



KRISHAK SAMACHAR

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All India Farmers Council Meeting

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Jaipur, the historic city of Rajasthan played host to thousands of farmers who gathered there for the 12th National Convention of Farmers and 20th meeting of the All India Farmers Council. The Farmers collected there belonged to different parts of the country and many had come from very distant places. In the wake of serious food shortage in the country it was gratifying to find that the farmers exuded a spirit of determination to leave no stone unturned to make India self-sufficient in agricultural production in as short a period as possible.

Election of President and Vice-Presidents:

Shri A.M. Thomas, Union Minister for Defence Production who was looking after the affairs of the Bharat Krishak Samaj since the death of Dr. P.S. Deshmukh, was unanimously elected as the President of the Bharat Krishak Samaj by the All India Farmers Council. His name was proposed by Shri H.G. Patil and seconded by Shri V.V. Patil. After his election, the President was authorised by the Council to nominate the four Vice-Presidents of the Samaj.

After his election to Presidentship, Shri Thomas thanked the members for electing him the President. He said that since his childhood he had been a farmer and although the call of politics had forced him to come to New Delhi, yet wherever he was, he had the cause of the farmers upper-most in his mind. He was associated with the Samaj since its very inception and it would be his earnest endeavours to make the Organisation as strong as possible, to realise the dream of the late Dr. P.S. Deshmukh.

All India Farmers Council Meeting

The 20th Meeting of the All India Farmers Council commenced with the prayer song. Shri Ram Singh, Secretary, Rajasthan Krishak Samaj welcoming the delegates said: Mr. President, Respected Mirdhaji, dear Farmer Friends:

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I am grateful for this privilege of welcoming Mirdhaji and all of you to the ancient city of Jaipur for this All India Farmers Council Meeting of the Bharat Krishak Samaj. I am speaking on behalf of the Rajasthan Krishak Samaj which is the State Unit of the Bharat Krishak Samaj.

It was as long as 1960 when it was first proposed that Jaipur should be the site of a State Agriculture Fair. The matter was discussed several times and we did take some preliminary steps towards that end. However, due to many difficulties the question was shelved. It was, therefore, a great pleasure for us when ultimately it was decided that the National Agriculture Fair would be held in Jaipur and along with it, also the National Convention of Farmers and this Council meeting and the very useful Seminar we held yesterday.

The Samaj was founded by our revered late President Dr. Panjabrae Deshmukh to provide a National Voice of Indian Agriculture and gave the traditionally backward and exploited Kisans a form where they could discuss mutual problems and difficulties and try to find solutions. The Samaj is about to complete twelve years of its existence. In many Conventions, Council meetings and Seminars opportunity was given to thousands of farmers to come together from all parts of the country on a common platform. Speaking different languages, having different customs, professing different religions, wearing different dresses, the common people of the soil have stayed together in camps for several days, together they met and discussed their common problems.

In these twelve years the multifarious problems and difficulties of our toiling masses have been discussed threadbare. They have been placed before the concerned and even unconcerned authorities and experts of the Government both at the Centre and in the States. The main problems have been highlighted in discussions on many occasions alongwith the Government experts, who have always been invited to come and meet the farmers face to face and find solutions to the various problems. Practically every meeting has been attended and addressed by our leaders and the Ministers and Governors and others. The problems are made known to all those in power and authority. They all have expressed this understanding of these problems and have offered not only their sympathies but also their willingness to help. No doubt quite a lot has been done by Government

for Agriculture. And we do not deny the fact that the country's problems are vast and complex. But Sir, with all due respects to honourable Ministers and the others I wish to submit on behalf of all the farmers present here that even the fring of the problem has hardly been touched by Government effort. That all our discussions and representations and our appeals, I am sorry to say, have fallen on deaf ears. The vital and basic problems remain unsolved. We have been patiently waiting for the promised solutions but they have not yet come. Our founder President was a very patient, understanding and peace-loving man and we took his advice to press our difficulties in a calm and peaceful manner. Because he was a National leader much beloved of the farmers and because he was for a decade a Minister in our National Government we kept on living in hope patiently, going on from year to year. We had then the main consolation of the fact that he at least was genuinely trying to help us by representing our case in the Parliament.

Yesterday the Honourable Nathu Ramji spoke with great feeling of the difficulties facing farmers. He pointed out briefly some of the defects in planning at the higher level, how those, for whom the Plans are made are not associated with the planning at different levels in order to give a truly realistic shape to the final Plans, how priorities have been perverted and agriculture and food production neglected. In the discussions which followed in the Seminars the Government experts and the farmer delegates were talking the same language as far as the basic difficulties are concerned. This happens every time and the poor experts are heckled for the faults of the planners. Sir, even Ministers of Agriculture are apparently fed up with this perversion of priorities indulged in by the Planners. We are the poorest farmers in the world and all the inupts required by us for our agricultural operations are the most expensive in the world.

Are we to turn to methods of agitation and coercion like the politicians and others Let us hope not. But if these patient farmers are forced to take to such methods nobody will be to blame but those who are in power. I hope such a stage in our history will not be reached. We beg of you for advice and proper guidance.

After the welcome address, the Secretary, Bharat Krishak Samaj read the messages from dignitaries wishing the meeting a success :

MESSAGES

RASHTRAPATI BHAVAN
NEW DELHI-4.

I am glad to know that the Bharat Krishak Samaj is holding the Twelfth National Convention of Farmers at Jaipur in November, December 1966. I send my best wishes for the success of the Convention.

S. Radhakrishnan

October 20, 1966

VICE-PRESIDENT INDIA
NEW DELHI

I send my best wishes for the success of the 12th National Convention of Farmers and 20th Meeting of the All India Farmers Council to be held at Jaipur this month.

Zakir Hussain

December 19, 1966

PRIME MINISTER'S HOUSE
NEW DELHI.

Self-reliance is our prime need. The goal can be achieved sooner in agriculture than in industry. Our strength depends on the speed with which we can manage without imports of grain and other farm commodities.

The kisan has not always received the required support from the administration, or from industry, or, indeed, the whole social system. These defects we are attempting to remedy. Fortunately, the kisan has shaken off the old sense of resignation. In spite of neglect and Nature's wrath for centuries, the man with the hoe, has prevailed in our land. He can now triumph if he adopts the new scientific techniques.

Agricultural fairs and conferences, help farmers to learn new techniques and absorb new ideas. They can thus make a great contribution to our quest of self-reliance.

My good wishes to the Twelfth National Convention of Farmers being organised at Jaipur by the Bharat Krishak Samaj.

Indira Gandhi

October 28, 1966.

RAJ BHAVAN
JAIPUR

I am glad to learn that a Convention is going to be held in Jaipur during the last week of this month. Agriculture occupies the place of premier importance in our economic life but it does not stand alone and in isolation from other aspects of our economic activities. The prosperity of the Indian people lies in achieving and maintaining a suitable balance in the fields of agriculture as well as large, small scale, and cottage industries. The balance cannot stand at a static figure. Its level will grow with our increasing population and the higher needs created by its rising standards of life. I trust that the forthcoming Convention will pay attention to these matters and be able to work out a frame work for adjusting the needs and activities of all sectors of our economic life.

Sampurnanand

December 18, 1966.

CHIEF MINISTER
WEST BENGAL

I am glad to learn that the twelfth annual session of the Bharat Krishak Samaj is being held at Jaipur, Rajasthan. Unless we develop our agriculture and become self-sufficient our progress will be halted. Progressive farmers should put their heads together and devise ways and means to improve our agricultural practices and take full advantage of the existing irrigation facilities. Judicious use of chemical fertilisers, manure (organic and green), use of pesticides, better and improved variety of seeds will certainly make us self-reliant in food.

I wish the session success.

P. C. Sen

MINISTER FOR
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
GOVT. OF INDIA

I am happy to know that the Bharat Krishak Samaj is holding its Twelfth National Convention of Farmers and Twentieth Meeting of the All-India Farmers' Council from 27th December to 30th December at Jaipur.

I am sure that this get-together of the farmers will provide an opportunity for a profitable exchange of views and experiences, particularly about the recent advances in agricultural practices. The success of our new agricultural strategy depends upon the widest dissemination of knowledge about improved agricultural methods within as short a time as practicable. It is, therefore, timely for the Bharat Krishak Samaj to hold the proposed Seminar on Farm Management and Productivity.

I send my best wishes for the success of the Convention and the Seminar.

C. Subramaniam

26th December, 1966.

MINISTER OF PLANNING
AND SOCIAL WELFARE, INDIA

I understand that the Bharat Krishak Samaj is organising the 12th National Convention of Farmers at Jaipur during the months of November-December, 1966.

I am sure that the Samaj will take this opportunity to underscore the benefits to be gained from modern, scientific farming. Of course, farmers in their turn, would like to draw attention to their own practical problems which merit an urgent solution. I think this Convention will have served a valuable purpose by organising such a two-way flow of problems and their solutions. It is important that agricultural production be stepped up on an emergent basis and that farmers, agricultural scientists and administrators be brought together in this shared endeavour.

17th October 1966

Asoka Mehta.

MINISTER FOR FOOD
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

I am happy to know that the Bharat Krishak Samaj is organising a National Convention of Farmers. The succession of natural calamities which this country has experienced in the recent past has focussed our attention, more than ever before, on the paramount need to raise agricultural production to a level high enough to enable us to meet our food needs even in a bad year.

This can be achieved only through raising agricultural productivity from every acre under cultivation. In this context, the subject of farm management and agricultural productivity assumes great significance.

In the areas where the Intensive Agricultural Programmes are in operation the role of farm management demonstrated to the farmers in a big way. The experience gained in the working of these programmes has shown that the yield per acre can be maximised not by following the traditional methods of cultivation but through an intensive use of the new knowledge and technology that agricultural science has brought to the fore-front.

I am sure the convention will provide an opportunity to the farmers for exchange of ideas about the various aspects of agricultural production, the problems that are being encountered in the field and the manner in which they could be tackled most effectively.

I wish the deliberations of the Convention all success.

December 22, 1966

P. Govinda Menon

DEPUTY MINISTER
FOOD, AGRI. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
AND CO-OPERATION, INDIA

The National Convention of Farmers and the All India Farmers Council are meeting at Jaipur at a time when the country is passing through the food crisis. The only solution for the present food crisis lies in increasing the per-acre production both in food crops and commercial crops. The nation has been suffering from want of food for its teeming millions and raw-material for the agro-based industries.

The Farmers are the key and the most important factor in resolving the crisis. Very encouraging researches have been done in agriculture, specially in the High Yielding varieties. The farmers will be doing service to the nation and themselves, if they come forward to learn the science and technology of such varieties and adopt them on their farms on a nation wide scale.

I wish the deliberations every success.

December 21, 1966

S. D. Misra

ALL INDIA CONGRESS COMMITTEE

I am glad that you are having the 12th National Convention of Farmers at Jaipur from 27th to 30th December. I would have been glad to participate in the Conference but my pre-engagements here prevent me from doing so. I am therefore sorry for my inability to attend the Conference. I, however send my best wishes for the success of the Conference.

December 21, 1966

K. Kamraj

THE ROCKFELLER FOUNDATION
NEW YORK

I appreciate the invitation to participate in the 12th National Convention of Farmers which is being held from December 27 to 30 at Jaipur. I take this opportunity to extend my best wishes to the Farmers' Forum in recognition of the important role they are playing. I am much interested in the activities of this Forum and recognize that our cooperative efforts through ICAR and the concerned states in the coordinated cereal improvement schemes are related to the objectives of the Forum.

December 15, 1966

Guy B. Baird
Field Director
Indian Agricultural Programme

Inauguration of Council meeting

Inaugurating the Council Meeting, Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha, Speaker, Rajasthan Legislative Assembly, paid tributes to the memory of the late Dr. P.S. Deshmukh, Founder President of the Samaj who, he said, had kept the point of view of farmers effectively before the people and the government. Under his able leadership, the Samaj had made tremendous progress.

He congratulated Shri A.M. Thomas on his election as the President and hoped that the Bharat Krishik Samaj would get new life, by his election.

Shri Mirdha said that agriculture ought to be given first priority and although we often talked of giving such priority actually we never cared to do it. He said that because of our neglect of agriculture, we were living from "ship to mouth".

But, he said, if we had given priority to agriculture in the first three Plans we would not have been in such a bad state of affairs.

He emphasised the need to make the Organisation strong so that it could articulate the farmers point of view. He also urged upon the Organisation to form a study group of farmers.

Address by President

Shri A.M. Thomas, the President, addressed the meeting. He said:

I am very happy to be amongst you for the second time this year.

We are meeting today at a very critical period of our history. As you know, the country is facing unprecedented famine conditions in the States of Bihar, Eastern U.P. and parts of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and West Bengal. These unhappy conditions, which have added considerably to our food problem, the realisation that our population is growing at an alarmingly fast rate and the unrest, dissatisfaction, disrespect for law and order now witnessed in most parts of our country are matters of deep concern to the peasant community. These have awakened and shaken

us all completely. It is, therefore, most appropriate and opportune that we are meeting here at this juncture to take stock of the situation. It is not only your responsibility to produce food for our people in adequate quantities, but you are also concerned with the health and well being of the whole nation; to be so concerned is to be concerned about ourselves who depend directly on agricultural prosperity.

As farmers, you are peace loving and God-fearing. Most of you are fathers and grand fathers or mothers and grand mothers. It is your duty to give proper training to your children so that their character is built, morals improved and they learn to respect the elders, their teachers and law and order. It is your responsibility to see that your children and their children become citizens worthy of our great country full of fine tradition since ancient times.

There is no gainsaying the fact that the Government has awakened to its responsibility towards the Agricultural Sector and the farmers. As you know, the Fourth Plan gives highest priority to Agriculture and has undertaken many measures of far-reaching importance to agriculture in order to achieve self-sufficiency in agricultural production.

The most important of these measures is the introduction of hybrid seeds of maize, jowar and bajra and improved varieties of rice, wheat and other food grains. The results obtained from these varieties have been very encouraging and in some cases extra-ordinary. The farmers in various parts of the country have taken enthusiastically to these varieties and have produced very satisfactory results. There is no doubt that this enthusiasm will only prove to be the precursor of agricultural revolution in the country. I am happy to note that our members, more specially in Maharashtra, Mysore, Punjab, Gujarat, etc., are working in the field of hybrid seeds and are thereby helping the country achieve self-sufficiency.

Another field in which the Government is showing real concern is the production of

fertiliser. As you know, these improved varieties of seeds require huge quantities of fertiliser in order to give their maximum yields and there has been a great demand for fertilisers from farmers. Government has fixed a target of 2.2 million tons during the Fourth Plan and it is taking active steps to achieve this target.

The use of improved agricultural implements, machinery and tools is one of the means to practise agriculture efficiently and profitably. You all very well know that unless the sowings, plantings and harvesting are done at the proper time, the out-turns of crops are very much effected. Labour is also getting scarcer and costlier and is not easily available during the peak periods of sowing and harvesting operations. Farm mechanisation is the solution, but our small holding and unsatisfactory economic condition of our farmers come in the way of adoption of farm-mechanization on a wide scale. However, it is a happy sign that farm-mechanisation is being adopted gradually by those who can afford it. I am indeed very happy to observe that the Bharat Krishak Samaj has been conscious of the importance of improved agricultural machinery from the very beginning. In our agricultural fairs and exhibitions we have been devoting a good deal of attention to this aspect. One of our State units also sells tractors and other agricultural machinery, spare parts, and what is more important, it undertakes even servicing.

You realise that with the help of the Government it is the desire of the farmer to produce more. Who is to promote this desire for higher production? Can the extension worker alone do it? I personally feel that the extension worker alone would not be able to deliver the goods. Here comes the role of farmers' organization like the Bharat Krishak Samaj. Our organization can play a significant part in creating the desire among the farmers to produce more. It will be relatively easier for such organizations to carry conviction to the farmer. We do not have extension agency in every village. Moreover, the extension worker is not supported by the facility of farm. Our organisation has been contributing its share by joining hands with the Government, by playing the role of an effective extension worker through our active and progressive members.

There is yet another important factor about which farmers are genuinely worried. It is the fixation of incentive prices for the farmers

produce. Government has accepted in principle the importance of incentive prices. It has also set up the Agricultural Prices Commission to look into the matter. The Commission is accordingly reviewing the agricultural problem from time to time. It is however necessary that due representation should be given to the farmers' organisation on this Commission, so that a realistic view is brought to bear on the question of agricultural prices.

For want of time the report of the Secretary, Bharat Krishak Samaj was not read. It was, however, circulated to the audience. The report is reproduced below:

SECRETARY'S REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE BHARAT KRISHAK SAMAJ FOR THE PERIOD FROM JAN-UARY 29, 1966 TO DECEMBER 27, 1966.

The last (19th) meeting of the All India Farmers Council was held in Lucknow from 28th to the 30th January, 1966. The report therefore covers a period of nearly 11 months.

Drought:

During this period the country experienced for the second consecutive year, an unprecedented drought which seriously affected the crops in Bihar, Eastern U. P., parts of Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Rajasthan etc. This serious drought situation has added to the responsibility of our farmers. I have no doubt, however, that our farmer members will rise to the occasion and make utmost effort to maximise agricultural production from their own lands and also give whatever help and cooperation they possibly can to their fellow farmers to step up production. On behalf of you all, I extend to the suffering people of the drought affected areas our heart-felt sympathy, and hope that they will face the calamity with courage and determination.

Shri Subramaniam declines to assume Presidency of the Samaj:

As you all know, Shri C. Subramniam, Minister of Food, Agriculture, C.D. & Cooperation, was elected as President of the Samaj by the All India Farmers Council at its meeting held in Lucknow in January, 1966. However, he subsequently expressed regret that he was unable to assume Presidentship of the Samaj. Members will recollect that the Council had authorised him to nominate the four Vice-Presidents also.

Shri Bir Chandra Patel passes away:

I am sorry to inform you that Shri Bir Chandra Patel, Revenue Minister, Bihar, died prematurely by heart-failure on December 7, 1966. He was 55. Shri Bir Chandra Patel was formerly President of the Bihar Krishak Samaj and was a pillar of strength to the Samaj. In his death, the Bihar Krishak Samaj and the Bihar farmers have lost a staunch supporter. The Governing Body has passed a resolution of sympathy on his death.

Life Members:

Since the last Council meeting, which was held in January, 1966, the number of Life Members increased from 9,653 to 10,118 (upto 20-12-1966) i. e. by 465. This unsatisfactory progress in the enrolment is, however, to a large degree due to famine conditions. It is earnestly hoped that the State Samajs will make up for this deficiency in the coming years. As in the previous few years, Maharashtra stands first in enrolment and deserves our congratulations; U. P. Krishak Samaj comes next and it also deserves our congratulations. It was to a very large extent due to the personal interest of the President, Ch. Charan Singh, and the efforts of Shri Muni Deo, Vice-President, that the membership drive alongwith the various programmes has been satisfactory. Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Madras and Madhya Pradesh come next to U. P. in the given order.

Foodgrains Policy Committee:

The Union Ministry of Food & Agriculture set up a Foodgrains Policy Committee under the chairmanship of Shri B. Venkatappiah to recommend the policy regarding procurement, distribution and movement of the foodgrains in the country. The Committee invited the views of the Samaj on these matters. Accordingly, a delegation consisting of the following met the Committee on 25th July, 1966.

1. Capt. Charan Singh, Punjab
2. Shri Satwant Singh, Punjab
3. Shri V. V. Patil, Maharashtra
4. Shri M. C. Bondrya, M. P.,
5. Shri R. B. Deshpande, Secretary, B. K. S., and
6. Shri Om Prakash, Asstt. Secretary, B. K. S.

The delegation amongst other things stressed upon the Committee the following points:

Zonal System:

The delegation expressed disapproval against the Zonal System.

Procurement:

As regards procurement, the Delegation considered the policy as troublesome to producers, but stated that if it had to be continued it should be on a rational basis and that farmers owning 5 or less areas of land may be exempted from its operation. In procuring, provision should be made for wages to be paid in kind to labour, seed for their own use and foodgrains requirement for personal consumption. Procurement prices should not only be remunerative but should also be incentive. The increasing cost of production should also be taken into consideration in fixing the price. As far as possible, the procurement should be done through co-operatives and at places convenient to the producers.

Distribution:

Regarding distribution, the Delegation stated that equitable distribution was very important and that Government should have buffer stocks to curb the anti-social activities of traders. It suggested that the Food Corporation of India should build up stocks by entering into the market at the harvest time and by giving timely inputs like fertilizers to producers against supply of foodgrains,

Agricultural Prices Commission:

The Agricultural Prices Commission called for the views of the Bharat Krishak Samaj in the matter of fixing prices for wheat and gram. Accordingly a Delegation consisting of Capt. Charan Singh, Haryana; Sardar Satwant Singh, Punjab, Shri Mohinder Pal Singh, Delhi; Shri V. V. Patil, Maharashtra; and the Secretary and the Asstt. Secretary of the Samaj met the Commission on 30-11-1966. The Delegation emphasised the necessity of fixing prices well in advance of the sowing season so that the farmers could plan properly and procure the inputs accordingly in time.

India Productivity Year—1966:

The National Productivity Council has been celebrating India Productivity Year—1966, throughout the country. Bharat Krishak

Samaj is actively collaborating with the National Productivity Council in the agricultural field. As you are aware National Farmers Day was celebrated throughout the country in collaboration with the National Productivity Council on April 3, 1966. Bharat Krishak Samaj also organised a Seminar on Farm Mechanization at Jaipur on 19th and 20th November, 1966, which was inaugurated by Shri Nathu Ram Mirdha, Minister of Agriculture, Rajasthan. The National Seminar on Farm Management, held on the 27th December, was also in the same series under the India Productivity Year—1966. In both these Seminars a large number of experts and progressive farmers participated. Among the participants were a few foreigners also. The proceedings are under preparation. The National Productivity Council is partially meeting the expenses of these Seminars. The Samaj very much appreciates the invitation of the National Productivity Council to collaborate with them in celebrating India Productivity Year—1966.

Family Planning and Agricultural Production Pilot Programme:

The Farmers and World Affairs, Inc., U.S.A. in cooperation with the Samaj are undertaking a pilot educational programme among the Samaj members and those influenced by them. The purpose of the pilot programme is to find out the problems that are limiting acceptances of planning and improved agricultural techniques in villages of India, and to work with the Samaj in improving the climate for acceptance of both to bring about a balance between agricultural production and the population of India. The idea is that because about 80 per cent of the people of India live in the rural areas and the Bharat Krishak Samaj is the National Organization of the Farmers of India, significant results can be obtained by working with them.

It has been decided to undertake the work to start with as a pilot programme in two States, viz. Maharashtra (Jalgaon distt.) and Madras (in some Blocks).

Major emphasis throughout the programme will be to develop support for the Government of India's Family Planning Programme. Support of Agricultural Extension work will also be a goal.

The Farmers and world Affairs, Inc., have informed us in their recent communication that they have found out about 3/4 of the finance

needed for the project and that they are hopeful that the balance would be found out soon.

Farmers Exchange Programme—U. S. A.

The U. S. Farm Leaders (5 couples) visited India under the Farmers Exchange Programme which lasted from 15th January to 3rd March 1966. The group participated in the Lucknow Council meeting and also paid a visit to the State Agriculture Fair organised by the Samaj. During their stay in Lucknow, they were the guests of the Governor of U. P. The group, besides visiting several places in U. P. also visited Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Madras and Punjab. At a few places the visitors stayed with India farm families on their farms.

The next group of U. S. Farm Leaders is expected to arrive on the 25th of February for a stay of about 5 to 6 weeks in this country.

At the invitation of the Farmers and World Affairs, Inc., a group of 10 Indian farm leaders visited U. S. A. The group visited Washington, Massachusetts, New York, Indiana, Illinois, Montana and California. The group had orientation and also evaluation in Washington D. C. The members of the group mostly stayed with American farm families on their farms. The group was in U. S. A. from August 20 to October 6, 1966.

Farmers Exchange Programme—G. D. R.

A group of eight Indian farm leaders visited G. D. R. at the invitation of the Farmers Mutual Aid Association, G.D.R. The group was in GDR for about 15 days from 30th August to 16 September, 1966 and during their stay in G.D.R. it visited the famous LEIPZIG Fair and saw a good deal of their agriculture including research and training, as also industries based on agriculture.

4th National Agriculture Fairs:

The 4th National Agriculture Fair was inaugurated in Jaipur on 12th November, by the Chief Minister of Rajasthan. The Fair is very beautifully planned and covers an area of about 30 acres. Among the foreign participants are, West Germany, Israel, two Japanese firms and a firm promoting the consumption of nitrogenous fertilisers. Among the States, besides, Rajasthan, which is the host State only Mysore and Kerala have participated. The Rajasthan Pavilion is the biggest and the most elaborate. The poor participation of States in the Fair is very disappointing and discouraging.

A large number of Central Ministries have participated. Among them are the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Railway, Defence, Information & Broadcasting, Commerce, Health, Deptt. of Communication (P&T) and Atomic Energy. A large number of manufacturers of agricultural machinery, fertilisers, pesticides etc have also participated in the Fair. There is also a Shopping Centre, Eating Corner, Amusement Park, Roller Skating Rink, Television and a Theatre. Although the number of people visiting the Fair is relatively small, a high proportion of them is farmers and those interested in agriculture. So far delegations from Bhutan, NEFA, Japan, U.S.A. (youth), have visited the Fair and have appreciated it very much. On the 17th of this month the German Pavilion celebrated the German Day at which the German Ambassador was present. He also visited a few pavilions.

Capt. Rattan Singh assigned Ministership:

Most of you perhaps know that Capt. Rattan Singh, a progressive farmer from Punjab, who is a Life Member of the Samaj since almost the beginning and who was also a member of the Governing Body, has been assigned the port-folio as Minister of State for Animal Husbandry, Irrigation and Power in the new State of Punjabi Suba. On behalf of you all, I take this opportunity of sincerely congratulating him on his new assignment.

Shri S.M. Wahi becomes Vice-President of the I.F.A.P.

I am also very glad to inform the Council that Shri S.M. Wahi, Vice-President of the Bharat Krishak Samaj was elected as Vice-President of the I.F.A.P. at its 15th General Conference held in London in May, 1966. On your behalf, I felicitate Shri Wahi on this great honour.

B.K.S.—Member of International Association of Fairs and Expositions.—U.S.A.

I am very glad to inform you that the International Association of Fairs and Expositions, U.S.A. has made the Bharat Krishak Samaj Hony. Member of the Association. The Association was much impressed by the Fairs that we have been organising in the country. This is a matter of great pride and credit to the Samaj and particularly to the Fair authorities.

Present position of the Arbitration case:

The World Agriculture Fair Arbitration Case connected with the Govt. claim of Rs. 35,57,646/- against which the Bharat Krishak Samaj paid to the extent of Rs. 7,02,938.41 (including adjustments), is pending in the Arbitration Court since 18-2-1964. The evidence from Government side is complete. Five witnesses have already appeared and one more witness from Indian Industries Fair—1955 (Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce) is also to appear on behalf of the Samaj. The next date of hearing is 14.1.1967. Thereafter there will be cross arguments on both sides on hearing which the Arbitrator is expected to give his award.

The trend of Arbitrator's mind is difficult to gauge. There has already been a move at top level to have the case mutually settled between the Government and the Samaj. If this materialises, the case will be withdrawn from the Arbitration court.

State Krishak Samaj Reports:

Punjab Krishak Samaj: A seminar on intensive cropping was organised in which besides S. Darbara Singh, Minister of Agriculture, Punjab, several other eminent people and experts of the Govt. departments participated.

A special issue of Krishak Samachar containing useful articles by authorities on the subject of intensive farming was published.

A small exhibition displaying the produce of farmers and agricultural machinery was also organised.

A deputation of farmers from Punjab waited upon the Union Minister for Food & Agriculture to represent to him the necessity of raising the price of paddy.

The Panchayat Raj Training Centre at Ferozapore under Punjab Farmers Forum is running satisfactorily.

There are 900 Life Members and nearly about 5000 Ordinary members in Haryana, A Working Committee has been formed to push up the work of the Samaj. On behalf of you all I extend to the new Samaj good wishes.

Madhya Pradesh Krishak Samaj: The State has been facing drought for the 2nd year in succession. Accordingly the M.P. Krishak Samaj was engaged in ameliorating the conditions of farmers. Shri S. N. Mushran, Working President of the Samaj toured some hard-hit districts of the State. The Panchayat Raj

Training Centre at Bhopal under the M.P. Krishak Samaj is running satisfactorily.

The Samaj also published a Diary for 1966 which contains very useful information.

Maharashtra Krishak Samaj : The National Farmers Day was celebrated by the Maharashtra Krishak Samaj under the Presidentship of Dy. Home Minister, Maharashtra in which many members from Jalgaon and Aurangabad districts participated. The officials and experts gave useful information in respect of use of improved seeds, manures, plant protection measures etc.

The Jalgaon office carried out extensive propaganda in respect of 'Grow more food'. In this connection it also procured hybrid seeds for distribution to farmers.

Demonstration of hybrid crops were held at several places.

The Jalgaon office also undertook demonstration of implements and tractors at several villages. It has also undertaken sale of tractors, machinery spares and also servicing.

Shri Watane, Jt. Secretary, toured several areas of the State and gave impression of his visit to East Germany.

At a meeting held at Nagpur by Dist. Samaj, the problem of desilting tanks and non-availability of open market, for grains in Nagpur was discussed.

At a block meeting of the Life Members held at Akot (Dist. Akola) under the Chairmanship of Shri Korpe, M.L.C. resolutions on cotton, levy system act were passed.

Walgaoon Gram Krishak Samaj held a meeting at which the question of levy policy, cotton etc. were discussed and resolutions were passed. The Krishak Samaj at Buldana also passed similar resolutions.

The Amravati Dist. Krishak Samaj has decided to hold a meeting of 100 Life Members in Amravati city and farms and run the nagar units of the Samaj on Rotary Club lines as a social meet in a week. It was also decided to start lecture series yearly on the "Mission of

Dr. P.S. Deshmukh and his life" and celebrate 27th December as a Jayanti Day all over the district.

Kerala Krishak Samaj : The 10th Convention of the Farmers' Forum, Kerala was held at Palghat on the 29th and 30th October, 1966. Shri Bhagwan Sahai, Governor of Kerala, inaugurated the Convention which was presided over by Shri A.M. Thomas, Union Minister for Defence Production and President of Bharat Krishak Samaj. The Convention was attended by over 500 delegates from different parts of the State, besides some from Madras. There were interesting discussion on various matters of importance to the farmers and several important resolutions formulating the views of the Convention were adopted. Among the officials who participated in the Convention and addressed the delegates were Shri R. Prasad, Advisor to Kerala Governor, Shri K.K. Ramankutty, Agriculture Production Commissioner, and Shri M. Janaradan Nair, Director of Agriculture. An exhibition arranged in connection with the Convention was very useful and instructive and was visited by a large number of delegates.

Following the Convention the State Branch is taking steps to organise basic units of the Samaj in several parts and good progress has been made in the formation of a unit of the Samaj at Ollurkara in Trichur District.

Madras Krishak Samaj : The Madras Farmers' Forum, published a very fine Diary as in the previous year. It contains very useful information. The Madras Farmers Forum deserves our congratulations on this.

A District Centre was founded in April, 1966 at Tiruchirapalli district. The Centre meets on the last Sunday of each month, when specialists of the State Department of Agriculture are invited to address the members. The talks are followed by discussions and questions and answers pertaining to the farming problems. This is very useful activity and should be emulated by other States.

Orissa Krishak Samaj : The Orissa Krishak Samaj has started the construction of building for the Samaj on the land allotted by the State Government a few years ago. The Orissa Krishak Samaj deserves to be congratulated as

it is the first State Krishak Samaj to construct a building of its own.

Bihar Krishak Samaj : Bihar Krishak Samaj has set up Dist. Committees in all the 15 districts of the State and through the efforts of the Samaj, enthusiasm has been created for stepping up food production. Efforts were also being made to increase the Life Membership of the Samaj. Unfortunately, due to the famine conditions, changes in the Ministry, stoppage of grant-in-aid by the State and the death of Shri Bir Chandra Patel, the activities of the Samaj have been slowed down. The State Samaj, however, hopes that the Samaj work will be revived from March, 1967.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to the Secretaries and Organizers of the State Branches, the members of the Governing Body and Standing Committee of the Samaj and the members of the All India Farmers' Council and my colleagues and staff of the Central Office of the Samaj for the help and cooperation they gave me

ungrudgingly in the execution of my difficult duty as Secretary of the Samaj. I earnestly hope that I shall receive in the same big measure the help and cooperation from them in future also.

The council meeting continued next day, the 29th December, under the chairmanship of Shri S.M. Wahi and discussed the two subjects. Two groups were formed one for each of the two subjects, namely (i) How Agriculture Production can be stepped up in the shortest possible time and (ii) How agricultural administrative machinery can be improved to suit farmers interests. Shri H.G. Patil was chairman and Capt. Charan Singh the rapporteur of the first group and Sardar Buta Singh was the Chairman and the Shri Srinivasan the rapporteur of the Second group. Members divided themselves and had thorough discussion on the subjects. Both these groups drafted resolutions which were later adopted by the Convention. The resolutions have been reproduced in *Krishak Samachar* on pages 20 to 22.

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National Convention of Farmers

The 20th National Convention of Farmers commenced in the afternoon of 29th December, 1966, with a prayer song. Mrs. Vimla Deshmukh was in the Chair. Welcoming the farmer delegates, she said that agriculture was the key to all developments, and it was therefore necessary that the farmers should make their organisation strong so that it became the mouthpiece of farmers. She emphasised the necessity for giving incentive prices to the farmers to ensure greater production. She also laid stress on undertaking cost of production studies for this purpose.

Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha, Speaker, Legislative Assembly, inaugurated the Convention. To begin with, he paid tribute to the memory of late Dr. Deshmukh, who, he said, had organised the farmers' organisation. He hoped that we would all follow the path shown by him, and serve the cause of farmers through this organisation.

Emphasising the need for agricultural production he said that economic progress of a country was as vital as defence, because in modern wars much depended upon the state of economy of a country. In an economy, agriculture was the king-pin and it was necessary to revitalise this sector. In agricultural development lay the key to our economic development. He hoped that the farmer delegates present would try to strengthen the organisation so that all the difficulties of farmers could be brought to the notice of Government and could be removed.

He suggested that the farmers organisation should articulate its policy towards the Fourth Five Year Plan and suggest any necessary changes.

He said that he was sorry that even after three Plans, the country had no definite price policy on foodgrains. He suggested that there should be cost of production studies of all crops before prices were fixed.

He regretted the fact that although farmers worked hard the whole year round it were the middlemen who bought agricultural produce at distress prices at the time of harvest and by hoarding the same made huge profits.

He also suggested that a certain percentage of electricity should be reserved for agricultural purposes.

Shri S.M. Wahi traced the history of Bharat Krishak Samaj and enumerated the difficulties that they had to face in the setting up of this farmers organisation. He said that for several years the Samaj had progressed by leaps and bounds, but when any organisation became big, some difficulties were bound to crop up. Moreover the Samaj had successfully faced these difficulties under the able leadership of late Dr. Deshmukh.

After his death, it was the determination of every member of the Samaj to make it strong to serve the interests of millions of farmers.

He said that although the country had made good progress in several spheres, agriculture had not made much progress. One reason for this was the lack of an effective organisation to raise the grievances of the farmers as also to disseminate scientific methods of agriculture amongst the farmers. He said that the Bharat Krishak Samaj was ideally suited to fulfil this role.

He laid great stress on the need to fix incentive prices for farmers to increase agricultural production. The Bharat Krishak Samaj had been laying emphasis on this point since its very inception and it was a matter of gratification that the Government had agreed to this principle.

In addition to price support it was also necessary to make inputs specially credit available to farmers.

Shri Rangaswami Raja (Madras): Shri Raja said that he came from the southern part of Madras State where the principal crops are rice, cotton, sugarcane and ground-nut. His interest was in long staple cotton. He referred to his visit to U.S.A. in the Exchange Programme in 1966 and said that U.S. farmers are well experienced and practice scientific farming. They get their soils analysed as a routine so that they know what the soils are deficient in. In India it took him one year to get his soil analysed. The average U.S. farmer is well informed about farming. Regarding credit, he said there was no difficulty at all and it was readily available. This is a great help to farmers in their profession. Our farmers too can do better with adequate and timely credit at reasonable rate of interest. All facilities are available to know the latest methods. There is

easy approach to Research Institutes. Rice yields in U.S.A. are not better than in India, but those of maize, wheat and cotton are better. Farms are efficiently managed.

Shri H. G. Patil (Maharashtra): Shri Patil gave his personal experience about rice growing in which he was mainly interested. He said that the newly introduced high yielding paddy varieties were a boon to farmers. He urged that all paddy growers should use high yielding varieties only and this will help to solve our food deficiency. They are dwarf and do not lodge even with heavy manuring and all grains mature well. The variety B 15 has fine grain and yields as much as Taichung Native 1. He pointed out that farmers are hesitant to take up to these varieties but the Samaj members should arrange demonstrations to convince them. He said that our scientists are slow to evolve new varieties, as compared to those in some other countries. In evolving new varieties stress should be laid on high yield, short duration and drought resistance. Chemical fertilizers should be applied in combination with green manuring and other organic manures as soil may get bad by more use of fertilizers. Taichung variety is sensitive to low rainfall and also to waterlogging. On an average, the variety produced 15 to 20 tillers, all of which are effective. The proportion of straw to grain is: Straw 3/4: grain 1. The variety however, is susceptible to blight, whereas B 15 is resistant. Shri Patil was confident that with the cultivation of new varieties the country would be self-sufficient in rice within a very short time.

Shri Ram Singh (Rajasthan): Shri Ram Singh told about his experience on his 15 bigha farm on which he practises mixed farming—poultry, grain crops (wheat and bajra) and vegetables (peas and cucurbits). Irrigation is from a well. His farm being near the town (Jaipur) he gets good price for the produce. His peas crop (variety Bonneville) fetched Rs. 2000/- (net profit) from one bigha. He grows Rs. 31 improved wheat variety. The average egg production is 253 per hen. The cost of feeding is about Rs. 2.50 per bird per month. He sells eggs through the Poultry Cooperative Marketing Society which controls the price. An egg fetches about 31 to 35 paise. He gets help free of any charges from Govt. Veterinary doctor. The birds are given concentrates and rice bran and maize. They are also given green

feed. He has recently planted grape vines (Thomson Seedless and Anabeshahi)

S. Mann (Punjab): He stressed the importance and necessity of multiplication of seeds of improved varieties rapidly. He urged the farmers to understand each other and make efforts to produce more. To produce more all the necessary inputs must be used. We must not depend upon Govt. for everything. We must stand in our own legs and try to do things ourselves. Agriculture, he said, was no longer a hobby but is a business. The former will result in losses. Knowledge and experience should be gained and spread to others. The late Dr. Deshmukh, he said, wanted to make the Samaj independent of Govt. We should make it strong so that it can serve the cause of farmers better.

Shri Kashyap (Delhi) stressed the need to re-orient our educational system to make it suited to the needs of an agricultural country. He said that the basic need was to make the life in villages pleasant so that people did not look down upon the rural life.

Shri Gurbax Singh (Jullunder) emphasised the need to grow potatoe which he said would be very profitable to farmers and good for the country. He also mentioned various difficulties experienced by farmers which stood in the way of increasing agriculture production. He praised the work being done by the Central Potatoe Research Institute, Simla.

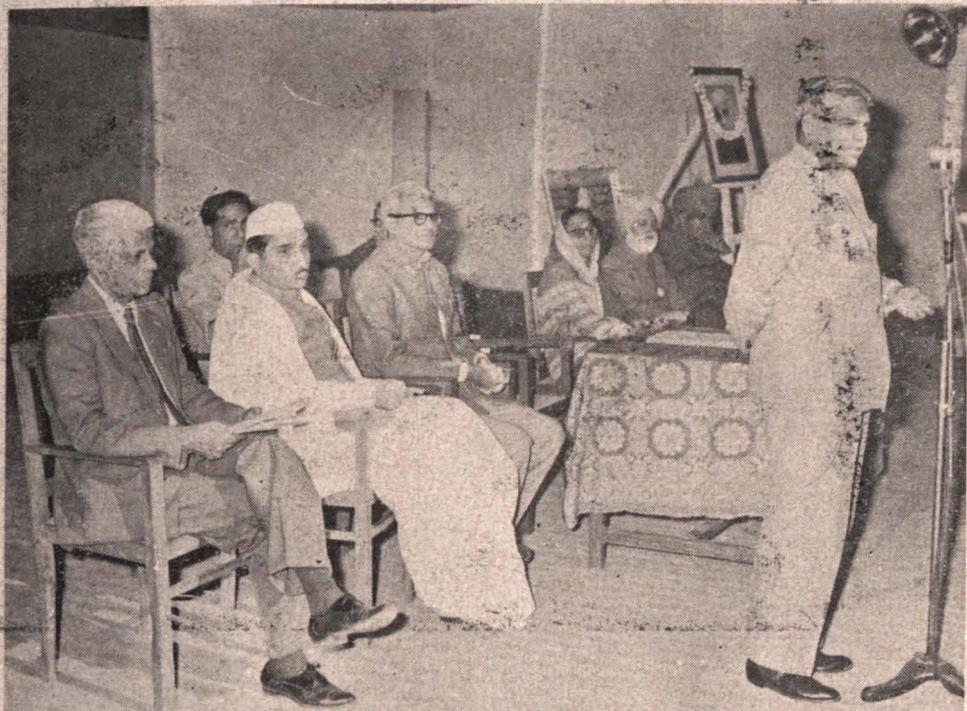
In the afternoon the Convention took up the resolutions. The resolutions which were passed unanimously are given on pages 20 to 22.

Concluding Plenary Session

Speech of Chairman—Mrs. Vimlabai Deshmukh at the closing ceremony of the 12th National Convention of Farmers, Jaipur—December 30, 1966.

Friends,

It is indeed a matter of great pleasure and privilege for me to see so many delegates here in this session of the National Convention of Farmers. It is still more gratifying that due to the kindness and generosity of Shri Sukhadiaji, Chief Minister of Rajasthan, Shri Nathuramji, Agriculture Minister, Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha, Speaker of the Rajasthan Assembly, Members of the Rajasthan Farmers' Forum, as well as the farmers of the State, in general, it has been possible for us to hold



The President Shri A. M. Thomas addressing the delegates

Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha, inaugurating the Council Meeting





A view of a section of the audience at the Council meeting



Dr. Sampurnanand, Governor of Rajasthan speaking at the prize distribution ceremony

A panoramic view of Fourth National Agriculture Fair, Jaipur





Shri N.S. Watane, President, Amravati Dist. Krishak Samaj, receiving District Award



Shri V.V. Patil, Vice-President Maharashtra Krishak Samaj receiving Dr. Rajender Prasad Rolling Shield on behalf of his State from Shri Nathuram Mir-dha, Agriculture Minister, Rajasthan.

this session here and to visit this beautiful and ancient city in the State of Rajasthan. I have the honour to express my sincere obligations to you for the tremendous cooperation and support you have extended to us.

(2) As most of you know, this is our 4th Convention outside Delhi. The account of these Conventions forms instructive and interesting reading, which incidently indicate the rate at which the Bharat Krishak Samaj has been growing. It also shows how well we have kept our balance in spite of the provocation from either side, the impatient left and the conservative right. It also concretely establishes the fact that in supporting and strengthening this Organization, we are doing something which was the need of the hour and for which there is definite place in the whole of our economic and social set up.

(3) The recommendations that we have put down are not too many although we have, in our own way and in the manner of our own thinking, considered in fair detail all the issues that face us and the problems that confront us. I personally feel that:

- (i) Traditional methods should yield place to scientific methods and technological changes.
- (ii) There should be proper production incentives by fixing of minimum prices and price support for all major crops for atleast one year before the harvest.
- (iii) Farmers should have increased opportunity for favourable investment for production and for improving living standard.
- (iv) Increased faith and responsibility should be placed for agricultural production on cultivators and their organisations.
- (v) Government should greatly increase resources that contribute to agricultural production.

(4) Agriculture, *pride of the Fourth Five Year Plan*, claims the outlay of Rs. 5,000 crores, nearly one third of the total Plan outlay and covers subjects like:—

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------|--------------------|
| (1) "New Strategy" | (a) Intensive Agri. Dist. Programme. | | |
| | (b) Intensive Agri. Areas Programme | | |
| | | 1965-66 | 1970-71 |
| (2) Increase in food pro-duction | | 90 millton | 120 tonns. million |

tonns.

- (3) Improved seeds
 - Major
 - Medium
 - Minor
- (4) Irrigation
- (5) Agricultural implements
- (6) Plant Protection.
- (7) Land reclamation and soil conservation
- (8) Cooperative credit
- (9) Marketing & Storage facilities for agricultural produce.
- (10) Agro—Industries
- (11) Crop Insurance
- (12) Agricultural Price Policy

I, therefore, feel that there is an immediate need to set up a sub-committee of the Farmers' Forum, to study the pros and cons of the agricultural development in the Fourth Plan as it is going to affect the Indian farmers and the Forum in the implementation of the National Agricultural Plan, in its true spirit

(5) Allow me to recollect the observations made by Dr. Parker, one of the greatest American friends of ours, so far as the Bharat Krishak Samaj is concerned.

"The need for farmer organizations arises from the inability of individual farmer to meet some of his vital needs in a developing economy. These needs may relate to his own farming operations or to the interests of farmers, as a major segment of society. In business operations, particularly purchasing supplies, processing, marketing and credit, there is usually advantage in large scale operations. Efficient cooperative can bring most of these advantages to small farmers. Likewise farmer organizations afford cultivators an opportunity to discuss and voice the interest of farmers just as unions represent labour and various organizations represent industry. The educational value of farmer organizations is also great. In fact they are one of the very best means of educating the farmers about new methods and practices".

It is natural for human beings to under-rate themselves often and for some people not to appreciate the value of your suggestions except when it is endorsed by some people from outside. I consider this a human failing and therefore do not regret it.

With these words, I would like to conclude my speech and request you to act in the spirit of Bharat Krishak Samaj to serve our Mother Land.

Resolutions Passed at the 12th National Convention of Farmers held at Jaipur from 28th to 30th December 1966

1. The 12th National Convention of Farmers expresses its deep sorrow over the sad and premature death of Shri Bir Chandra Patel, Revenue Minister, Bihar by heart-failure on December 7, 1966. He was 55. Shri Bir Chandra Patel was formerly President of the Bihar Krishak Samaj and was a pillar of strength to the Samaj. In his death, the Bihar Krishak Samaj and the Bihar farmers have lost a staunch supporter.

2. The 12th National Convention of Farmers expresses its deep sorrow and concern over the untold misery and suffering caused by unprecedented famine for the second consecutive year, particularly in Bihar, Eastern U.P., parts of Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan and other areas. Due to the failure of Monsoons the Kharif crops in these areas have been totally destroyed. In some areas fodder for cattle and even drinking water are difficult to get. The plight of people, particularly farmers, in these States is beyond description.

The 12th National Convention of Farmers, therefore, places on record its heart-felt sympathies for the people affected by this natural calamity and assures them that it shares with them their loss and suffering. The convention also appeals to fellow farmers to contribute their mite by supplementing Government efforts in giving relief to the sufferers.

3. The 12th National Convention of Farmers (General Body) resolves that the name of the Organization shall be Bharat Krishak Samaj (Farmers' Forum, India) instead of Farmers' Forum, India (Bharat Krishak Samaj).

I. Minor Irrigation—Wells :

Wells are the surest means of ensuring water supply for irrigation purposes. It is suggested that in the areas where wells are successful, topmost priority be given for the well-irrigation programme. The implementation of the well construction programme should be done on the same lines as of soil conservation schemes executed by Government. To help the small farmers, the idea of digging community wells and forming irrigation cooperatives can be thought of.

Farmers experience great difficulty in obtaining electric power for irrigation purposes etc. The Bharat Krishak Samaj recommends that in the interest of increasing agricultural production top priority should be given in granting electricity connection for agricultural purposes.

II. Fertilizers :

The increase in the prices of the agricultural commodities in this country is not commensurate with the rise in the prices of inputs such as fertilisers, pesticides, agricultural machinery, diesel oil etc. with the result that the margin left with the farmers is not enough to induce him to increase agricultural production. The Bharat Krishak Samaj requests the Government to fix the prices of agricultural commodities at a remunerative level and at the same time to take steps to stabilise the prices of agricultural inputs.

It has been observed in many States that there is adulteration in the mixture of fertilisers causing a great loss to the farmers and the production and tends to lose their confidence in the use of fertilisers. It is recommended that proper checks should be kept at all levels in the mixture of fertilisers to ensure their quality and quantity.

It is a matter of regret that the Indian farmer has to pay the highest price for fertilisers in the world. It is strongly recommended that the prices of fertilisers should be brought down. It has been observed that many countries give subsidies to the imported fertilisers. The Bharat Krishak Samaj requests the Government to give up the profit making policy in respect of fertilisers and to subsidise the fertilisers to give filip to agricultural production in the country.

III. Agricultural Credit :

It is observed that there is a great discrimination in the matter of supply of finance to the agricultural sector with reference to other sectors. The Bharat Krishak Samaj strongly recommends that appropriate measures should be taken to lower down the rate of interest to the minimum possible level.

IV. Commodities :

It is suggested that Commodity Committees should be revitalised to make the study of particular commodities and put the grievances of the farmers before the proper authorities.

The cotton variety 1007 has been found to be high yielding and disease-resisting. Farmers are eager to take up the production of this variety on a large scale. It is recommended that the Indian Central Cotton Committee should give recognition to this variety. For increasing cotton production in the country, supply of hybrid seed of cotton should be increased and necessary steps taken in this direction.

V. Processing :

It is observed that large quantities of molasses and other bye-products of sugarcane are wasted in the country. The Bharat Krishak Samaj urges upon the Government to take suitable measures to make use of these bye-products to the maximum benefit of farmers and the country.

VI. Agricultural Implements :

Improved Agricultural Implements play a vital role in increasing agricultural production. The Bharat Krishak Samaj suggests that large-scale research programme should be undertaken to evolve such implements which will be suited to the cropping conditions in various regions of the country. Small tractors of 15 H.P. costing not more than Rs. 5000/- in particular, need special attention as there is a great demand for them.

(Moved by Shri H. G. Patil, seconded by Capt. Charan Singh)

Recommendations of Group II :

VII. This Convention recommends that the Block Development Officers should be drawn only from the agricultural service and they must be made responsible for the drawing of farm plans and stepping up production with definite target in view.

The Administrative set-up for agriculture should be organised as follows :

- (1) Director of Agriculture
- (2) Joint Director and Deputy Director
- (3) District Agricultural Officer
- (4) Block Development Officer
- (5) Agricultural Extension Officer
- (6) Gram Sevak.

The last grade servant in the above set up, i.e. the Gram Sevak, should be selected from among men of proper rural bias and they should be better paid and should be utilised only for agricultural production work.

In general, there should be more of field work for agricultural officers and less of file work.

VIII. The various departments that now deal with agriculture and agricultural production, such as agriculture, co-operation, rural development, food, electricity, irrigation, fisheries, animal husbandry, forest etc. should all come under one head at all levels and also greater co-ordination should be established and insisted upon between them to ensure smoother and efficient working.

IX. Agricultural loans, machinery, inputs, and services to the farmers should be streamlined through a single agency and the farmers should not be driven from pillar to post wasting time and money.

X. It is proposed that the Bharat Krishak Samaj should set up a Committee to study the Fourth Five Year Plan and make recommendations to the Planning Commission on the agricultural sector.

Moved by Shri Ram Singh, seconded by Shri T. S. Dhake

THANKS TO PARTICIPANTS IN THE 4TH NATIONAL AGRICULTURE FAIR

It is now recognised all over the World that Agriculture Fairs and Exhibitions play a vital role in educating the farmers in the latest and improved methods and techniques of farming as practised in the different parts of the country as well as abroad. In the present context of food shortage in the country, the importance of such Exhibitions and Fairs cannot be over-emphasised. The Bharat Krishak Samaj has been doing its utmost to help the Agriculturists in this country in various ways in their efforts to raise agricultural produce. It has so far organised the World Agriculture Fair and four National Agriculture Fairs. In these efforts of the Bharat Krishak Samaj it has had the assistance and full cooperation of the various States, Union Ministries and private participants. The Twelfth National Convention of Farmers', therefore, takes this opportunity to thank all the State Governments, the Union Ministries and the private participants for participating in the 4th National Agriculture Fair and earnestly hopes that they will render similar help and cooperation to the Fairs in future.

Particular and special thanks are due to the State Government of Rajasthan for their invitation to the Bharat Krishak Samaj to hold the 4th National Agriculture Fair in Jaipur, and for their assistance and great co-operation. The Samaj also thanks the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany for participating on such a big scale in all the four Fairs and particularly the present one. We are also thankful to the Government of Israel and the Japanese participants.

Report of Joint Director NAF. at the Prize Distribution Ceremony

The report after giving background history of the Samaj and the World Agriculture Fair said :

“Emboldened by the success achieved in the organisation of the World Agriculture Fair and with the object of providing continuity to the agriculture exhibition on proper lines in the country the Samaj took the decision to hold the annual National Agriculture Fairs in different States of the country in rotation and give an opportunity to the farmers in the various regions to get acquainted with the rapid developments which were being made in the field of agriculture and allied sciences. The late Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, who had always been appreciative of Samaj's efforts for organising the World Agriculture Fair also made a mention of it in his address to the Conference of Ministers of Agriculture held in New Delhi in 1961. This gave additional encouragement to the Samaj to initiate action towards the organisation of the first National Agriculture Fair in Calcutta, at the invitation of the Government of West Bengal. The Fair was visited by more than 2 million visitors, a large number of whom were cultivators from all parts of the country. It is a matter of gratification that the second National Agriculture Fair organised at Madras in the beginning of 1962 at the kind invitation of the Government of Madras was also a tremendous success. Eleven States of the Union of India, and almost all the Ministries of the Government of India, besides two foreign countries participated in this Fair and was visited by 1.6 million people.

The third National Agriculture Fair which should have been held in Bombay, in 1963, had had to be cancelled, after all preliminary arrangements were made due to National Emergency. The third National Agriculture Fair, thereafter was held in Ahmedabad in January-March, 1965, and was visited by more than 1.5 million people. The fourth National Agriculture Fair was to be held in Jaipur during January-March this year, had to be postponed to November-December, 1966, due to the unsettled situation

on our border and the drought conditions that prevailed in this State. However, the Fair authorities moved to Jaipur to start the preliminaries of the postponed fourth National Agriculture Fair at the kind invitation of the Government of Rajasthan. Thus we are here today on this ground at the Prize Distribution Function of the 50 days old fourth National Agriculture Fair.

A Local Advisory Committee consisting of Ministers, Deputy Ministers and officials of Rajasthan Government, officials of Western Railway, Rajasthan State Electricity Board and of some important institutions and organisations was formed. The first Local Advisory Committee Meeting was held on July 31, 1966 and was addressed by the Chief Minister of Rajasthan, Shri Mohan Lal Sukhadia, who assured the fullest help and cooperation of his Government to the Fair Authorities. The ground was taken over by the Fair Authorities on September 15, 1966, and the Fair office started functioning from the site on October 1, 1966.

Although the prize distribution is being held this day, alongwith the Closing Function of the 12th National Convention of Farmers, the Fair will be closed on January 1, 1967 at 9 p.m. The Fair Authorities had to encounter several difficulties in organising the Fair. Procuring the G.C. sheets was a very difficult job and this caused some delay in starting the construction work. To obtain skilled or experienced labour for the exhibition work was another difficulty. As per schedule of the National Agriculture Fair, only six weeks time is required to complete the construction work of a National Agriculture Fair, which we found quite sufficient in all our previous Fairs. The same schedule was kept for the construction work of this Fair, but unfortunately because of many holidays falling in between this period and the reluctance of the labour to work during the night, and late coming of most of the participants in the Fair, the Fair Authorities were compelled to postpone the opening date of the Fair from 5th to 12th November, 1966. However, with the help of

Shri Nathu Ram Mirdha, Minister for Agriculture, Rajasthan Government, and other Ministers and officials of the State all our difficulties were gradually overcome.

The Fair was inaugurated by Shri Mohan Lal Sukhadia, the Chief Minister of Rajasthan in a function which was presided over by Shri A.M. Thomas, Minister for Defence Production and the President of Bharat Krishak Samaj and National Agriculture Fair.

The participation position has been satisfactory except in the State Sector in which only three States viz. Rajasthan (Host State), Mysore and Kerala participated. In the International Sector, Federal Republic of Germany, Israel and Japan (through M/s. Maurbeni Iida Co. and Nichimen & Co.) have participated. The biggest and most elaborate pavilion is the Rajasthan State Pavilion wherein all the Departments of the State are represented. The pavilion of the Federal Republic of Germany is the second biggest pavilion. In the National Sector-I, eight Ministries of Government of India have participated. In the National Sector-II, many private participants, both Manufacturers and dealers in agriculture machinery, irrigation equipments, pesticides, chemicals, fertilisers, etc. etc., have participated. In the Shopping Centre, 40 shops dealing with consumers goods, 12 Eating Shops, 9 booths have participated. Besides these, there are the pavilions of Bharat Krishak Samaj, State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur, Television, Amusement Park, Skating Rink, Theatre, Garden Restaurant, etc. etc.

Although the construction work of the pavilion of Government of Rajasthan started very late, they could set up a magnificent pavilion within 25 days time, which is highly creditable. This pavilion, according to many, is one of the best pavilions in the Fair. The credit for this goes to the Director of Public Relations, Shri D.S. Mehta, who deserves our warmest congratulations and praise.

The attendance in the Fair in the beginning was rather poor but it went on increasing gradually and since the last two weeks the Fair is drawing large crowds. On Sundays and holidays the crowds are very large. So far, the Fair

has been visited by more than 2½ lakhs of people. Amongst the visitors, about 60% are farmers and agriculture students. The Fair is serving the purpose it was intended for i.e. of educating the farmers and workers in the field of agricultural research, education and extension. I am proud to mention here that every participant in this Fair has put up quite attractive pavilions and the display and demonstrations arranged in such away that even an illiterate farmer could learn the new methods of farming and adopt them in his own farm.

It may not be out of place if I make a mention of the late Dr. Punjabrao S. Deshmukh, the Founder President of Bharat Krishak Samaj and National Agriculture Fairs who guided us to face all obstacles and difficulties very boldly in organising the Agriculture Fairs in different parts of the country and we miss him at this function which is the first occasion in the history of National Agriculture Fairs of Bharat Krishak Samaj. This is the first National Agriculture Fair the Bharat Krishak Samaj has organised after his sorrowful death on April 10, 1965. When we were facing difficulties in organising this Fair we remembered him and his valuable advices which guided us to organise this Fair in a befitting manner to success.

In the end, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the participants—particularly the foreign participants—in the Fair for their full cooperation, the trouble they have taken and the large amounts of money and time they have spent for setting up their pavilions. I earnestly hope that they will continue to participate in all our future Fairs. Also the different Contractors deserve our congratulations for their speed and architect displayed in the Fair.

I also wish to extend my sincere thanks to the Government of Rajasthan, particularly to Shri Nathu Ram Mirdha, Minister for Agriculture, his officials and Directorate of Public Relations, P.W.D., Rajasthan State Electricity Board, the Telephone Department, Police, Municipal Commissioner Jaipur, Transport Department, Department of Finance, the All-India Radio, Press and the Fair staff and all those who have helped the Fair Authorities in making it a great success.

Speech of Dr Sampurnanand

Speech delivered by Dr. Sampurnanand, Governor of Rajasthan at the closing session of Farmers Convention and National Agriculture Fair, Jaipur on 30.12.1966

Dear Mirdhaji and friends,

This evening's function has a dual purpose. Firstly, this is the formal last day of the agriculture fair, being held here for the last 45 days. I say it formal because actually the Fair will continue even for two more days from to-day. Secondly, the Farmers Convention is also connected with this function in one way or the other. Truly speaking, I have not seen the exhibition properly, and, therefore, I have no right to say anything about it. Mr. Mathew, in his report has said that I had come over here to see the Fair. He was right, but because of pain in my leg, I could not see it from pavilion to pavilion. I had a round, seated in jeep and enjoyed the outside glimpses of the pavilions. But whatever I saw and heard, I can quite guess that the fair is very commendable and educative. I heard much of some best pavilions such as those of West Germany, Israel, Japan and Government of India. For installing the useful pavilions, I thank the organizers on behalf of you and hope that the farmers coming from every corner of India would have benefited themselves by visiting these grand pavilions. It would have been much better if more and more farmers could have seen the Fair, because it is particularly for the farmers and not for the urban people only. It would have been better if cheaper bus services had been provided to the farmers living at long distances. I hope that the organizers of this fair will keep this in mind while organising the fairs in future.

Everyone understands the importance of food and cereals. Today it assumes much more importance than ever before. The country is now badly facing the problem of food shortage. The nation which had been feeding other nations has now come down to this stage that it has to beg food from other countries. Thousands of years ago the people of the nation were also inclined to grow more food. The Vedas say: "ANNAM BAHOO KURVEET" meaning "Grow more food," what

we say it today. You must know that this is the most ancient slogan of those days when people never knew of food shortage. The country was vast in area and people living in were very few and the land was producing bumper crops. Still the importance of grow more food was realised in good old days by the ancient thinkers.

As regards the production of food grains our farmers are most ardent and hard-working. They have long, long experience of cultivation to their credit. This experience is not useless. It may prove of some utility. Today's farmer is also eager to use the modern techniques. He knows the things that are useful to him and desires to adopt them. Whether it is fertilizer or implements or seeds, the farmer is keen to adopt new techniques. He requires proper guidance and training. We people living in cities and knowing little about agriculture and reading newspapers offer the rural people wrong advice. This practice is not healthy. Our farmer is eager to take advantage of the opinion of specialists and experts. Besides this, our country is vast and land is scarce. Land cannot be expanded like rubber. Holding of the farmer is insufficient and his limited resources prevent him from using the modern techniques and machines. He can overcome the difficulties if the Govt helps him. For instance, the locally made machines operated by electricity in any country may be cheaper to it only, but in India it may not be so. If Government helps the farmer at the instance of any suggestion made by the Bharat Krishak Samaj, then only our farmer can avail of the cheaper machines run by electricity. Government could organise the purchase and sale of such machines on easy instalment basis. Hence the popularisation and advancement of agriculture machinery would be more easy and farm-machines will reach in every village.

Though, I am not a member of Bharat Krishak Samaj but nobody can deny the utility and usefulness of such conventions. Late Dr. Deshmukh the founder president of this organisation had two ideas in his mind, as Mr. Mirdha told you a little earlier. The aims and objects of Dr. Deshmukh were very much

practical and useful. Our farmers should have the wide knowledge of agriculture and their difficulties should be removed with the help of technical experts and scientists. These both aims of Dr. Deshmukh are indisputable and represent the need of the day. It is also beyond doubt that Bharat Krishak Samaj has achieved great success since its inception.

Such conventions are attended by a number of farmers coming from long distances. The standard of progress is not uniform in every State. In such conventions farmers had an opportunity of meeting one another and exchanging their views, which may be called 'comparing notes'. It is certainly useful to the farmer whatever he hears from the experts but on the other hand it is also important that one farmer should know about the other farmer and what he is doing in his field. Now I am talking of a gentleman coming from East Uttar Pradesh who met me yesterday. He is a Life member of Bharat Krishak Samaj and participating in this convention. He told me that this is really an eye opener to him when he compared local farmer in his area to these farmers. Our farmer is only stuck to old old methods and producing only as much quantity of food grains as would suffice till the next crop harvest. He never thinks beyond it. On and off he meets the non-scientist farmers and shares their views. He is taken by surprise on hearing their views. This gentleman told me many such stories. He also admitted his ignorance about the idea of cost of production. He said that he had quite good land and was considered a well-off and progressive farmer but never thought about the cost of production. I want to point out that he actually realised the importance of such useful convention. I also know that the meeting of the farmers is very educative and useful to each other. I hope this Organization will make more headway. Now Mr. A.M. Thomas has taken over after the death of Dr. P.S. Deshmukh in addition to the responsibility he has already shouldered on behalf of Govt. of India. But I hope that Bharat Krishak Samaj will flourish well under his able guidance.

Mirdhaji told you about the indulgence of the politics in every sphere of life. But some spheres are still free from the politics and factionalism. The agriculture is one of those. Anybody of any rank who preaches

or advocates party-politics and factionalism in electing hinders the farm progress, and in other words he puts obstacles in the way of the nation's progress. Growing more food is not only essential for the life of the nation but it is the measure which must be taken to save the freedom of the nation. Now-a-days the country is facing food-crisis and our countrymen are faced with many calamities. At such a crucial time we have put all attention to boost up the farm production, including food crops, cotton, jute, sugarcane and other cash crops. This will enable the nation to rouse and progress at all fronts.

Dr. Walter Kalkof, German Pavilion:

Your Excellency, Honourable Minister, dear Farmer friends, Ladies and Gentlemen :

We are now at the end of the National Agricultural Fair. It was not one with a big crowd of visitors, but even so I believe I can say that it was useful for international relations and exchange of experience and of course of goodwill.

We are glad that we had once more the possibility of showing this by our participation here in Jaipur.

We are thankful too for the very good collaboration with all the Indian authorities concerned with the evident success of the Fair.

We would especially like to thank Mr. Deshpande and Mr. Mathew and his staff for their all-round assistance and good organisation.

Furthermore I want to stress the great interest taken by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany—that means of West Germany—resulting in the fact, that it has made a valuable gift to the Government of Rajasthan for the fulfilment of its programme "To help the farmer to help himself".

We hope that this machinery, four 2-wheel tractors together with their implements, sprayers for plant protection, a drill outfit and a fertilizer distributor will work like a seed-corn in this programme.

Furthermore we hope, that the research institutes will appreciate the veterinary implements and the microscope as a means of improving their—I am convinced—already successful work.

In this connection, I cannot ignore a fact that has caused some disappointment in the German Pavilion and even to the official German authorities. This is the publication of a so-called souvenir of the National Fair, which is not the official souvenir. In this, false statements have been made about the Mandi project, which is entirely a project of collaboration between the Federal Republic of Germany—that means of West Germany—and India, but not at all of the eastern communist-ruled part of Germany. I have to state this fact all the more as our Minister of Agriculture will be here in India during the next week to inaugurate a new project of this very successful type of collaboration and goodwill in the Nilgiri region near Madras. In addition to this, I myself think that it was not a very fortunate idea to mention in a souvenir of this Fair the agriculture of countries, which did not participate at all.

But nevertheless something unexpected always happens in life and this incident will not at all weaken the will for good relationship and practical work to be done between our countries.

Finally I would like to convey the hearty greetings of His Excellency the Ambassador of the Federal Republic to the initiators of the Fair and I hope, you will keep the German Pavilion in good remembrance.

Shri S.K. Mukerjee (Field Publicity Pavilion)

These fairs provide us with a valuable opportunity to meet each other and learn latest methods of production. This Fair was very useful in disseminating new methods of production.

We found that the visitors to the fair were very eager to see the new implements in as much as many farmers were interested in knowing

the role of atomic energy in developing agriculture.

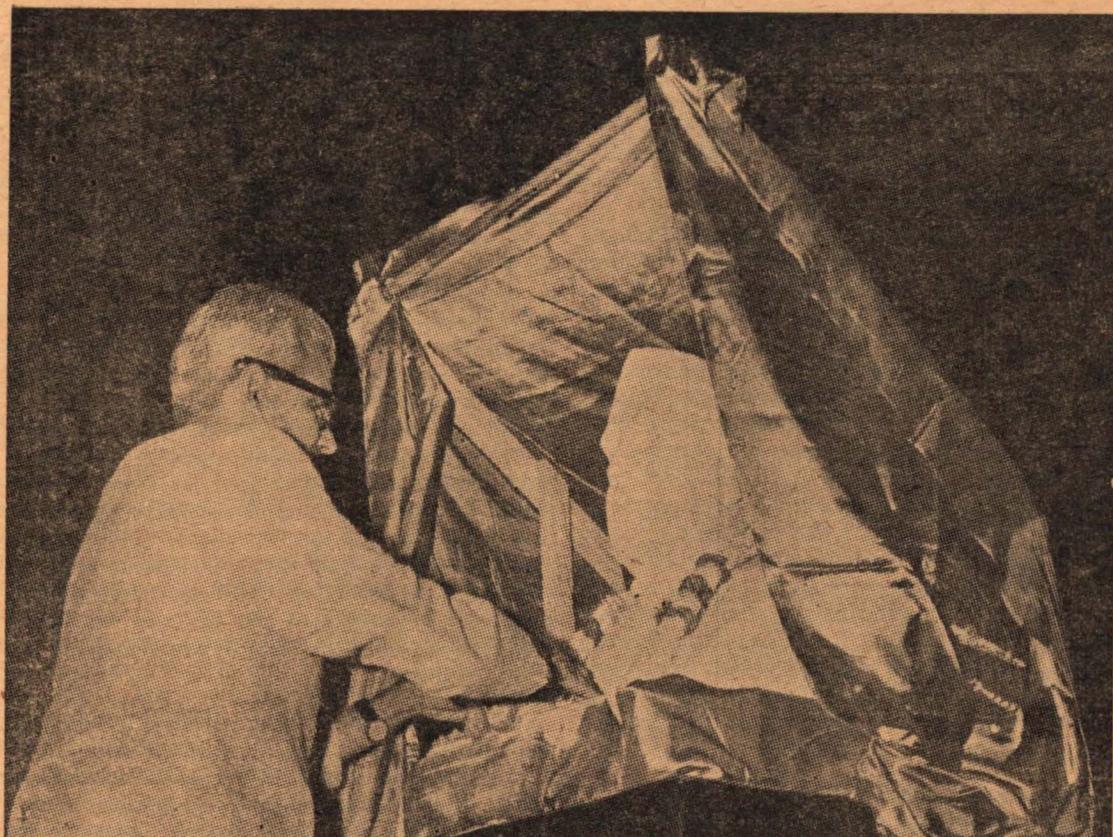
We are grateful to the Bharat Krishak Samaj for their cooperation.

Shri B. Ram Rao (Mysore Pavilion) :

Your Excellency, sisters and brothers ! It is a great pleasure for me to stand before you in the capacity of a Special Officer of Mysore Pavilion and on behalf of the Government of Mysore. We had the privilege to put up a Pavilion with the hope that we can show some of our agricultural activities and what we have done in the progress of agriculture. We have put up some of the photographic enlargements which have conveyed some of the agricultural practices followed in our State, and we have also brought some samples of produce of different crops so that they may give an opportunity for the farmers of this State in particular and the farmers of our country in general to see what we grow.

Mysore is a State where we have all kinds of climatic conditions and all kinds of soils, different altitudes varying from sea-level to 9000 ft. height and the soils varying in all textures, and you can also find to some extent that we grow all kinds of crops, which grow on the plains, on the sea-coast and on the hill area. To make mention of some of these, we grow coffee, pepper, cardamum and some other commodities grown in other States. Such is the potentiality of our State. We have had a fair progress in achieving good harvests from these crops and hybrid varieties of seeds in increasing the production. We shall be happy if the farmer visitors have taken some advantage of this pavilion and learnt something. We have tried our best to show them and impress on them the improvement of agriculture that could be followed by them. At the same time we are thankful to them, for we have learnt many more things from them than they have from us.

I also thank the organisers of the Fair and the Government of Rajasthan to have given us an opportunity to put up the stall and display our exhibits.



Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha, Speaker, Rajasthan Legislative Assembly unveiling the bust of late Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh at the 4th N.A.F. Jaipur

Bust of Dr. Deshmukh unveiled

Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha, Speaker, Rajasthan Legislative Assembly unveiled the bust of late Dr. P.S. Deshmukh on 28th November, 1966 at a function at the Fair Grounds, Jaipur. Paying glowing tributes to Dr. Deshmukh, Shri Mirdha said that none had the foresight and grasp which the late Dr. Deshmukh had in the matter of agriculture. He had given a gift to the nation by establishing the Bharat Krishak Samaj, a public and non-political organisation being run for the welfare of farmers. Shri Ram Singh threw light on the life of Dr. Deshmukh.

68th Birth Anniversary of Dr. Deshmukh.

The 68th birth anniversary of the late Dr. Panjabrao S. Deshmukh, Founder-President of the Bharat Krishak Samaj was celebrated at Jaipur on 27th December, 1966 at a special function arranged in the lawns of the Fair Grounds, in front of the bust of Dr. Deshmukh. A large number of delegates had collected to pay tributes to the loving memory of Dr. Deshmukh. His bust was garlanded by the Samaj representatives from different States. Among those who spoke on the occasion included Shri H.G. Patil, Shri Satwant Singh, Smt. Shakuntala Pundarikaksh, Shri R. Srinivasan, Shri N. S. Watane, Shri S. K. Mukherjee, Shri Ram Singh, Shri Chunibai Patel and Shri R.B. Deshpande.

International Food and Farm Policy

At its Twentieth Anniversary, the IFAP decided to review and amend its declaration on an International Food and Farm Policy as enunciated at New Delhi in 1959. The declaration thus amended shall be known as :

RESOLUTION NO 1.

1. World economic development and the welfare of mankind demand an international food and farm policy. Meeting fundamental food needs everywhere, assuring adequate living standards to food and fibre producers everywhere, securing a beneficial flow of agricultural trade among all countries, are the joint responsibility of developed and developing countries, importing as well as exporting. The achievement of these objectives requires a better allocation of resources between agricultural and industrial development and a better balance in the development of human society between economic and social goals such as adequate education and training for those rural areas who have too long remained underprivileged.

2. An international policy on food, agriculture, and agricultural trade must therefore receive increasing recognition as one of the essentials of the global policy of accelerated economic development and expanding international trade. To realise successfully such a policy there must be national farm policies to protect the farmer from the consequences of the natural and economic hazards of his calling. This imposes limits to international competition in national markets and thus restricts the scope for regional specialization ; but it is evident that national farm policies must have regard for the interests of producers and consumers in other countries. This in turn imposes certain limits upon national action in order to make possible the necessary international understanding.

3. For these commodities entering World trade for which there is need for international cooperation such reconciliation of policies can best be achieved by the establishment of international commodity councils or the negotiation of international commodity agreements and arrangements ; and by the expansion of food aid programs in the framework of development

plans throughout the world. In no circumstance should the world revert to an economy of scarcity under the specious pretence that this is the sound road to equilibrium.

4. Production and distribution policies for agricultural products would take the following principles into account :

(a) Expanding and diversifying food production in the developing countries lays an indispensable foundation for their economic and social progress. Such expansion and diversification must inevitably be the main lasting means of meeting additional food needs, including dietary improvements. This expansion in turn urgently demands stepped up economic and technical assistance and reconsideration of current policies and investment priorities in many countries.

(b) However, for some time to come the food producing capacity of developed countries will remain essential to help fill food needs in less developed areas. The wealth of industrialized nations much mobilised to export that needed production, to finance the necessary movements and distribution, and to establish and maintain adequate carry-over and emergency reserves.

(c) The efforts to improve nutritional levels must be on a permanent basis. Occasional surpluses may of course be used but planned provision must be made for continuity of supply. Conversely, it would be irresponsible to expand the output of developed countries in the absence of adequate financing and distribution facilities.

(d) The success of the programs carried out from surpluses now in existence is proof that needed aid supplies could be moved and absorbed on an expanded scale without harm to national food production in the receiving countries and without undue interference with normal trade. But large scale financing and planning are essential ; developed and developing countries must strengthen their joint efforts to create and improve the facilities of transport, distribution, storage, and administration essential to increasing the capacity of

receiving countries to absorb and use food aid efficiently.

(e) Financial responsibility for the efforts outlined in the foregoing paragraphs must be shared fairly among the developed nations. All national and international programs must be co-ordinated among contribution countries and within recipient countries.

(f) Though the developing nations will need to increase their own production of food required for domestic consumption, other agricultural products which are likely to find markets at reasonably remunerative prices on a long-term basis must receive proper emphasis. Export proceeds or import savings secured from the sale of these products can inter alia be used to improve the nutritional standards of the population. The possible alternative uses of agricultural resources and investment should therefore be carefully examined. All countries should help expand outlets for developing countries' exports whether of agricultural or non-agricultural products.

(g) Nations should work together to maintain a balance between supply and total demand for food represented by the sum of commercial demand essential reserves, and food aid programs.

(h) International arrangements should aim at reasonably stable prices eliminating excessive short-term fluctuations and securing a balance between the need of producers for fair remuneration and the need to adjust world production to basic trends in commercial as well as realizable non-commercial demand.

(i) In order to achieve these ends, governments must go beyond the adoption of internationally agreed objectives for such matters as carry-over stocks, trade flows, and process. They must, in addition, ensure that domestic farm policies are consistent with these objectives.

RESOLUTION No. 2 :—WORLD FOOD PROGRAM.

Welcoming the fact that governments in the UN and FAO have accepted the principle

advocated by IFAP at the Dublin and Retorua Conference that food aid should be treated as an integral part of economic development,

Welcoming also the fact that in the light of the unchallenged success of the multiplateral "pilot" World Food Program, the UN General Assembly and the FAO Conference towards the end of 1965 decided to establish the World Food Program "on a continuing basis for as long as multilateral food aid is found feasible and desirable" and set a target of £ 275 million for voluntary contributions in commodities, cash, and services for the three year period 1966-1968.,

Nothing that, in the view of the three organisations, ICA, ICFTU, and IFAP, the resources of the Program should have been increased to a total of £ 600 million over the second three year period.

Deploring that at the Pledging Conference held in January 1966, contributions offered by governments totalled no more than £ 209 million and that, the United States pledge being on a matching basis, the resources so far actually available to the Program amount only to some £ 153 million.

Observing also that these resources are far from adequate in relation to the requests already received by the Executive Director of the Program from developing countries,

Resolves that member organisations of IFAP should immediately renew approaches to their governments with a view to emphasizing that.

(a) It is imperative that the Program should not be starved of the resources necessary in the current three-year period, which were set by ECOSOC, FAO, and the UN at £ 275 million ; a new Pledging Conference should therefore be convened forthwith ; and

(b) it will be necessary to begin a plan now for the period beyond 1968 and for a very considerable expansion of the Program to be decided by the next regular Pledging Conference scheduled for the end of 1967.

Seminar on Farm Management

The National Productivity Council and the Rajasthan State Productivity Council in collaboration with the Bharat Krishak Samaj organised a Seminar on Farm Management on December 27, 1966 at the Fair Grounds, Jaipur. The Seminar was inaugurated by Shri Nathu Ram Mirdha, Minister of Agriculture, Govt. of Rajasthan and was well attended.

Shri Durgawat, President, Rajasthan State Productivity Council and Shri R.B. Deshpande, Secretary, Bharat Krishak Samaj welcomed the delegates. Shri G. K. Nayar, National Productivity Council gave introduction about the Seminar. Dr. M. S. Asthana, Director, National Cooperative Development Corporation led the discussions. Among those who participated in the Seminar were : Dr. Walther Kolkoff, German Pavilion, Mr. A. Shoket, Vice-Consul, Israel, Sardar Satwant Singh, Shri S. B. Pandya, Dr. R.B.L. Bharadwaj, Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi. The proceedings are being prepared by the National Productivity Council and will be summarised in Krishak Samachar in due course.

Krishak Samaj Members on Market Committees.

Shri J. Das, Joint Director of Marketing, Orissa has sent the following circular on 29-12-1966 to all the collectors in Orissa.

“I am directed to state that as per the provision of 6 (1) (11) of the O.A.P.M. Act 1956 the representatives of the Agriculturists members of the Market Committee will be elected by organisation of the Agriculturists as

recognised in the Market Area. The Bharat Krishak Samaj and Orissa Krushak Samaj are recognised organisations. Hence the members of such organisation residing in the market area of concerned Regulated Markets should be elected to the Market Committees. You are therefore requested to consult the Secretary, Orissa Krushak Samaj while taking action for election of members from the Agriculturists organisation as provided under rule 17 of the O.A.P.N. rules 1958.”

Movement of Cotton

The following resolution was unanimously adopted by the Kisan Sammelan held at Bawani Khara on 28-10-1966 in which farmers of Hansi Tehsil (Hissar) participated in a large number. The Sammelan elected an Action Committee to fight & put the resolution into practice :

“This Kisan Sammelan resolves that the restrictions placed on movement of H — 14, 320— F qualities of American Cotton and others outside the Punjab State shall put small farmers to great loss. Due to this restriction, approximately, the price of the said cotton has fallen to the tune of Rs. 35/- per quintal. The farmers are not getting due price of their produce. This state does not consume all its produce of cotton and surplus cotton is sent to other states. The controlled trade of this commodity by the State Government will enrich the rich only. Obviously such provision flagrantly violates the policy of the socialistic pattern of society of this country. So it is in the fitness of things that the above said restriction against the movement of every kind of cotton from this state to other states be forthwith withdrawn for the larger interest of the Society.”

Awards for enrolment of Life Members and Organisational Work During the Period 1st April 1965 to 12th December, 1966

I. STATE AWARD

First Prize : Dr. Rajendra Prasad Rolling Shield and Rs. 500/- cash to the Maharashtra State Krishak Samaj for enrolling the highest number of Life Members (252 life members enrolled). The State Krishak Samaj is winning the Shield for the third year in succession and deserves our warm congratulations.

II. DISTRICT AWARDS

Cash award of Rs. 500/- each to AMRAVATI and JALGAON districts, for enrolling more than 50 life members i.e. 124 & 64 life members respectively. They, particularly the former, deserves our warm congratulations.

III. INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

- (1) Silver Medal to Shri A.M. Thakare of Amravati for enrolling 50 and more life members (54 enrolled) Shri Thakare has enrolled 54 Life Members in a very short time and therefore merits special mention and congratulations.
- (2) Certificate awarded to Shri Ram Swarup Verma (Rajasthan) for enrolling more than 25 life members. Shri Verma has also enrolled more than 25 life Members in a very short time and that too from Kotah district alone. He also deserves special mention and congratulations.
- (3) Certificate of Appreciation to Shri N.S. Nejjur of Mysore State for organization work in Goa. He has done commendable work.
- (4) Certificate of Appreciation to Shri B.S. Patil, Achalpur (Amravati District) for organization work.

DR. PUNJABRAO DESHMUKH MEMORIAL FUND

Response to our appeal to contribute generously to Dr. Deshmukh Memorial Fund has been very satisfactory and contributions are being received from all parts of the country. However, there are still large number of life members who have not yet contributed to the Fund. They are requested to do so as early as possible. The list of donors will be published in the next issue of the Krishak Samachar.

Felicitations

The Bharat Krishak Samaj felicitates the following on the award of Padma Shri conferred on the occasion of the Republic Day, 1967

Col. Lal Singh, Baradari Farm, (U.P.)

Shri H.G. Patil (Maharashtra)

S. Ajit Singh (Punjab)

Shri Chandi Dan (Rajasthan)

The first three are the life members and the members of the All India Farmers Council of the Samaji.
