

(c) The steps taken by Railways for the recovery of outstanding dues, include constant chasing at various levels with the Public Sector Undertakings and Power Houses starting from officers at Divisional level to the General Managers at Zonal level. The matter is also taken up at the highest level in the Ministry. In a few cases, where necessary, stringent measures, such as serving notice, imposing condition of pre-payment of freight and adjustment from the dues payable to the defaulting unit are also taken.

Demand of State Governments for cereals

135. DR. BHAI MAHAVIR:

SHRI SHRIDHAR WASUDEO DHABE:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the demands made by various State Governments for supply of wheat and rice from the Central Government for the last three months;

(b) how much supply has been made to them for these months i.e. January, February and March, 1983; and

(c) what steps are being taken to fulfil their demands in entirety?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD): (a) to (c) The demands made by the State Governments/Union Territories and the supplies of wheat and rice made to them from the Central Pool during the period from January, 1983 to March, 1983 were as under:—

(In '000 tonnes)

	Demand	Allotment	Off take (upto Feb., 83)
Rice	3046.38	1437.38	923.2
Wheat	3961.26	2376.22	1430.6

Allocations of foodgrains to the various States are made on a month to month basis taking into account the availability of stocks in the Central Pool, relative needs of the various States, market availability and other related factors. These monthly allocations from the Central Pool are only supplemental in nature to the open market availability and are not intended to meet the total consumption requirements of the entire population.

Import of Rice

136. SHRI CHAND RAM: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to import rice during the current year

to meet the situation created by severe drought in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD): (a) and (b) As at present, there is no proposal with the Government to import rice.

Utilisation of irrigation potential

137. SHRI CHAND RAM: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that utilisation of irrigation potential in the country is not adequate; and