

(b) whether it is a fact that the said variety of fish is in heavy demand in foreign countries; and

(c) if so, whether Government are considering any proposal to augment fishing in the deep sea around the Islands for earning foreign exchange ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) Reliable data on the abundance of 'Tuna' fish in the seas around the Andaman and Nicobar Islands are not available. However, there are indications from available experts that significant quantities of tuna and tuna like fishes occur in the region. Currently exploited tuna fishery of the region amounts to an average annual catch of 10 tonnes which represents about 1% of the total fish catch of the area. However, studies carried out on the biological productivity of the Andaman seas and the estimation of fishery resources on this basis, indicate the existence of potentially rich fishery resources including the tunas.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Proposals for development of fishery industries including tuna industry around Andaman Islands are under active consideration of Government.

Resettlement of displaced persons from erstwhile East Pakistan

*347. SHRI JAHARLAL BANERJEE :
SHRI KALYAN ROY :
SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHA-
PATRO :
SHRI BIR CHANDRA DEB
BURMAN :

Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 303 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 21st January, 1976 and state :

(a) the progress so far made to settle 11,000 families of displaced persons from erstwhile East Pakistan in the Potteru Irrigation Scheme in Dandakaranya Project;

(b) by when all these families are likely to be settled in the area;

(c) the details of the amount made available for the resettlement of 21,000 families;

(d) the details of families out of the 2,200 families proposed to be settled in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, which have actually been settled there during the last two years till the end of February, 1976;

(e) the details, including area, of the land cleared and made suitable for cultivation and occupation in these Islands during the last year and the amount spent on it;

(f) whether the Working Group set up to look into the residual problems of refugees in West Bengal has submitted its report; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) to (g) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) The Potteru Irrigation and Resettlement Scheme having been sanctioned only recently, the process of resettlement of displaced persons will commence after the preliminary items of work like release of land by the State Government, deforestation and reclamation of land, its demarcation for various purposes, namely, agriculture, housing, roads etc., have been completed. 330 families are expected to be settled during 1976-77.

(b) In 8 to 9 years

(c) An amount of Rs. 35.17 crores was proposed in the Fifth Plan for resettlement of migrants from former East Pakistan. This amount will need to be augmented under the Potteru Irrigation and Resettlement scheme by Rs. 2293 crores and this will cover the resettlement of additional 2,200 migrant families as well.

(d) 89 families.

(e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(f) Yes, Sir.

(g) The Working Group have recommended Central assistance for (i) development of all the remaining Government sponsored colonies, squatters' colonies and private colonies of 50 families or more;

(ii) maintenance of these developed colonies during the Fifth Plan period; (iii) conferment of right and title to land; (iv) extension of the scheme for Small and Marginal Farmers Development Agencies to those areas in West Bengal that have a concentration of agriculturist migrant families; and (v) medical facilities for migrants. The Working Group have also recommended the remission of the remaining portion of 'Type Loans' i.e. loans given to migrants for house-building, land purchase, small trade and agriculture.

कृषि उत्पादों की बिक्री के लिए एजेंसी

*348. श्री देवराव पाटील : क्या कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार कृषि उत्पादों की बिक्री के लिए सरकारी क्षेत्र में कोई एजेंसी स्थापित करने का विचार रखती है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका व्यौरा क्या है ?

†[Agency for marketing agricultural products]

*348. SHRI DEORAO PATIL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up an agency in the public sector for marketing agricultural products; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाह नवाज खां) : (क) और (ख) राष्ट्रीय कृषि आयोग ने अपनी 'कपास, पटसन, मूंगफली तथा तम्बाकू के विपणन तथा मूल्यों के कुछेक महत्वपूर्ण पहलुओं के बारे में अंतरिम रिपोर्ट' में तिलहनों तथा अन्य कृषि वस्तुओं, जिसमें कपास, पटसन तथा तम्बाकू शामिल नहीं है, का व्यापार करने के लिए भारतीय कृषि वस्तु निगम की स्थापना की सिफारिश की है। ये सिफारिशें भारत सरकार के विचाराधीन हैं।

†[THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ

KHAN) : (a) and (b) The National Commission on Agriculture in their 'Interim Report on Certain Important Aspects of Marketing and Prices of Cotton, Jute, Groundnut and Tobacco' have recommended the establishment of an Agricultural Commodity Corporation of India to deal with oil-seeds as well as other agricultural commodities excluding cotton, jute and tobacco. These recommendations are under Government's consideration.]

Relief in Stamp and Municipal Transfer Duties on D.D.A. Flats

*349. DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether owners of D.D.A. flats belonging to Middle Income Group submitted a memorandum to Government on the 2nd March 1976, seeking relief in stamp and municipal transfer duties in respect of their flats;

(b) whether any decision has been taken in the matter; and

(c) if not, by when a decision is likely to be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI K. RAGHURAMAIAH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) It is not possible at this stage to indicate the time within which a decision is likely to be taken.

Payment of dues by Sugar Mills

*350. SHRI BANARSI DAS :

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA :

DR. Z. A. AHMAD :

SHRI JAGJIT SINGH ANAND :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state the amount of unpaid dues which the sugar mills at present owe to the sugarcane growers in each sugarcane producing State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : A statement showing Statewise the arrears of cane prices as on 15-2-1976 is laid on the Table of Sabha. [See Appendix XCV, Annexure No. 37]