

Supply of Foodgrains to Kerala State

194. SHRI HAMID ALI SCHAMNAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the foodgrains supplied to the Kerala State during the last 4 months, month-wise;

(b) whether the supply was made according to the requirements requested by the State Government; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE): (a) The month-wise quantities of rice and wheat supplied to Kerala State during the last 4 months (from July, 1973 to October, 1973) were as under:—

(In '000 tonnes)

Month	Rice	Wheat	Total
July	48.0	39.0	87.0
August	60.9	39.0	99.9
September ..	49.8	25.3	75.1
October	50.3	35.8	86.1
TOTAL	209.0	139.1	348.1

(b and c) Keeping in view the overall availability of foodgrains in the Central Pool and relative needs of deficit States, maximum possible quantities of foodgrains were supplied to Kerala State from the Central Pool to meet the reasonable requirements of the public distribution system in the State. The State Government was also authorised to purchase some quantity of rice on State to State basis from the surplus States, to supplement the Central supplies.

Weedicides

195. SHRI M. B. SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalised plans to provide weedicides for the 1973-74 rabi campaign; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE): (a) and (b) While reviewing the Rabi 1973-74 programmes, the Government of India have brought to the attention of the State Government the need for effective weed control operations, especially with a view to reduce the loss of fertiliser consumed by weeds. In consultation with the State Governments, it had been decided to intensify extension efforts for effective weed control measures in selected districts. The Government of India have organised short training courses for State Plant Protection Officers, in the proper application of chemical weedicides and precautions to be taken in such applications. The State Governments were also requested to ensure more credit inflow to the farmers for obtaining weedicides. The pesticide industry had also agreed to organise demonstration campaigns in coordination with such campaigns taken up by the State and Central Governments.

Construction of National Highways in Kerala

196. SHRI HAMID ALI SCHAMNAD: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of the constructional work of the road, bridges and diversion in the National Highways in Kerala completed upto now;

(b) the major works in this regard which are yet to be completed; and

(c) the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI M. B. RANA): (a) to (c). During the Fourth Five Year Plan upto now the construction of a number of minor and major bridge works, the construction of a few bye-passes and two lane widening and strengthening some lengths of road at an expenditure of about Rs. 7.54 crores have been completed. The works in-