

yet started it, the total land use incidental to the Hotel we would like to permit only that much. Whatever has transpired, 25 per cent was agreed to by some authorities. We are examining that issue. The Nehru Place Hotel Ltd. is given five acres for development of a five-star hotel and 5 acres are required only for that.

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: What about the money deposited by the people? To that question he has not given a reply.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Pardon me for my pun. Mr. Reddy, you are always ready with a question. But take my permission first. All right. Now, you go on.

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: He has not given any clear answer to part (c). What steps Government propose to take to safeguard the money deposited by public as earnest money? What about that money?

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is the question which Mr. Goswami has asked.

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: But he has not replied.

SHRI P. C. SETHI: I have explained it very clearly. That earnest money or whatever they have paid, they have not paid to DDA. Therefore, DDA does not take the responsibility for what they have paid to the party. What we are concerned about is that this site was given for the hotel in a requisite form and if that condition is not fulfilled we are even prepared to go to the extent of cancelling the licence. The whole matter is under review and examination.

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: So, the public has to suffer.

SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD NANDA: The Delhi Development Authority came into existence in 1957 and I understand that rules have not been framed to settle land with people. The DDA settled this land with the Nehru Place Hotel Limited and they were given 5 acres for a specific purpose. This company has

collected huge amount which is mentioned in the question itself. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what steps the Government has taken, apart from instituting a criminal case against the Nehru Place Hotel Limited. What steps has the Government taken to recover this money from the hoteliers and to give back this money to the persons who have given the money to the hoteliers for settlement with regard to this piece of land?

SHRI P. C. SETHI: We have no idea as to how much money they have given to the concerned people or to the auctioneers.

SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD NANDA: You have no idea?

SHRI P. C. SETHI: How can I have? It is a deal between two parties and they have paid some money.

SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD NANDA: But the DDA is directly under the Government.

SHRI P. C. SETHI: Sir, if the honourable Member pays something to somebody else. I am not responsible.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes. Next question. Question No. 348. One more question we can go through. Yes, Mr. Chathunni Master.

Support Price of Agricultural Products

***348. SHRI K. CHATHUNNI MASTER:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the support price fixed for wheat, paddy, sugarcane, cotton, onions, potatoes and other cereals and pulses in various States, State-wise; and

(b) what is the difference between the support price and market price of the said item, State-wise, during 1st January, 1979 to March, 31st 1980 month-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(b) The procurement/support price relates to fair average quality of each of the above agricultural commodities whereas market prices vary from

variety to variety and market to market. It will, therefore, not be realistic to indicate unique differences between the market prices and procurement/support prices for these commodities.

Statement

*Procurement Prices of foodgrains
(According to marketing year)*

(Rs. per quintal)

Commodity	1978-79	1979-80
Paddy (Standard)	85.00*	95.00**
Jowar	85.00	95.00
Bajra	85.00	95.00
Maize	85.00	95.00
Wheat	112.50	115.00

*For coarse varieties

**For common varieties (Long Bold/Short Bold)

*Minimum Support Prices of Agricultural Commodities
(According to Marketing Year)*

Commodity	1978-79	1979-80
Gram	125.00	140.00
Arhar	155.00	165.00
Moong	165.00	175.00
Urad	N.A.-	175.00
Cotton	255.00 (American 320-F)	275.00 (320-F/ 414-F/ J34)
Onion	N.A.	40.00
Potato	N.A.-	N.A.
Sugarcane	10.00*	12.50*

N.A.—Not announced.-

*These prices are linked to a recovery of 8.5 per cent or below with a premium of 11.76 and 14.71 paise per quintal for every 0.1 per cent increase in recovery above 8.5 per cent, during 1978-79 and 1979-80 seasons respectively.

SHRI K. CHATHUNNI MASTER:

Sir, I would like to know from the honourable Minister whether the Government is prepared to take the reality into account, the reality that the cultivation expenses have gone up very much and the cultivation expenses are exorbitant now because of the new hikes in the prices of fertilizers and the other agricultural inputs and whether the Government is prepared to revise the prices of the agricultural commodities, the procurement price and the minimum support price, in view of this reality.

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: It is being considered.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Any other question?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: Sir,.....

SHRI U. R. KRISHNAN: Sir,.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will give him a chance because he has been raising his hand every time. I will call you later, Prof. Chattopadhyaya. Yes, Mr. Krishnan.

SHRI U. R. KRISHNAN: Sir, I would like to know from the honourable Minister whether the support price that is fixed for the commodities are in accordance with the demand made by the respective State Governments.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: Sir, the Chief Minister, are consulted before the Government accepts the recommendations of the Agricultural Prices Commission. But it has been noticed that always there is a demand on the higher side expressed by the States whereas some States, which are consumer States only and which do not contribute any foodgrains to the Central pool, always want the prices to be kept down at a reasonable level. So,

it is only after taking into consideration all these aspects that the Government finally decides to fix the minimum support price.

SHRI SADASHIV BAGAITKAR: Sir,....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Chattopadhyaya.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: Sir, it will be seen from the records of the last ten years that agricultural commodities, both food and commercial, show wide fluctuations. Whether it is jute or sugarcane or cotton, the cultivators produce more, but they do not get the price. Sugarcane is being burnt in the fields and in the case of cotton also the prices crash. In the case of jute this year, Sir, it is being exported because of the price crash. In view of this situation, this persistent situation, over the years as will be evident from the statistics, will our Agriculture Ministry take up seriously the question of what we technically call price indexation, that is, a rational economic nexus between the prices at the growers' level at the intermediate level and the manufacturers' level at which it is then made available to the consumer? This is the policy which the Government has been pursuing at the international level. So, at the national level, the price indexation, that is, the rational indexing of prices, which go to the cultivators and the manufacturers should be there and there should be a reasonable connection between these two. Otherwise, these unfortunate fluctuations will result in disaster as it has happened in the case of sugar.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member has asked about only those commodities which are manufactured.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: Both food and commercial agricultural commodities, covered by the Agricultural Prices Commission.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: The hon. Member put his question and asked for prices of sugar, onions, potatoes and other cereals, and....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Cotton and sugarcane; I cleared that.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: He has not asked for cotton.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Only those items which are manufactured.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: Covered by the A. P. C.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If he takes notice, he might be able to collect the information.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: I agree with the hon. Member, Prof. Chattopadhyaya, that there has been a wide fluctuation in the past in the prices that the producers get immediately after the harvest and the prices which obtain in the market later on. They also keep fluctuating from year to year according to the production. When we try to raise the production, prices come down. Government is always thinking of stabilising the prices over a long-term period and we are taking certain measures.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Question Hour is over. I don't think we have time to go over any other questions.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Norms and Conditions for Distribution of Canned Food Processed by NAFED

*341. **SHRIMATI PRATIMA BOSE:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Agricultural Cooperation Marketing Federation has started canning food; if so, what are the details in this regard;

(b) what are the norms and conditions laid down for marketing and distribution of these canned food items for domestic as well as export purposes;

(c) whether it is a fact that National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation has not appointed any co-