

construction|expansion of hostels for working women with income not exceeding Rs. 1000 p.m. and for attached day-care centres for children. The assistance is 75 per cent of the estimated cost of construction excluding cost of land. The hostel should be for at least 20 and ordinarily not more than 100 working women.

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Issue prices of levy sugar and ration rice

342. SHRI F. M. KHAN:  
SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:  
SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA:  
SHRI S. KUMARAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the issue prices of levy sugar and ration rice are being raised by the Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Consequent upon increase in the ex-factory prices of levy sugar recently notified for the production of 1980-81 season, increase in transport|handling charges, and introduction of a development cess, it has been decided to increase the consumer price also from Rs. 2.85 to Rs. 3.50 per kg. from 1st December, 1980.

As regards rice, due to increase in the procurement price of paddy for 1980-81, Government has taken a decision to increase the issue prices of price w.e.f. 1st January, 1981 as under:

Issue Price (Rs. per quintal)

Variety	Existing price	Increased price w.e.f. 1-1-1981
Common . . . . .	150	165
Fine . . . . .	162	177
Super Fine . . . . .	172	192

#### Supply of wheat to States under 'Food for work' programme

843. SHRI BHOLA PRASAD:  
SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:  
SHRIMATI KANAK  
MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of RURAL RECONSTRUCTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have withdrawn supply of wheat to some States under 'Food for Work Programme';

(b) whether the Chief Minister and Finance Minister of West Bengal have alleged that the Government is discriminating in the supply of food under this programme;

(c) what was the demand of West Bengal Government for food inclusive of wheat vis-a-vis that of Bihar, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Gujarat and what quantity was supplied;

(d) what are the comparative figures of foodgrains allotted to various States under this programme during the years 1979-80 and 1980-81; and

(e) whether any policy change in supply of 'food for work' is envisaged?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALESHWAR RAM): (a) Rice instead of wheat is now being released under food for work programme|National Rural Employment Programme.

(b) Yes, Sir. The allegations are unfounded.

(c) and (d) A Statement indicating the demands received from the Governments of West Bengal, Bihar, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Gujarat is enclosed (See below). Two other Statements indicating the foodgrains allocated[released to these States during the years 1979-80 and 1980-81 are also enclosed. [See Appendix CXVI, Annexure Nos. 68 and 69].

(e) Food for Work Programme has since been replaced by the National Rural Employment Programme. Revised guidelines, copy enclosed, containing *inter-alia* new criteria (in paragraph 11, page 3) for allocation of foodgrains to States[Union Territories have also been issued [See Appendix CXIV, Annexure No. 53]

#### Statement

*Quantity of foodgrains demanded by each State[Union Territories for 1980-81.*

Name of State	Quantity demanded (in Metric tonnes)
Bihar . . . . . (Upto June end only)	3,00,000
Gujarat . . . . .	1,10,000
Karnataka . . . . .	1,30,000
Madhya Pradesh . . . . . (Based on State Govt. project)	8,42,000
Mahashtra . . . . .	2,25,000
Rajasthan . . . . .	6,08,000
West Bengal . . . . .	2,10,000

#### Losses due to floods

844. SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI:  
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE  
be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of loss of life, property and crops in various parts of the country, State-wise, due to recent unprecedented floods;

(b) the nature of relief measures provided to each State Government to meet this calamity; and

(c) whether any guidelines have been issued to the State Governments to give relief to the flood affected persons and if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN  
THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE  
(SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN):

(a) A Statement is attached. [See Appendix CXIV, Annexure No. 70].

(b) The Government of India approved a ceiling of expenditure of Rs. 12.72 crores to Assam, Rs. 18.98 crores to Gujarat, Rs. 5.24 crores to Haryana, Rs. 9.09 crores to Kerala, Rs. 79.05 crores to Uttar Pradesh and Rs. 23.56 crores to West Bengal. Further, proposals for a ceiling of expenditure of Rs. 7.76 crores to Andhra Pradesh, Rs. 26.47 crores to Bihar and Rs. 43.09 crores to Orissa are under active consideration of the Government of India. Assistance to Karnataka will be considered after the receipt of the report of the Central Team and the recommendations of the High Level Committee thereon.

The other flood affected States, viz., Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan and Manipur have not sent any Memorandum on floods seeking Central assistance so far.

(c) The Government of India have circulated 29-action points for Disaster Preparedness for Floods detailing the measures to be taken up by the State Government at the State, district and field levels. Besides, the Government of India have issued guidelines for preparation of new relief manuals as well as for reviewing, updating of existing relief manuals for dealing with the natural calamities like floods, cyclone etc.