



SHRI NEHRU TO INAUGURATE THE FOURTH NATIONAL CONVENTION OF FARMERS

Prime Minister Shri Jawaharlal Nehru will inaugurate the Fourth National Convention of the Bharat Krishak Samaj on March 15 at New Delhi.

The Convention will be held from March 14 to 19, 1958 [at Talkatora Gardens, New Delhi.

Along with the Convention will also be held an **Agricultural and Rural Industries Exhibition**. It will depict to the visiting farmers the advances made in the Agricultural sciences and the techniques and new appliances developed in the field of village industry. The Exhibition will have sections dealing with agricultural and animal husbandry research, agricultural machinery, fertilizers, insecticides, horticulture, food preservation, khadi and village industries etc. Besides the State Departments of Agriculture, the Agricultural and Animal Husbandry Research Institutes, Indian Institute of Veterinary Research, several Ministries of the Union Government and the Khadi and Village Industries Board are expected to participate in the Exhibition.

The Convention this year has some special features. It will start with the holding of the **Seminar on "Krishak Samaj in Agricultural Extension"** Farmers taking active interest in the Krishak Samaj movement and experts connected with agricultural extension work in the Union and the State Governments will participate in the discussion in the Seminar. The Seminar will help the Samaj to plan its programme in the field of agricultural extension.

After the inaugural session, the Convention will divide into three Com-

missions; Commission on Agriculture and Animal Husbandry, Commission on Co-operation and Marketing and Commission on Finance and Organisation. The meeting of the All India Farmers' Council will approve the recommendations of the three Commissions which will be placed for ratification before the Plenary Session of the Convention.

There will also be state wise meetings of the delegates on the occasion of the Convention.

REPUBLIC DAY AWARDS

Rajmata Kamlendumati Shah, Treasurer, Bharat Krishak Samaj, and Dr. B. P. Pal, Director Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi and a member of the Governing Body of the Bharat Krishak Samaj were awarded the "Padma Bhushan" and "Padma Shri" respectively on the Republic Day for their meritorious services in various fields of activity.

Excursions for delegates to Indian Agricultural Research Institute and the All India Cattle Show which is being held in New Delhi from March 10 to 17, and places of interest in and around Delhi will be arranged.

A post conference tour for the delegates attending the Convention is also being arranged. During the preceding years the farmers were sent to the Bhakra Nangal Project and Patiala in Punjab. The tour this year may cover Nilokheri also.

Arrangements will be made to accommodate over 2,500 representatives of farmers from all parts of the country. A beautiful town of tents will spring up in the Talkatora Gardens by the time the delegates start pouring in from the morning of March 13. Free accommodation to stay in Delhi for six days of the Convention will be provided to the delegates in the tents. Separate arrangements will be made for women.

Transport will be provided from Delhi and New Delhi Railway Stations. Guides and Volunteers will be available at platform exits on both the Stations from the morning of March 13 to escort the delegates.

MADHYA PRADESH KRISHAK SAMAJ CONVENTION

Inaugurating the First Convention of the Madhya Pradesh Krishak Samaj, Dr. P.S. Deshmukh, President, Bharat Krishak Samaj said that agriculturists should be ensured a reasonable return for their produce to enthruse them for stepping up food production in the country. **The tiller of the soil, he said, would have no incentive to work for increased production from land if after working hard, he was denied a reasonable price for his produce to enable him to make both ends meet.**

The Convention which was attended by over 500 farmers from all parts of the state was held at Sadar Manzil, Bhopal on January 23 and 24. It discussed the ways and means for the implementation of schemes for increasing food production and passed a number of resolutions.

IF YOU WANT TO ATTEND CONVENTION, HURRY UP

Farmers desiring to attend the Fourth National Convention should hurry up and apply for the Railway Concession Certificate which will enable them to purchase a return ticket, to New Delhi and back, on payment of a *single fare*. The Railway Concession Certificates will be available only from the officers and the Secretaries of the Krishak Samaj in their respective states. Their addresses are given below. They will not be directly sent from the Central Office of the Bharat Krishak Samaj at New Delhi.

Andhra : The Director of Agriculture, Government of Andhra, Hyderabad. **Assam** : Shri S. Majid, Additional Director of Agriculture, Assam, Shillong. **Bihar** : Shri Hanuman Bhagat, Secretary, Bihar Krishak Samaj, Alam Kothi, Naya Tola, Patna, 4. **Bombay** : Shri Anil Jhaveri, Secretary, Bombay State Krishak Samaj, Lalbhai, Shettno Vandoh, Pankor Naka, Ahmedabad. **J. & K.** : Shri B.K. Datta, 56, Rani Tank, Jammu. **Kerala** : Shri K. P. Amrithanatha Aiyar, Working President, Kerala Farmers' Forum, P. O. Monkompou. **M. P.** : Shri M.C. Bondriya, Secretary, Madhya Pradesh Krishak Samaj, Lakherapura, Bhopal. **Madras** : Shri R. Srinivasan, Secretary, Madras Farmers' Forum, 166, Mount Road, Madras—2. **Mysore** : Shri S.V. Haridas, Secretary, Mysore Farmers' Forum, Cenotaph Road, Bangalore-2. **Orissa** : Shri P. D. Dixit, Deputy Director of Agriculture and Secretary, Orissa Krishak Samaj, Cuttack. **Punjab** : Shri Ranbir Singh, Deputy Director of Agriculture and Secretary, Punjab Farmers' Forum, Nabha. **Rajasthan** : Shri Ram Singh, Secretary, Rajasthan Krishak Samaj, Chomu House, Jaipur. **U.P.** : Shri Sher Singh, Deputy Director Agricultural Information and Joint Secretary U.P. Krishak Samaj, Lucknow. **West Bengal** : Shri Debnath Dass, Secretary, Paschim Bango Krishak Samaj. **H. P.** : Shri R. S. Parmar, Convenor, Himachal Pradesh Krishak Samaj, Baghal House, Simla. **Manipur** : Shri Raj Kumar Snyaima Singh, Convenor, Manipur Krishak Samaj, Thengameiband Road, Imphal. **Tripura** : The Director of Agriculture, Government of Tripura, Agartala.

Besides the delegates, the Convention was attended among others by the Chief Minister, Dr. K.N. Katju, Shri K.D. Sharma, Secretary, Bharat Krishak Samaj, Shri B.A. Mandloi, Shri Mishrilal Gangwal, Shri S.N. Mushran, Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Madhya Pradesh and senior officials of the State Agriculture Department.

Shri Takhatmal Jain, Minister for Agriculture and President of the State Krishak Samaj welcomed the delegates and said that food production in the State registered an increase of 32 percent during the first Five-Year Plan period. Of the 16 lakh tons of additional food-grains produced in the State during the plan period, six to six and a half lakh tons were exported to other States through railways alone, he added. Shri Jain claimed that the production of cotton and sugar had also considerably increased in the first Five Year Plan. The additional production of cotton during this period was estimated at one and a quarter lakh bales as compared to the production in 1949-50. He said that production of wheat was increased by bringing more land under cultivation. He estimated that about 25 lakh acres of cultivable land was still lying fallow in the State and said that the Government was making necessary arrangements for bringing this land under the plough.

Shri Jain disclosed that the State Government was contemplating subsidising manufacture of green and compost manures in the villages under the supervision of village panchayats. The Government had also decided to constitute a Board of Agriculture for the State, he said.

Shri Jain said that Madhya Pradesh would forge ahead in establishing the branches of the Krishak Samaj in every district, tehsil and village and appealed to the farmers to go back to their villages with his message for increased production of food-grains.

Inaugurating the Convention, **Dr. Deshmukh** said that an organisation of farmers in the country was necessary. Such an organisation also provided a platform where representatives of the Government and the actual tillers of the soil could meet and find ways and means of overcoming the hurdles in the path of progress in the agricultural sphere. With this end in view the Krishak Samaj was established in

Delhi three and a half years back, he said.

He said that in Madhya Pradesh the Samaj has been established at a later stage but he was confident that the farmers of Madhya Pradesh would march ahead of all other states. The Krishak Samaj was a non-political organisation and did not wish to indulge in agitational type of activities, he added.

Dr. Deshmukh said that in the Western countries, the farmers had their well-knit organisations. That was why they had been able to make sufficient progress.

He said that the prices of agricultural produce should be fixed in proportion to the farm production costs. He said that in U.S.A. and Soviet Union the prices of agricultural produce were fixed prior to harvest in consultation with agricultural producers after assessing the cost of production of the produce. Dr. Deshmukh said that this also implied the necessity of having a well established organisation of farmers.

Dr. Deshmukh said that Krishak Samaj would establish a liaison between the cultivators and the Government and would help in the successful implementation of development programmes. He said that the Samaj would organise seminars and conduct inter-State tours to acquaint the farmers with developments in different parts of the country.

Dr. K.N. Katju, Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, addressing the Convention said that the Krishak Samaj should lay special emphasis on co-operation and help in establishing a co-operative society in each village. He said that for increasing agricultural production in the country a strong co-operative movement was absolutely necessary.

He asked the Krishak Samaj to consider all aspects of the village life. He, however, warned about the tendency of making all sorts of demands. This tendency was spreading among urban population. The Krishak Samaj should approach the Government with the realisation that they have to find out the resources also for financing their demands, he added. He disapproved the habit of banking on Government for everything.

Dr. Katju expressed himself in favour of awarding prizes to villages for better production instead of individuals as was the prevalent practice. For this purpose farmers' organisation was essential. By joining in such organisations they could double their production, he added.

He concluded by appealing to the farmers to make a firm resolve to establish true democracy in every village of the country.

Among others who addressed the Convention were Shri S.N. Mushran, Shri K.D. Sharma, Secretary, Bharat Krishak Samaj and Shri M.C. Bondriya, Secretary, Madhya Pradesh Krishak Samaj.

Shri Mushran expressed the hope that the farmers of the State will ultimately benefit through the Krishak Samaj.

Shri K.D. Sharma praised the efforts of Madhya Pradesh Krishak Samaj which had organised the State Convention and was making rapid progress to help-build the cause of agriculture and the agriculturists. He also congratulated the State Samaj for enrolling more than 400 life members of the Bharat Krishak Samaj.

Shri Bondriya in his speech gave an account of the formation of the State Samaj and said that but for the interest shown by Dr. P.S. Deshmukh and the co-operation of the State leaders it would have been hard for Madhya Pradesh to launch the Krishak Samaj movement in the State.

On the occasion of the Convention subject committees were also formed to discuss subjects like animal husbandry, agricultural implements, land reforms, extension of forests and agricultural development. There were lively discussions in these committees.

The Convention passed many resolutions which urged the Government to exempt seeds from sales tax; establish co-operative societies for marketing of agricultural produce; give at least 50 percent representation of cultivators on marketing committees; entrust panchayats to distribute taqavi; provide lift irrigation facilities; take off restrictions imposed on cultivation of opium in sugarcane areas; provide mechanics in tehsils to repair pumps; eliminate minimum charges for electric pumping

sets as they were not used in monsoons; provide cropwise mixtures of inorganic manures and implements for applying them and fix minimum prices of agricultural produce on cost of production basis.

The Convention decided to send a delegation of 150 farmers from the State to the National Convention.

WEST BENGAL FARMERS' CONVENTION

The second Convention of the State Krishak Samaj, West Bengal was held on February 1 and 2 at Beharampur in the District of Murshidabad. Dr. R. Ahmad, State Minister for Agriculture presided over the deliberations. He exhorted the farmers to improve the agricultural production to meet the deficit of foodgrains which the country was facing.

Among others who addressed the meeting were Shri Surendra Narayan

LIFE MEMBERS

If you are a Life Member of the Bharat Krishak Samaj, you are cordially invited to attend the Fourth National Convention at New Delhi. Railway Concession Certificates have been sent to all life members from the Central Office, New Delhi. If you have not received the Railway Concession Certificate by now you must immediately write for it to the Central Office at New Delhi.

Singh, Chairman, Reception Committee; Shri Hiranmaya Banarjee, I.C.S., Development Commissioner, West Bengal; Shri J.K. Roy, District Collector, Murshidabad; Shri Rash Behari Chaudhry, Vice-President, Paschim Bango Krishak Samaj; Shri Debnath Das, Secretary, Paschim Bango Krishak Samaj and Shri Raikinkar Chaudhry. Shri K.D. Sharma, Secretary, Bharat Krishak Samaj who was present on the occasion also addressed the meeting.

Group discussions were held on manures and fertilizers, improved seeds, prices of agricultural commodities, prevention of crop diseases, animal husbandry and social and cultural welfare of the farmers.

Along with the convention the meeting of the Jute Committee of the Bharat Krishak Samaj was also held. The meeting was presided over by Shri Rash Behari Chaudhry and discussed the important problems relating to jute cultivation.

PUNJAB FARMERS ASKED TO INCREASE OUTPUT

An appeal for increasing agricultural output and to make the country self sufficient was made by Shri A.P. Jain, Union Minister for Food & Agriculture and Shri Pratap Singh Kairon, Chief Minister of Punjab at the Punjab Farmers' Convention. The Convention was held at Patiala from February 2 to 4.

Presiding over the opening session of the Convention Shri Pratap Singh Kairon said that Krishak Samaj was a common platform for farmers so that they could organise themselves to protect their social, economic and cultural interests.

The Chief Minister said that the country was facing a critical situation in carrying out the Second Five Year Plan because of foreign exchange difficulties. Crores of rupees were being spent every year for purchasing huge quantities of food grains from foreign countries, he added.

Shri Kairon exhorted the farmers to double their production within the next three years to fulfil the commitments of Punjab for raising food production during the Second Five Year Plan.

Addressing the farmers, Shri A.P. Jain said that there was no lack of resources and with their proper utilization by the farmers, the country was sure to become self-sufficient in food grains in the near future. He said if the present food production was increased by five per cent, India would not have to import food from outside.

Eighty percent of the peasantry in the country, he said, consisted of petty landholders who owned holdings ranging between one to five acres. He advised such peasants to start subsidiary industries like poultry farming, fish rearing etc., and also practise intensive cultivation as was being done in China and other countries.

Shri Jain believed that maladministration was also responsible for the food crisis in the country. Often, means provided for the benefit of the farmers were not utilised at all or were utilised in a half-hearted manner. The Union Food Minister said that during the First Plan period 80 lakh acres of land was provided with irrigation facilities but these were being utilised for only 40 lakh acres of land. He disclosed that

in Punjab 170 tubewells were lying idle although farmers of the State were themselves anxious to get more irrigation facilities.

Concluding, the Minister made a fervent appeal to Punjab farmers to raise their production to meet, at least 25 percent of India's deficiency of 20 lakh tons of food grains by producing five lakh tons more this year.

UJJAIN KRISHAK SAMAJ BUILDING

Dr. K.N. Katju, Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh laid the foundation stone of the building of District Krishak Samaj, Ujjain (Madhya Pradesh) on February 8. Shri Takhatmal Jain, State Minister for Agriculture presided over the function.

The building will house the office of the District Krishak Samaj and a library for the farmers. It is the outcome of the efforts of Shri Murlidhar Singh President, District Krishak Samaj and his enthusiastic co-workers. The building is being built on a 3,000 sq. ft. plot of land in the Chimanganj Mandi of Ujjain. It will be built at a cost of Rs. 30,000.

KERALA FARMERS' CONVENTION

The Kerala State Farmers' Forum held the second Convention of Farmers of the State on February 15 and 16. Shri C. Thomas, Secretary to the Government presided at the plenary session of the Convention. The Convention was held at Beasant Hall, Alleppey and gave an opportunity to the farmers of the State to meet each other and the officers and to find out ways and means to improve the agricultural production in the State.

Alongwith the Convention a Cattle show was held by the Animal Husbandry Department of the State. The meeting made several recommendations regarding fertilizers, soil, pests and diseases, irrigation, seeds, price and cost of production, animal husbandry, N.E.S. and the advancement of cooperation in agricultural field.

BURDWAN FARMERS' CONVENTION

The Annual Convention of the District Krishak Samaj, Burdwan (W. Bengal) was held at Agricultural Farm, Suata on February 15 and 16, 1958. Along with the District Farmers' Convention an Agricultural Exhibition

FOURTH NATIONAL CONVENTION OF FARMERS

March 14 to 19, 1958

Programme

Friday, March 14, 1958.

7-00 A.M.
10-00 A.M. to 1-00 P.M.
3-00 P.M. to 6-00 P.M.
7-00 P.M.

Registration of Delegates begins.
Seminar on—"Krishak Samaj in Agricultural Extension."
Seminar continued.
Opening of the Exhibition.

Saturday, March 15, 1958.

9-00 A.M. to 1-00 P.M.
3-00 P.M. to 6-00 P.M.

Statewise meetings of the Delegates.
Inauguration of the Convention by Prime Minister Shri Jawaharlal Nehru.
Constitution of the Commissions.

Sunday, March 16, 1958.

9-00 A.M. to 1-00 P.M.
3-00 P.M. to 6-00 P.M.

Meeting of the Commissions on :
(i) Agriculture and Animal Husbandry

—do—

Monday, March 17, 1958.

9-00 A.M. to 1-00 P.M.
3-00 P.M. to 6-00 P.M.

—do—

(ii) Co-operation and Marketing

Tuesday, March 18, 1958.

9-00 A.M. to 1-00 P.M.
3-00 P.M. to 6-00 P.M.

—do—

(iii) Finance and Organisation

Wednesday, March 19, 1958.

9-00 A.M. to 1-00 P.M.
3-00 P.M. to 6-00 P.M.

Meeting of the All India Farmers' Council
Plenary Session of the Convention.

was also held. Dr. R. Ahmed, Minister of Agriculture, West Bengal presided over the Convention.

BULANDSHAHAR DISTRICT FARMERS' CONVENTION

The District Krishak Samaj, Bulandshahar (U.P.) held its second Convention on February 18 on the occasion of the District Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition. Dr. P.S. Deshmukh, President of the Bharat Krishak Samaj inaugurated the Convention. A large number of farmers of the district were present on the occasion.

MYSORE FARMERS' FORUM

The Mysore Farmers' Forum will hold the second Convention of State Farmers on February 22 and 23 at Hassen in which representatives of farmers from all taluks and districts of the State will participate. The Convention will be inaugurated by Dr. P. S. Deshmukh, Union Minister for Co-

operation, and Shri Rudrappa, Minister of Agriculture, Mysore will preside over it.

The subjects to be discussed in the Convention will include, organisation of Krishak Samaj, cereals and pulses, fruits and vegetables, dairying and animal husbandry.

YAWAL KRISHAK SAMAJ MEETING

The District Krishak Samaj, Yawal (Bombay) is holding the Annual Conference of the farmers of the district on February 24. Shri K.D. Sharma, Secretary, Bharat Krishak Samaj will preside over the Conference. The meeting will discuss the agricultural problems of the farmers of Yawal district.

NARSINGHPUR DISTRICT CONVENTION

The District Krishak Samaj, Narsinghpur (M.P.) is holding a convention of district farmers on March 1 and 2. The Agriculture Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Shri Takhatmal Jain will inaugurate the Convention.