

the disruption in the Public Distribution System due to the non-arrival of wagons carrying foodgrains, edible oils and sugar. Adequate stocks of foodgrains are available in West Bengal for meeting the requirements of the State. A statement showing the availability of foodgrains in West Bengal is annexed. As regards imported edible oils being supplied to West Bengal, there had been some disruption primarily due to the lack of adequate refining capacity available in that State. However, the State Trading Corporation has already made arrangements with the Ganesh Flour Mills and other

private refineries outside the State to refine and supply rapeseed oil to West Bengal. The difficulties regarding supply of sugar to West Bengal were mainly due to operational problems involved in lifting of sugar from the factories by the Food Corporation of India after the enforcement of the dual price policy. The Central Government has already taken measures to expedite the movement of levy sugar to West Bengal from the States of Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh and there has been considerable improvement in supplies during the month of February and March, 1980.

ANNEXURE

Availability of foodgrains in West Bengal

(Figures in lakh tonnes approx.)

	Wheat	Rice	Total
Stock of foodgrains with Food Corporation of India as on 1-2-1980	2.1	2.59	4.69
Receipts during the month of February, 1980	0.92	0.71	1.63
Issues during the month of February, 1980	1.16	0.85	2.01
Closing stock as on 29-2-1980	1.87	2.45	4.32

Terminal Bonus to L.I.C. policy holders

918. SHRI JAGJIT SINGH ANAND: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation had recommended in December last a terminal bonus on all policies in force as on January 1, 1980;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) when a decision will be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA): (a) to (c) The matter is under consideration of Government and no decision has so far been taken.

*Agriculture Bank for farmers

918-A. SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Governments are considering an Agriculture Development Bank for meeting the credit needs of farmers;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) if so, what category of farmers will be benefited by the said Bank; and

(d) what area will be covered in the beginning?

*Previously Unstarred Question No. 994, transferred from the 26th March, 1980.