

Supply of foodgrains to Assam

171. DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN:
SHRI MONORANJAN ROY:
SHRI NIREN GHOSH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the steps taken by Government to supply foodgrains in Assam in recent months in view of the acute scarcity conditions prevailing in that State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): Allotment of foodgrains from the Central Pool is made every month keeping in view the availability of stocks in the Central Pool, needs of deficit States and other relevant factors. Internal distribution of foodgrains is the responsibility of the State Government.

Assam is normally surplus in rice. During January to July, 1974, the State has been allotted 71.0 thousand tonnes of wheat. The quantity supplied upto end of May 1974 is 46.0 thousand tonnes.

Demand for Government-run Ayurvedic Colleges

172. SHRI MONORANJAN ROY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a big demand for Government-run Ayurvedic colleges and hospitals and dispensaries all over the country;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to meet the demand; and

(c) whether Government intend to give more attention to the Indigenous medicines?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. KISKU): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be furnished to the Sabha as soon as it becomes available.

Food Corporation of India's failure to take delivery of accumulated foodgrains at Calcutta Port

173. SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Calcutta Port Commissioners reported to the Central Government of the failure of Food Corporation of India to take delivery of the accumulated foodgrains at the port; and

(b) if so, the steps taken against Food Corporation of India for this lapse?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) and (b). The difficulties regarding clearance of foodgrains by the Food Corporation of India reported by the Calcutta Port Commissioners have been sorted out with the improvement in the handling operations at the port. The position is now reported to be normal.

Increase in the price of vanaspati

174. SHRI NIREN GHOSH:

SHRI I. D. SINGH:

SHRI BHOLA PRASAD:

SHRI D. K. PATEL:

SHRI D. THENGARI:

SHRI GUNANAND THAKUR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of times Government has allowed the manufacturers to increase the price of vanaspati during the last three years; and

(b) what is the extent of enhancement in prices allowed each time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI B. P. MAURYA): (a) Vanaspati prices having been increased 10 to 11 times and also decreased 5 to 7 times in the different zones during the last three years.

(b) A statement showing details of the increases/reductions notified during the last three years is attached.

Statement*Increases/Reduction in Vanaspathi prices from June, 1971 to July 1974***Paise per kilogram**

Date	North Zone	South Zone	East Zone	West Zone	
1. 23-6-1971	—	(—)20	—	—	
2. 23-7-1971	(—)15	(—)20	(—)15	(—)15	
3. 23-11-1971	(—)10	(—)10	(—)10	(—)10	
Decrease in 1971 from 23-6-1971 to Dec. 1971					
	(—)25	(—)50	(—)25	(—)25	
1. 8-2-1972	—	(+)10	—	—	
2. 23-2-1972	(—)5	—	(—)6	—	
3. 8-5-1972	(—)10	(—)10	(—)10	(—)10	
4. 8-6-1972	—	(—)10	—	—	
5. 23-6-1972	(+)20	(*)20	(+)20	(+)20	
6. 8-8-1972	(+)20	(+)20	(+)20	(+)20	
7. 8-9-1972	(+)20	(+)20	(+)20	(+)20	
8. 8-10-1972	(+)20	(+)20	(+)20	(+)20	
9. 9-11-1972	(+)10	(+)10	(+)10	(+)10	
Increase in 1972					
	(+)75	(+)80	(+)74	(+)80	
1. 2-1-1973	(+)40	(+)40	(+)40	(+)40	
2. 1-6-1973	(+)75	(+)75	(+)75	(+)75	
3. 16-7-1973	(+)75	(+)75	(+)75	(+)75	
4. 16-11-1973	(—)20	(—)20	(—)20	(—)20	
5. 1-12-1973	(—)20	(—)20	(—)20	(—)20	
Increase in 1973					
	(+)1.50	(*)1.50	(+)1.50	(+)1.50	
	North Zone	South Zone	East Zone	*West(M) Zone	*West(G) Zone
1. 1-2-1974	(+)0.55	(+)0.60	(+)0.56	(+)0.60	(+)0.54
2. 15-6-1974	(+)1.85	(+)1.95	(+)2.20	(+)1.95	(+)1.80
Increase upto 24th July, 1974.					
	(+)2.40	(+)2.55	(+)2.76	(+)2.55	(+)2.34

*(M) is Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh regions.

(G) is Gujarat Region.