

examined in FICC with a view to take decision on reassessment of capacity and consequent follow up action.

Disinvestment in Hill in Kerala

1685. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a letter from Minister for Industries and Social Welfare; Kerala, requesting to drop the attempt to disinvest Hindustan Insecticides Ltd. in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of Kerala has represented that Hindustan Insecticides Limited has rendered useful service as a manufacture of anti-Malaria chemicals and pesticides for the agricultural sector. A view has been expressed that disinvestment in this company would be against the interests of the employees and may hamper India's efforts to tackle problems in the health and agriculture sectors. In reply the Government of Kerala has already been informed that disinvestment does not mean closure and hence would not automatically lead to unemployment.

Recovery from rice Mills

†1686. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) The percentage of recovery fixed for rice mills in different parts of the country, State-wise; and

(b) the reasons for fixing 67-68 per cent recovery for Madhya Pradesh?

†Original Notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN):
 (a) and (b) The Government has fixed an uniform out turn ratio of 67% and 68% for raw and parboiled rice respectively for all States including Madhya Pradesh with effect from Kharif Marketing Season 1995-96.

Wheat and Rice Stocks in Godowns

†1687. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA:
 SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large quantity of wheat and rice stock is available in Government godowns, in addition to their buffer stock;

(b) if so, the quantity of wheat and rice available, in addition to buffer stock, at the end of September, 1999;

(c) whether it is also a fact that wheat is being imported, inspite of its easy availability in the country; and

(d) if so, the estimated quantity of wheat imported during the first nine months of 1999, and the reasons for its import?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) the stock of wheat and rice in Central Pool as on 30th September, 1999 as compared to Buffer Stock norms was as under:—

(in lakh tonnes)

| Commodity | Stock | Buffer Stock | Norms Surplus |
|-----------|--------|--------------|---------------|
| Wheat | 204.05 | 116.00 | 88.05 |
| Rice | 88.18 | 65.00 | 23.18 |

†Original Notice of the Question was received in Hindi.