

(c) whether Government would implement the crop insurance scheme to such areas, which are prone to unseasonal natural calamities ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : (a) As per information received from Government of Maharashtra an area of 386 hectares of Oranges were damaged to the extent of more than 50% in Vidharbha region of the State due to hailstorm in February, 1994. No damage has been reported to the Orange crop in the region due to hailstorm in April, 1994. Information on damage to foodgrains is awaited from State Government.

(b) Information is being collected.

(c) Area based and credit linked Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme, for wheat, paddy, millets, pulses and oil seeds to cover damage caused by Natural calamities in notified areas, is already in operation in the State of Maharashtra.

Gur and Khandsari Industry

*368. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that sugar industry has an adverse effect on the growth of gur and khandsari industry of the country ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that gur and khandsari are cost effective and have good potential for export; and

(c) if so, the details of the steps Government propose to take to encourage these two rural-based industries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. In international market mostly the sugar of the refined quality and white plantation sugar conforming to high international specifications is traded. There is low acceptability of sugar produced through open pan process (khandsari). There is also limited scope of export of gur.

(c) Does not arise. However, both khandsari and gur sector have been kept outside the purview of the partial control mechanism which is applicable for the sugar industry and are also exempt from Excise duty.

Subsidy on Food

*369. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) what amount of subsidy is being given on food, indicate details of the last three years;

(b) what part of this subsidy goes to pay wages; and

(c) what is the difference between the prices paid to the farmers and prices received from the beneficiaries of these subsidies for five important items ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) The amount of food subsidy given/released to Food Corporation of India during the last three years is as follows:

| Year | (Rs. in crores) |
|-----------|-----------------|
| 1991-92 . | 2850 |
| 1992-93 . | 2785 |
| 1993-94 . | 5537 |

(b) The amount of wages paid to the employees/labourers of the Corporation for undertaking various operations during the last three years was as follows:

| Year | Amount (Rs. in crores) |
|----------------|------------------------|
| 1991-92 . | 463.29 |
| 1992-93 . | 686.07 |
| 1993-94 (RE) . | 556.21 |

(c) Wheat and paddy and coarse grains are currently procured from farmers by the Food Corporation of India in collaboration with the State Governments and their procuring agencies for the Central Pool at the following minimum support prices:

| | (Rs. per quintal) | |
|---------------|--|---------|
| | 1993-94 | 1994-95 |
| Wheat | 330 (includes central bonus of Rs. 25/- per quintal) | 350 |
| Paddy | | |
| Common | 310 | |
| Fine | 330 | |
| Superfine | 350 | |
| Coarse grains | | |
| (Jowar, ragi) | 260 | |
| Maize | 265 | |
| Barley | 260 | 275 |

While retail issue prices of foodgrain sold to consumers through Public Distribution System are the termed by State

Governments/Union Territory Administrations concerned themselves, currently the Central Issue Prices (Ex-FCI godowns) of wheat, rice and coarse grains for distribution through the Public Distribution Systems are as follows:

| | Rs. per quintal |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Wheat . | 402 |
| Rice | |
| Common . | 537 |
| Fine | 617 |
| Superfine . | 648 |
| Coarse grains | 199 |

The Central Issue Prices of these cereals for distribution in ITDP/RPDS areas is Rs. 50 per quintal less than the above mentioned prices for distribution under Public Distribution System.

Setting up of Sugar Factories

*370. DR. MURLI MANOHAR IOSHI:
SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2133 given in the Rajya Sabha on 17th December, 1993 and state:

(a) what is the installed capacity of sugar mills which were set up from 1990 to 1993 together with production;

(b) the projected demand of sugar for each year from 1994 to 1998;

(c) the average indigenous cost of production of sugar per tonne and landed cost of imported sugar; and

(d) the quantity to be Imported to 1994 to meet the current demand of sugar ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) The details of the installed capacity of the sugar mills which were set up from 1989-90 to 1992-93 sugar seasons (October—September) alongwith their Year-wise production for the above period are given in Statement (See below).

(b) The demand for sugar for the years 1993-94 to 1997-98 projected by the Committee constituted to formulate development programme for the sugar industry for the earlier 8th Five Year plan is as follows:—

| Year | Internal Consumption (Lakh Tonnes) |
|---------|------------------------------------|
| 1993-94 | 126.41 |
| 1994-95 | 132.73 |
| 1995-96 | 139.37 |
| 1996-97 | 146.34 |
| 1997-98 | 153.66 |

(c) The cost of production of sugar varies from factory to factory and from State to State depending on the technology used, the managerial efficiency, the price paid for sugarcane, recovery factors, etc Similarly, the landed cost of imported sugar would also depend on various factors such as the contracted FOB price, freight, insurance, etc.

(d) Import of sugar has been placed under Open General Licence (OGL) and the quantity to be imported would depend on the demand and supply position in the market.

Statement

The Sugar Year-wise (October—September) Names of Sugar Mills and there Installed Capacity set up from 1989-90 to 1992-93 Season.

| | | | | | [Sugar Production (Tonnes)] | |
|------------------------|---|--------------------------|---------|---------|-----------------------------|---------|
| Sl. | Name of the Factory No. | Installed capacity (TCD) | 1989-90 | 1990-91 | 1991-92 | 1992-93 |
| SUGAR SEASON 1989-90 : | | | | | | |
| 1 | M/s. Kisan Sahakari Chini Mills Ltd, Sneh Road, Fazalpur Na-bziabad, Distt. Bijnor (Uttar Pradesh). | 2500 | 616 | 16503 | 36643 | 34154 |
| 2 | M/s. Rajshree Sugars and Chemicals Ltd., Periyakulam, Distt. Madurai (Tamil Nadu). | 2500 | 16692 | 23806 | 55184 | 23328 |
| 3 | M/s. Thiru Ar oran Sugars Ltd., Paoanasam, Distt. Thanjavur (Tamil Nadu). | 2500 | 4491 | 41368 | 47938 | 37035 |