

from the USSR, during the period 1-1-73 to 30-0-74 was 00.73 lakh tonnes. Foodgrains were imported from Argentina, Australia, Canada, U. S. A. and the U. S. S. R.

(b) The All-India Index No. of wholesale prices of different foodgrains on 13-7-1974, showing percentage variation over a year ago are as under:—

Wheat	69.5%
Rice	36.2%
Jowar	26.7%
Bajra	5.5%
Maize	54.5%
Pulses	14.5%

(c) In addition to fiscal and monetary measures adopted by Government to check the inflationary trend in prices, several steps are being taken to increase production of foodgrains in the country. In addition, regulatory measures to curb hoarding of foodgrains and other essential commodities, and price control measures have been adopted. With a view to removing distortions in the prices of foodgrains in the deficit state, restrictions on the movement of coarse grains have been removed and movement of wheat on trade account is also being permitted to improve availability of wheat in the market.

To the extent necessary, import of foodgrains is also being made.

National Highway Development Plan for West Bengal

•362. SHRI SARDAR AMJAD ALI. Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state the amount sanctioned for the National Highway Development Plan in West Bengal for the first year of the Fifth Five Year Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI KAMLAPATI TRIPATHI): A sum of Rs. 250.00 lakhs has been earmarked for allotment for the development and construction of National Highways in West Bengal during 1974-75.

Raid on the Vanaspathi Manufacturing Company

•303. SHRI SHYAMLAL GUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any vanaspathi manufacturing unit in Delhi was raided during the last six months in connection with the dehoarding drive; and

(b) if so, with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI B. P. MAURYA): (a) The Delhi Administration has intimated that no raids were organised on any of the two vanaspathi units in Delhi during the last six months.

(b) Does not arise.

बेघर परिवारों के लिये आवास की व्यवस्था करने का द्रुतगामी कार्यक्रम

* 364. श्री जगदीश जोशी :

श्री गुणानन्द ठाकुर :

श्री नागेश्वर प्रसाद शाही :

श्री नथी सिंह :

क्या निर्माण और आवास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने देश में बेघर परिवारों के लिए आवास की व्यवस्था करने के संबंध में कोई द्रुतगामी कार्यक्रम चलाया किया है और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका व्यौरा क्या है ?

•f[Crash programme for providing houses to homeless families

»3W. SHRI JAGDISH JOSHI:

SHRI GUNANAND THAKUR:

SHRI NAGESHWAR

PRASAD

SHRI :

SHRI NATHI SINGH:

[] English translation.

Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government have formulated any crash programme for providing houses to the homeless families in the country;

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

निर्माण और आवास मन्त्री (श्री भोला पासवान शास्त्री) : (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता।

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BHOLA PASWAN SHASTRI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.]

Coal as alternative to petroleum and natural gas

175. SHRI NIREN GHOSH:

SHRI MONORANJAN ROY:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government are aware that the Harcourt Butler Technological Institute, Kanpur has succeeded in processing coal as a viable alternative to petroleum and natural gas;

(b) if so, what are the details of the process evolved; and

(c) by when this process is expected to be made available for commercial use?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S. NURLI HASAN): (a) No, Sir. The Institute, however, has conducted work on coal gasification. The problem has been theoretically examined. Small size pilot plant has been built and full experimental details for different variety of coal are being worked out. Liquefaction will be taken up in the second stage.

[] English translation. Transferred from the 29th July, 1974.

(b) and (c) The project is still in the experimental stage and the details of the processes evolved are yet to be finalised.

*366. [Transferred to the 29th August, 1974.]

Indo-Senegal Cultural Pact

*366. SHRI V. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Indo-Senegal Cultural Agreement has been signed in March, 1974, and

(b) if so, what are the main features of the agreement?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI D. P. YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main features of the Agreement are the promotion and development of relations between India and Senegal in the realms of literature, arts, science, technology, education, radio, television, films and sports. Copy of the Agreement is available in the Parliament Library.

Maharashtra projects for inclusion in the Central Loan Assistance Programme

*367. SHRI GULABRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Maharashtra Government recommended to the Central Government any projects for inclusion in the Central Loan Assistance Programme during the Fifth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the names of the projects recommended by Maharashtra Government; and

(c) the names of the projects proposed to be included in the Fifth Five Year Plan under the Central Loan Assistance Programme