

# KRISHAK SAMACHAR

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## Vice President of India Shri B.D. Jatti inaugurated Silver Jubilee year 1979-80 of Bharat Krishak Samaj

B.K.S. Silver Jubilee year commences on 3rd April 1979 which will conclude on 3rd April 1980. In New Delhi at the residence of Shri B.D. Jatti, a delegation of B.K.S. leaders in the leadership of B.K.S. Chairman Shri Balram Jakhar assembled and Shri B.D. Jatti formally inaugurated the silver jubilee year of Bharat Krishak Samaj and delivered a message which appears elsewhere.

On this occasion the leader of the group Shri Balram Jakhar presented a memorandum to Shri Jatti regarding farmers problems in the country.



*Picture shows (from left) Shri Balram Jakhar, Chairman, Bharat Krishak Samaj talking to Shri B.D. Jatti and presenting him a memorandum on behalf of Indian farmers. Others seen are Mrs Vidya Stokes, Shri Jagdish Kodesia, Shri S.M. Wahi, Shri Pritam Singh and Dr. D.A. Bholay, Secretary, General of B.K.S.*



# Farmers Memorandum to Vice President of India

1. Agriculture should be treated as Small-Scale Industry for all practical purposes. There should be differential rate of interest for agricultural loans and the penal interest should be reduced. Collateral guarantee of farm land besides pledging the agricultural machinery to be purchased through Bank loans should be abolished.

2. Agricultural prices fixed must be remunerative to the farmers and there must be a definite parity in the prices of agricultural products to the prices of agricultural inputs and consumer goods. Farmers should be adequately represented on the Agricultural Prices Commission and Committees. The Government must make adequate arrangements for the purchase of all the Agricultural produce offered by the farmers in the market at the support prices fixed by the Government for various commodities. State Governments should be left free to decide any reasonable or higher agricultural prices without any pressure from the Centre.

3. Effective steps should be taken to reduce the fluctuations in agricultural market prices during the year between the flush and lean seasons.

4. The level of taxes levied on agricultural inputs and farm machinery be considerably reduced. The prices of farm inputs like fertilizers, insecticides, pesticides, which have recorded a steep rise in the recent past, should be reduced. The prices of farm machinery like tractors, pumping sets, their spares and accessories including tyres and tubes which have touched sky high should be kept within the reach of the farmers.

5. Land Reforms and land Ceiling Act should be expeditiously implemented all over the country and surplus land should be immediately distributed among the eligible farmers and farm workers.

Agricultural Wealth-tax, Estate Duty, and Agricultural Income Tax should be abolished especially in view of low level of individual land holding fixed under the Land Ceiling Act throughout the country.

6. Cotton purchase policy in the interest of farmers of some of the progressive States like Maharashtra be introduced in other parts of the country and similar State purchase policies be introduced for other important agricultural commodities like potato, sugarcane, wheat, rice and bananas in order to reduce middle man's profit and ensure reasonable prices for the farmers and the consumers.

7. The role of the Government agencies like F.C.I. and CEI should be maintained the price line of farm produce and not simply to become another commission agent. Their presence in the market should serve as an active protector of the farmer's interest rather than becoming a businessmen.

8. Arrangements may be made to facilitate payment of huge arrears of sugarcane prices to the farmers.

9. High priority should be given for the construction of rural roads linking all the villages to nearby agricultural markets.

10. The scheme of crop insurance may be introduced for security against natural calamities.

11. Independent export of the agricultural produce may be encouraged and liberal loans on easy terms may be made available for this propose.

12. After fulfilling all the national and internal demand for foodgrains and fulfilling all the targets envisaged, the time has now come to plan for concerned efforts in the field of post harvest technology, processing and organised and well planned marketing to meet the requirements of the problem of plenty.



## Bihar Unit Meets

Patna : Shri Rajballabh Mishra the Vice-Chairman of Bharat Krishak Samaj and Dr. D.A. Bholay, Secretary General attended the meeting of Bihar Krishak Samaj at Patna on 8th April, 1979. Shri L.P. Shahi, the Chairman of Bihar Krishak Samaj and the members decided to activate the Samaj in all the districts. Shri Mishra, Dr. Bholay and Mr. Iqbal Singh, Secretary, Bihar Krishak Samaj met the Agriculture Minister Shri Kapil Dev Singh and the Minister for Cooperation and Community Development Mr. Jageshvar Mandal who also assured to give all necessary help for building up Bihar Krishak Samaj

## Farming requires Coordination

Ludhiana : The Executive Committee of Punjab Krishak Samaj met at Ludhiana on 11th April, 1979 under the Presidency of Mr. Balram Jakhar. Dr. Cheema, Vice-Chancellor of Punjab Agricultural University, Dr. Bakshi, Dr. Dhillon and others attended the meeting. Dr. Bholay also attended. The meeting discussed the arrangements for the proposed National Council Meeting of the Samaj for some unavoidable reasons. The National Council meeting is now proposed to be held at Chandigarh in September, 1979. The dates are to be finalised, after which formal notices will be issued to the Council Members of the Samaj. Various committees have been set-up for looking after and managing the function of National Council at Chandigarh.

During the meeting farmers generally expressed that the present agricultural planning in the country is very haphazard. Farmers have proved to be very efficient producers of agricultural commodity as a result there is plenty of production of foodgrains, cotton, potato, sugarcane etc. so much that the production is not efficiently handled by the government agencies resulting steep fall in their prices. There is a need for overall longterm agricultural policy based on the needs of the country and the consequent arrangements for handling of these com-

modities by the government. There is a need for effective adoption of post-harvest technology, processing regulated marketing and effective distribution of these products to the consumers taking care that the farmers as well as consumer are better protected. There is a need for co-ordinated meetings of the policy makers, the administrative, the businessmen, the scientist the financiers, the farmers and the consumers so that everyone understands the real problems and extends full support and cooperation for efficient and satisfactory implementation of sound and overall long-term national agricultural policy in the country. The government must guarantee to purchase all agricultural commodities offered by the farmers for sale at a support price to be declared in advance before the sowing season of the various commodities to avoid distress sale by the farmers and also to ensure minimum price fluctuations during the peak and lean seasons during the year to avoid exploitations by the middlemen. There should be effective commodity boards for various agricultural commodities for efficient policy, programming and execution. Farmers representatives must be associated on various agricultural commodities and their participation must be ensured. The present scheme of agricultural marketing is too inadequate to handle the various agricultural competitions produce by the farmers. Farmers should be assured that they will not be punished for producing plenty in the interest of the nation.

## H.P. Krishak Samaj annual meet

Simla : The annual meeting of Himachal Pradesh Samaj was held on 16th April, 1979 at Simla which was addressed by Shri Bichitar Singh, the Agriculture Minister of Himachal Pradesh under the Chairmanship of Mrs. Vidya Stokes. Dr. Bholay, Secretary General, Bharat Krishak Samaj addressed the farmers and appealed to keep Bharat Krishak Samaj as a non-political organization and exert to strengthen the Samaj by taking up useful activities for the farmers as well as associating in the development programme in the



state. The Minister of Agriculture answered many questions of the farmers about marketing, supply of inputs, Apple problems, the Ginger problems and promotion of opium cultivators. He assured to supply of wooden fruit boxes at cheaper rates. He also assured to help the Samaj in building Krishak Bhawan in every district. Farmers expressed their concern for the falling prices of potato, apple and ginger. It was felt to start mini fruit processing plants in various fruit growing pockets in the states to overcome marketing difficulties and transport bottlenecks. It was felt that the control room for fruit transport vehicles should be abolished and the government and private transport should be allowed to working competition to transport fruits and agricultural products from interior areas even on Kachha Roads.

## LOCUST INVASION

Letter to Shri Barnala

My dear Shri Barnalaji,

The news of *possible Locust invasion* as published in a section of the press is very disturbing. The locust swarm is a terrifying sight. It directly hits the interests of the farmers. According to available information the Locust swarms can move 400 kilometers non-stop and, if aided by favourable winds, it can do much more. Its present breeding place is stated to be in Iran. The neighbouring countries have, therefore, to be quite vigilant about the impending danger. In the interest of pesantry in particular and others in general, it is high time that necessary preventive measures are taken right now. It would be better if a forceful attack is made at the base through the good offices of United Nations because the only effective way to destroy locust is in its infancy. Once it gets wings it becomes difficult to effectively meet its challenge and, thus, a lot of damage is done. I, therefore, bring it to your kind notice and request that all anti-locust forces may kindly be alerted so that the major calamity could be averted.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,  
**BAL RAM JAKHAR**  
 Chairman  
 Bharat Krishak Samaj

**Reply of Shri Barnala  
 to B.K.S. Chairman**

My dear Jakhar Ji,

Thank you very much for your letter of 23rd March, 1979, about taking precautionary measures against locust attacks.

We are seized of the matter and have made all arrangements to fight locust swarms in case they reach our territory.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,  
**Surjit Singh Barnala**  
 Union Minister for Agriculture

**Bungling in Cotton affair  
 says B.K.S. Chairman, Jakhar**

The farmers all over the country strived hard and achieved record production of cotton. The country was in a position to export it and earn maximum foreign exchange. But the entire effort and labour of the farmer went a ground due to the motivated and faulty policies of the Government of India. Instead of encouraging export of cotton, the import of viscose fibre from Japan was intensified and further accelerated. It brought the prices of country cotton to the lowest mark and the farmer had to dispose it off in distress sale. Had the Government acted in time the present catastrophe could have been avoided. It is not just a coincidence but the outcome of a deep-rooted conspiracy to defraud the farmers. The import of almost half of the total export of viscose fibre from Japan all the world over, by India alone, at a time when there was glut of cotton in the market, is meaningful and smacks of vested interest in pursuing anti-farmer policies.

The CCI and the Commission Agents connived and indulged in underhand dealing in making purchases and sharing the profits themselves and leaving the farmers to curse their fate. Even the Government have been defrauded. There has been large-scale bungling in the affair. It therefore, calls for a high level enquiry wherein farm organisations and prominent farm leaders should be associated so that the loss of millions could be unearthed and preventive measures taken



to check its recurrence. The sudden spurt in prices of cotton at a time when the entire commodities had gone out of the hands of the farmers is all the more valid ground for holding a through probe into the whole affairs.

## Farm Leaders of Fifty Nations to meet in Italy

Leaders of most of the world's organized farmers will meet in Sorrento, Italy from 23rd to 27th April, when the International Federation of Agricultural Producers opens its Twenty-third General Conference there. Bharat Krishak Samaj (Farmers' Forum, India) is also the member of this International Federation of Agricultural Producers organization.

National farm leaders from fifty countries and the representatives of twenty international organizations concerned with farming and food problems, will take part in the week-long debates of this unique World Parliament of Farmers. The International Federation of Agricultural Producers is the only world-wide organization representing farmers. Its membership stretches to the five continents. The farmers' organizations in Sorrento are large and small, from developing as well as industrialized countries. Their members, between them, produce most commodities under most latitudes. IFAP's membership cuts across religious, political and race borders. There are countries whose economic survival depends on exports of farm produce, others are among the world's largest food importers.

Features on the programme of the Twenty-third General Conference will be:

- the impact, on farmers world-wide, of the GATT Multilateral Trade Agreement which is now nearing completion;
- the forthcoming World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (Rome, 12-20th July, 1979);
- programme of action on farm commodity markets to be debated in Manila at the Fifth United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

The IFAP General Conference opens in the conference rooms of the Cocumella Hotel at Sorrento/S. Angello at 10.00 on Monday 23rd April and will end during the afternoon of Friday 27th April. During the period immediately prior to the Conference, from 19th to 21st April, farmer representatives will be held discussions on specific commodity sectors.

The IFAP Group on Grains will be reviewing the situation on world grain markets following the failure of governments to negotiate an International Grains Arrangement, and looking into grain costs of production around the world.

The group on Sugar will discuss the market outlook and the International Sugar Agreement governing trade in this, one of the world's key crops—and one of the EEC's most sensitive topics. Then they will venture into sugar's science fiction future. Many think there is a good chance that, in the not-too-distant future, sugar will replace petroleum as a major source of fuel for our cars and feedstock for the chemical industry.

The group on Dairy Products have before it a paper on another controversial commodity, when they discuss the world butter market. They will also consider dairy products and food aid, and the new proposals for an International Dairy Arrangement worked out within the GATT/MTN negotiations; these proposals themselves mirror a draft agreement put forward by IFAP in 1971.

The Group on Meats and Feeding stuffs will be examining a revised version of the World Meat Producers' Charter and looking at the overall prospects for the livestock and meat sectors in the key producing and importing countries.

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### B.K.S. Life Members Enrolled In March, 1979.

Punjab	15
Bihar	10
U.P.	3
Maharashtra	2
Andaman Nicobar	2
Delhi	1
	33

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## **The Hero of Green Revolution is Undoubtedly**

### **The Punjab Farmer**

Punjab Agro has, however, played its part by ensuring efficient distribution of essential agricultural inputs like :—

- Zetor-2511 tractors (with 25 HP), International tractors (with 45 HP), Kirloskar tractors (with 43 HP) and also 4,000 tractors under ARDC scheme. A Golden opportunity for the farmers. Book your tractor now with any of the branch at district level/Service Station. We also ensure effective after-sale-service.
- Various types of tyres & tubes for agricultural Wheel-type tractors and all kinds of implements.
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- Urea, DAP, CAN, NPK, Ammonium Sulphate, NFL Urea, Iffco Urea, Gujarat Urea, Superphosphate through our 12 branches 75 sale centres and 22 Service Stations.
- We also have repair workshops at all our branches and 22 Service Stations for undertaking repairs of all types of tractors and agricultural implements.
- HDPE bags manufacturing Plant at Rajpura. For any requirements, contact General Manager, HDPE bags Plant, Rajpura.
- Supply of unadulterated diesel, petrol and lubricants through our petrol pumps at Ludhiana, Sudhar, Fatehgarh, Anrana Kalan, Kotli Suratmalhi, Srihargobindpur Ghuman and Behram.

For any requirements, kindly visit our branch office of this Corporation in your district.

**Karl Reddy**

**Managing Director**

**Punjab Agro-Industries Corporation Ltd.  
166/19-A, Chandigarh**

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## **Bhuvaneshwari Pith, Gaushala Bags Gopal Ratna**

Bhuvaneshwari Pith Gaushala of Rajkot is the recipient of the 'Gopal Ratna' award for 1976-77. The award has been given in recognition of the out-standing breeding work done by the Gaushala. Krishna, their prize winning Gir cow had yielded 26,850 kg. of milk in 24 hours under the All India Milk Yield Competition conducted during 1976-77. The cow had yielded 4,826 litres and 2,692 litres of milk in her first and second lactation of 315 and 188 days respectively.

Established in 1940, the Gaushala is located at Gondal of Rajkot district in Gujarat. It has taken up cattle breeding programme since 1970. At present, it has a herd of 41 animals of Gir breed. The Gaushala follows selective breeding method for incorporating high milk yield quality and early maturity in animals. For this purpose, the Gaushala is maintaining good Gir breed bulls.

The Gopal Ratna Award is conferred on the winners of the All India Milk Yield Competition for making special efforts towards breeding animals of high productivity. The All India Milk Yield competitions are organised to infuse a spirit of healthy competition amongst livestock owners, breeders, Government Institutions and private farmers for producing animals of high milk yielding strains. The competition is open to private owners of cattle as government institutions. The first, second and third prizes in cash category are Rs. 2,000, Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 500, respectively. The systematic recording of milk yield from lactation to lactation and generation to generation is an essential pre-requisite for evaluating the response to improvement through better practices and to consider the desirability of popularising milk recording on a national scale. It also helps in locating the best milk animals for taking up further development programme.

The All India Milk yield Competitions are being organised since 1969-70 by the Directorate of Extension, Department of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation in collaboration with the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations.

## **Recommendations for Farm Cattle Housing for Arid Areas**

Indian Standards Institution has published Indian Standard recommendations for farm cattle housing for arid areas, IS : 8845 (Part III)—1978, Part III Farm cattle sheds for GAUSHALAS and other organized milk producers, which prescribe the recommended layout and the constructional requirements of cattle sheds and necessary ancillary structures for Gaushalas and other organized milk producers undertaking dairy husbandry practices in an organised way in an arid area.

Besides better breeding coupled with selection, feeding and disease control, proper housing is an important feature in raising the productivity of our animals. At present only a small production of our cattle is maintained on scientific lines. Proper housing which is conducive to good health, comfort and protection from inclement weather which would enable the animals to utilize their genetic ability and feed for optimal production, is grossly lacking except at a few organized farms. The adverse effects of the situation among the large numbers of privately maintained animals, are specially manifest in the dairy animals. A series of standards is, therefore, being prepared to provide guidelines and help in meeting the requirements of various categories of enterprises.

This standard is third in the series of Indian Standards on farm cattle housing under arid areas and deals with the details of different types of sheds and other ancillary structures that are required for Gaushalas and other organized milk producers who undertake dairy husbandry in an organized way. Generally, this kind of enterprise has a herd averaging about 130 animals which include about 40 milking animals apart from dry animals, down-calvers and young stock. These enterprises with such a herd keep one or two bulls for breeding purpose. This part, therefore, recommends details of sheds for housing dry animals, young stock and bulls apart from the details of shed for housing milking animals. Also, as such enterprises handle a reasonably large volume of milk every day, provision



*Licensed Post without Prepayment, Posted at CPSO New Delhi on 30th April 1979*

of a milk collection and testing room and other ancillary units, such as utensils, room, store, and an office room have been provided for in this standard.

7.00) are available from the offices of the Indian Standards Institution located at New Delhi, Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Bombay, Calcutta, Chandigarh, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Kanpur, Madras, Patna and Trivandrum.

Copies of the standard (Priced at Rs.

### MESSAGE FROM VICE PRESIDENT

I am happy to learn that the BKS—the national organisation of Farmers which was started by the late Dr. Panjab Rao Deshmukh in 1955 will celebrate its Silver Jubilee and observe the year from 3-4 1979 to 3-4-1980 as the Silver Jubilee year. It is gratifying to know that in this connection the major function will be held at Hyderabad by organising the National Agricultural fair, the national convention and international convention of farm leaders. I am sure the convention will be very useful in identifying and solving the problems of the farming community.

I wish the Silver Jubilee Celebrations all success and the B.K.S. a glorious future in the service of the country.

**B.D. Jatti**  
Vice President of India

## The Punjab State Coop. Land Mortgage Bank Ltd. Chandigarh

Grams : BHOOMIBANK

Phones : 27357-58-59

AS ON 31.12.1978

(Rs. in lakhs)

1. Paid up share capital	443.48
2. Reserve Fund and other funds	297.29
3. Debentures in Circulation	11,717.89
4. Loans to Primary Land Mortgage Banks	7,435.12
5. Working capital	13,417.90
6. Annual profit.	160.44

The Bank provides long term loans to Agriculturists in Punjab, through its 43 Primary Coop. Land Mortgage Banks for installation of Tubewells, Purchase of Electric Motors, Tractors, other agricultural implements, Leveling of Land, redemption of old debts, purchase of land, purchase of Milch cattle, laying of under and over ground pipes and other development purposes on very easy terms. It also accepts Fixed Deposits to help the needy farmers at very attractive rates of 6½% for one year.

For full details please contact the Bank or any of Primary Land Mortgage Banks at Tehsil H. Qrs.

**(B.S. Bhullar)**  
P.S.C.S. (I)  
Managing Director