committee of the Rohtak District Krishak Samaj was held on December 3, 1963 under the presidentship of Chaudhari Jagram Singh, President of the District Krishak Samaj.

The meeting passed a condolence resolution on the assassination of President Kennedy and the premature death of General Bikram Singh and other military officers in the air

accident.

In another resolution, the meeting expressed its opposition to the control imposed on sugarcane. The meeting expressed concern over the lack of grazing grass in the area. In a resolution, the meeting said that due to the same prices of gur and sugar, the farmers are running a great loss by providing sugarcane to the mills on a fixed price. Therefore the

price of sugarcane be fixed keeping the price of gur in view. Moreover the meeting demanded that the same facilities be provided to the sugarcane growers of this area as are provided to those of U.P. & Bihar.

The meeting opposed the decision of supplying 250 grams of sugar to villages and 1000 grams to cities. It was demanded that this discrimination be removed forthwith.

In another resolution, it was said that due to floods, *Kharif* crops have been ruined in an area of 30 thousand acres. Hence the Government should not collect revenue from this area and those farmers who have purchased fertilizers on takkavi loans should be exempted from paying back the loans & those who have purchased it by paying cash, should be given compensation.

## Utkal Executive Meeting

The Executive Committee of Bharat Krishak Samaj (Utkal Branch) met on February, 1964 at the residence of its President Shri P. M. Pradhan, Ex-Minister, Agriculture, Orissa under his Presidentship.

It was resolved to publish a monthly journal in Oriya and to hold the coming Convention of Utkal Branch in the District of Koraput during the first week of the month of May, 1964. It was also resolved to start the construction work of the office building and staff quarters of the Utkal Branch quickly on its half acre of land situated in the State Capital, Bhubaneswar.