

KRISHAK SAMACHAR

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Farmers' Problems Unsolved

A letter from Chairman B.K.S. Mr. Balram Jakhar to
Union Agriculture Minister

My dear Shri Barnalaji,

The interests of the farming community all over the country have been hit very hard in the recent past. This matter, therefore needs your personal attention so that the eroding values of the hard work put in by the Kisan are checked.

2. The C.C.I. entered the market a bit late this year. It purchased cotton from the farmers at most unremunerative rates varying from Rs. 255/- to Rs. 250 per quintal. After sometime, the Government stopped the import of viscose fibre. This abruptly raised the prices of the cotton to Rs. 450/- per quintal and above. It was, however, too late for the actual producer who had already sold most of his produce to CCI in distress sale. It was, in fact, the CCI alone which earned the profit, by the sudden and belated increase in prices of cotton. The profit, so earned by the CCI, actually belongs to the farmers. The CCI is primarily to safeguard the interests of the producers. It cannot act as a Commission Agent or a trader to devour the profit earned by it just by coincidence. I would, therefore, urge upon you to use your good offices with the CCI for re-imbusement of the profits earned by them to the farmers concerned. Complete records are available with them and there should be no difficulty in apportioning the profit amongst them.

3. The potato growers of Punjab and Haryana had a very hard time this year. They have actually been ruined because there were no arrangements for marketing their produce at reasonable rates—much less on remunerative rates. Similar difficulty was experienced by the farmers of U.P., Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab, Bihar, Maharashtra and Tamilnadu in regard to sugar-cane crop. Now, in the case of wheat crop in Punjab and Haryana, the produce is rotting in Mandis, just for want of gunny bags which are not available. The recent shower must have damaged the wheat lying in the open and that too to the detriment of the farmer. The procuring agencies will not purchase damaged wheat. The farmer stands penalised for no fault of his because he brought his product to the Mandis but it was not lifted for want of gunny bags. What a fate of the poor Kisan. I understand that in Rajasthan the procurement agencies are partial in providing gunny bags. Such things tempt corrupt practices by these agencies.

4. It is clear that abundance of agricultural produce is now a problem and its marketing is also posing a serious problem to the detriment of the farming community all over the country. Unless some post-harvest technology is developed for procurement and disposal of agricultural produce the interests of the farmers can not be safeguarded.

(Contd. on page 2)

Vital Statistics

- * The World Food Programme has approved \$ 289 million worth of food aid to 16 countries, including India. India gets aid for an ongoing project of supplementary nutrition for small children, pregnant women and nursing mothers (\$ 57.4 million) and the workers building the Rajasthan Canal (\$ 12 million).
- * Industry sources say export of frozen shrimps made during 1978 was highest on record. It was of the order of 51,223 tonnes valued of Rs. 179.06 crore.
- * Industry estimates the indigenous supply of edible oil to be about 26 lakh tonnes compared to 25.50 lakh tonne during 1978-79. The consumption is likely to be about 35 lakh tonnes.
- * The Union government has set a target to provide by March 1982 drinking water to all the 1.13 lakh 'Problem' villages in the country having no source of potable water within one-and-half kilometers.
- * The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) has forecast the world production of wheat and coarse grains at 1.139 million tonnes-three million tonnes lower than its March forecast because of deteriorated crop prospects in several countries.
- * According to Central Research Institute of Rajahmundry, Neem kernel is more effective than pesticides in protecting tobacco seedlings from caterpillar attack. Neem kernel gave superior protection to tobacco seedlings from caterpillar attack at nearly half the cost. This practice also eliminated the pesticide residue problem.
- * FAO's latest Food outlook report that world production of pulses in 1978 rose to 51 million tonnes, seven per cent more than in the previous year. The increase in the pulses crops peas, beans and lentils was largely due to an increase in acreage under pulses as also generally good weather. Pulse crops now cover half as much land worldwide as rice of which four-fifths is accounted for by developing countries.

(Contd. from page 1)

5. The abrupt rise in the prices of agricultural implements, machinery, spares and inputs during the past few months has added to the misery of the farmers. The prices of tractors have gone up by more than 40% in the recent past. The purchase of tractor and its maintenance is now beyond the means of an ordinary farmer, who is already groaning under the heavy load of debts raised by him to increase his out-put which ultimately help the entire nation. The disproportionate increase in the prices of agricultural implements etc. and the visible disparity between the price of agricultural produce on one side and the finished products therefrom on the other side, is really very sad. The agricultural produce is not co-related to the prices of its finished products like cloth, sugar etc. The farmer have to purchase necessities of his life, made and fabricated from his produce, at higher rates. This backbone of the country is helplessly watching yourself, can very well understand their problems and, fortunately, you are in a position to solve them also. I would, therefore, request you to kindly to come to rescue of peasantry in the country by atleast maintaining parity between the agricultural produce and the finished products therefrom and ensuring adequate supply of Disel etc.

With best regards,

Yours Sincerely,
(Bal Ram Jakhar)
Chairman
Bharat Krishak Samaj,
(June 13, 1979)

Krishi Pandits of Paddy Crop

Shri T.G. Shivaraj, S/o Shri Thimmaiah Setty, Village Sathanur, Taluk Adoni, District Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh has won the First Prize by producing 17,544 kg. of Paddy per hectare in the All India Paddy Crop Competition during Kharif 1977-78. He gets a cash Award of Rs. 5,000 and a certificate of "KRISHI PANDIT".

Shri Shivaraj selected a plot of 0.41 hectare of clay loam soil. Dhaincha was grown as green manure crop. He applied 5 tonnes of farm yard manure, 200 kg. superphosphate, 100 kg. fertiliser mixture (28:28:0) 150 kg. of muriate of potash per acre to his nursery plot.

Jaya paddy, seed was sown on 16.6.77. Shri Setty sprayed 6 kg. Furadon after 3 days of seed sowing, 500 ml. Endosulphan and 500 gm. Zineb after 15 days of seed sowing and 500 ml. Endosulphan and 60 gms. Agrimycin (in 200 lt. water) 3 days before seedlings were transplanted as a preventive measure.

Seven irrigation at 3 to 5 days interval was done at the time of land preparation. Besides green manuring the plot with Dhaincha, application of 25 kg. of Zinc sulphate alongwith 10 tons of farmyard manure per acre 10 days before puddling was done. Two hundred kg. neem cake, 200 kg. superphosphate, 50 kg. muriate of potash and 50 kg. urea were applied before 2 days of transplanting. Fifty kg. NPK mixture (28:28:0), 50 kg. urea and 50 kg. neem cake per acre was added after 20 days of transplanting. He also added 100 kg. of ammonium sulphate per acre after 60 days transplanting. He topdressed his crop with 50 kg. Urea after 15 days of transplanting.

Shri Shivaraj transplanted 30 days old seedlings. He planted 2-3 seedlings per hill, maintaining a distance of 15 cm. between rows and 10 cm. between the hills.

The crop received 344.4 mms. of rainfall and was also irrigated 22 times at 3-5 days interval.

The crop was harvested in October, 1977 and an yield of 17,544 kg. (adjusted

to 14 per cent moisture content) of paddy per hectare was recorded.

Shri Shivaraj spent Rs. 5,232 and realised produce worth about Rs. 16,950 per hectare.

Second Prize Winner

Shri Pandhara Lakhaji Lichade, S/o Shri Lakhaji Ramaji Lichade, Village Barbasपुरa, Post Kachewani Tehsil Gondia, District Bhandara, Maharashtra won the Second Prize by producing 16,490.05 kg. of Paddy per hectare in the All India Crop Competition for Paddy during Kharif 1977-78. He gets a cash prize of Rs. 3,000/- and a certificate of Merit.

Shri Lichade, selected a well drained, and well levelled plot of 0.2 hectare. It had medium type Morand soil on which he had grown Gram in the previous season.

The land was prepared by ploughing twice with wooden plough harrowing twice. One irrigation was given at the time of preparation of field. 25 kg. of urea per hectare was applied to the nursery and Jaya Paddy seed was sown in the third week of June, 1977.

In the competition plot he applied 700 kg. of Sampurna fertiliser mixture (19:19:11) and 100 kg. urea per hectare. He applied 500 kg. of compost on 10.6.77, 1200 kg. of pig manure on 11.6.77 before puddling. Again applied 700 kg. sampurna fertilizer on 8th, 23rd July and 9th August, 1977 in split doses and 100 kg. of urea on 24.9.77.

He transplanted 14 days old seedling with a spacing of 20 cm between row to row and 10 cm. between plant to plant and weeded the crop twice with Touchi-Gurma.

The crop was sprayed 6 times with Endrin and Copper compound as a preventive measure. He obtained 16,490.05 kg. per hectare (adjusted to 14 per cent moisture content) of paddy.

A sum of Rs. 5575 was spent and the value of the produce he obtained was 12,697/- per hectare.

Samaj News

A letter to Chairman, B.K.S. in response to his letter to Ministry of Agriculture. Asstt. Director Locust Control Writes:—

We are thankful to you for your interest in the war against the desert locust. The Government of India have taken precautions to see that the desert locust swarms do not damage our crops. In Rajasthan we have 34 permanent locust outposts which keep a continuous watch on the activities of the desert locust in that area. The locust officers meet and exchange information with the locust officers of the Pakistan Government frequently. In addition special surveys are conducted along the Indo-Pakistan Border so that no locust activity remains conducted even in difficult areas. We are also in touch with the Government of Iran, Afghanistan, and Pakistan and the other countries which are affected by the desert locust like us so that we are prepared to face it if the swarms cross the borders and reach India. We have stocked sufficient quantity of insecticides; we have posted locust men in strategic areas in the scheduled desert areas which is breeding grounds of the desert locust, we have kept ready 5 aircraft to go into action against the swarms if they enter our country.

All the State Governments are also warned about the impending danger and have been advised on the steps to be taken up by them from now on to fight the menace in case it attacks their State. The Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations which is interested in the global control of this dreaded pest is actively co-operating with the Indian Government and has been giving monetary assistance by way of free insecticides, wireless equipment and other facilities. (25th May, 1979).

ICAR Agricultural Research Service trainees with B.K.S.

The Agricultural Research Service scientists as a part of their training are required to undergo for rural orientation after their staff training at Hyderabad. Three agricultural scientists Mr. S.K. Sharma, Dr. Agrawal and Mr. Tomar

are placed with Bharat Krishak Samaj for such rural orientation for four months. Another Agricultural scientist Miss Manjulata has recently joined BKS for such training. Mr. Tomar is working in village Gunarsa in Saharanpur District of U.P. Dr. Agarwal is working in village Harsaru in Gurgoan District, Haryana and Mr. Sharma is working in village Maunjgarh, Firozpur District of Punjab. These scientists are working and studying with a view to prepare whole village developmental plan. Dr. D.A. Bholay, Secretary General, Bharat Krishak Samaj recently visited Gunarsa in Saharanpur and Garhi Harsaru in Gurgoan for supervision and guidance.

Shri Pritam Chaudhari Shri D.D. Gupta and Shri Sajjan Kumar attended and helped the visit programmes of Dr. D.A. Bholay at respective places.

Saharanpur District Krishak Samaj

The members of Saharanpur District Krishak Samaj specially fruit growers are facing number of difficulties in transportation of mangoes and other fruits in various parts of the country. Research in the study of ripening, packing and preservation of fruits is essential. Dr. Bholay visited the villages in Saharanpur district recently.

Durg Samaj in service of farmers

Durg Krishak Samaj is attending day-to-day problems of farmers and escort them to concerned offices to remove their grievances.

2. Propagate insurance plans for motor cycles, pump sets, cattle and poultry etc.

3. Durg Krishak Samaj is also adopting 'villages'.

4. They are also exhibiting boards like 'Every village speaks'.

Bharat Krishak Samaj Life Members Enrolled in the month of May, 1979.

Madhya Pradesh	4
Uttar Pradesh	2
Rajasthan	1
Punjab	1
Orissa	1
Bihar	1

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Marketfed Kerala

The origin of Kerala State Cooperative Marketing Federation (MARKETFED) can be traced back to December, 1942 when it commenced as a wholesale District Cooperative Store in erstwhile Malabar District doing wholesale distribution of various controlled items and levy procurement of paddy. It was converted as Marketing Society in 1958 and further as Apex Body with jurisdiction over the entire State doing fertilizer distribution, procurement and marketing of pepper, cardamom, ginger and copra. MARKETFED started monopoly procurement of raw cashew in 1977 in the entire state.



General : The total membership of the Federation is 88 including the State Government with share capital of Rs. 5.53 lakhs from member institutions and Rs. 91.98 lakhs from State Government. N.C.D.C. has contributed Rs. 55 lakhs for fertilizer distribution and Rs. 30 lakh for cashew procurement. The Federation has 3-Regional Offices, 4 Branch offices and 8 Field offices.

1. *Pepper :* Spices worth Rs. 235.39 lakhs were exported in 1976-77 against Rs. 25.86 lakhs in 1975-76. Out of this, 1055 MT was pepper. The total procurement and marketing of pepper this year is expected to be about 8000 tonnes of which 5000 tonnes worth Rs. 10.00 crores was exported to Czechoslovakia, Rumania, U.S.S.R., G.D.R, Poland and U.S.A. Pepper powdering plant is being started.

2. *Cardamom and Ginger :* More than 200 tonnes of Cardamom and 100 tonnes of Ginger will be exported this year and hope to achieve 1000 tonnes export target next year.

3. *Oil-Seeds :* A modest begining is made in procurement and marketing of copra in Quilon District and plans to start copra expellor units and supply about 50 tonnes of copra per day to Coconut Development Corporation.

4. *Fertilizers :* Fertilizer distribution is done through a large net work of Primary Societies in the State. In 1976-77

about 22,235 tonnes of fertilizers were distributed as against 12,222 tonnes in 1975-76. This year 31,130 million tonnes are distributed and hope to exceed 38,000 tonnes next year.

5. *Cashew Procurement :* Monopoly procurement of cashew was entrusted by the Government in 1977. About one lakh tonnes of cashew are expected to be produced in the state. The Federation gave a price of Rs. 6 per kg. to the farmers as against only Rs. 2 per kg. being paid by private companies, besides ensuring supply to all private companies proportionate to their muster roll strength. The procurement is done through 1172 Primary Societies through their 6000 depots within the State within 3 Kms. approach to all farmers. Cash payment for the nuts delivered are made to the farmer by these depots. The Federation has set up 100 drying yards-cum-godowns in the state. This year more than 80,000 tonnes of nuts worth Rs. 60 crores have been procured by the Federation as against 68,000 tonnes last year.

6. *Tapioca :* Tapioca marketing programme has been started by the Federation and secured export orders for sizable quantity of Tapioca.

**Meloth Narayanan
Nambiar
President
KSCMF Ltd.**

You
may be a farmer or a trader
or an exporter or a foreign
buyer
Whoever
you may be, our objective is your satisfaction
We serve you

As marketeers of Vijay 17 : 17 : 17 : Urea and other products of Madras Fertilizers Ltd., As we are the sole distributors of "IFFCO" fertilizers in Kerala., As sole distributors of imported Fertilizers on behalf of Kerala Government.

As distributors of Mussooriephos, Rock phosphate, Bone meal organic fertilizers.

Above all

**An exclusive agent for cashew procurement
As buyers, Traders, exporters of**

**The Agricultural Products of Kerala
Black Pepper, Ginger, Cardamom, Rubber, Copra, Arecanuts,
Tapioca
And a Host of other Commodities
At Your Service**

**The Kerala State Co-operative Marketing Federation Ltd.,
Ernakulam - Cochin 16**

P. B. No. 2301

Tel : 36879

Telex : 885 553 KFED.

Gram : MARKEDFED

DEDICATED TO ECONOMIC FREEDOM OF FARMERS

The MP State Cooperative Marketing
Federation Limited

BHOPAL



OUR AVOWED GOAL IS TO PLAY A DECISIVE ROLE
IN FULFILLING THE EVER-CHERISHED DESIRES
OF A :—

CULTIVATOR :— : to produce more and to
get a better return for
his produce.

CONSUMER :— : to have more for consu-
mption at a lesser price.

TO ACHIEVE THIS, WE ARE ENGAGED IN A MASSIVE
CORPORATIVE EFFORT TO :—

*Supply quality farm inputs like fertilisers, irrigation pumpsets,
seeds etc., even to remotest areas, at a uniform and reason-
able price and to buy farm produce directly at hundreds of
centres at fair price.

*Supply farm produce, some of them processed at our units,
to consumers, always trying to keep the price spread at the
lowest possible level.

Punjab Markfed

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