

†[THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI M. B. RANA): Navigation from Allahabad downwards on the Ganges will be possible after the completion of the feeder canal connecting the Ganges with the Bhagirathi and also of the approach channel to Upstream lock of the Farakka Barrage Project. It is not possible to indicate at present when these works will be completed.]

SUPPLY OF FOODGRAINS TO WEST BENGAL

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

(a) whether the Central Government have received any letter from West Bengal Government asking for supply of 20 lakh tonnes of wheat and 10 lakh tonnes of rice for the State; and

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) West Bengal Government asked for the allotment of 8.75 lakh tonnes of rice from the Central pool. As regards wheat, in a recent communication, the State Government informed that in the event of take over of wholesale trade in wheat and ban on inter-zonal movement, they would require 20 lakh tonnes.

(b) Keeping in view of the overall availability of foodgrains in the Central pool and needs of other deficit and drought affected States, the reasonable requirements of foodgrains of West Bengal Government are being met.

617. [Transferred to 11th May, 1973]

PRODUCTION OF LONG STAPLE COTTON

618. SHRI M. K. MOHTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the projects undertaken or proposed to be undertaken by

Government for the development of long staple cotton cultivation; and

(b) if so, the estimated expenditure to be incurred thereon and to what extent the country will be self-sufficient in production of long staple cotton by the end of Fifth Five Year Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) The Government of India is implementing the following Centrally Sponsored Schemes to increase the production of cotton, particularly of long staple cottons:

(i) Intensive Cotton District Programme.

(ii) Maximised Production of Cotton.

(iii) Development of Sea Island Cotton.

(iv) Production of Hybride-4 Cotton seed.

(v) Strengthening Cotton Seed Multiplication Programme.

Under these schemes, adequate field staff is provided to advise the farmers in improved methods of cultivation and arrange for their input requirements. Suitable subsidies on critical inputs are also provided to the farmers under the above schemes.

(b) The expenditure incurred on these schemes during the Fourth Five Year Plan upto 1972-73 is 847 lakhs and the budget provision for 1973-74 is Rs. 4.97 crores. The country is likely to be self-sufficient in the production of long staple varieties of cotton during the Fifth Five Year Plan.

POSTING OF TEACHERS IN DELHI

619. SHRI SANDA NARAYANAPPA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of teachers in the Delhi Administration posted to schools at a

†[] English translation.

distance of 20 to 30 Kms. from their place of residence;

(b) whether it is a fact that most of the teachers referred to in part (a) above have been given these inconvenient postings in pursuance of a definite policy of the Administration; and

(c) if so, whether the Directorate of Education, Delhi has recently received innumerable requests from teachers asking for transfer in view of the extreme hardships being experienced by them in commuting to and from their schools?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI D. P. YADAV) : (a) 315.

(b) Yes, Sir. The present Policy of transfer provides for giving relief to the teachers working in rural areas/long distances from their residences. Under this provision newly recruited teachers are generally appointed/posted in rural areas/long distance in place of those teachers who have completed three years' stay in such rural/long distance schools if vacancies are available.

(c) Yes, Sir.

RUNNING GRADE FOR COLLEGE LECTURERS

620. SHRI KALI MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the University Forum, the University Teachers' Welfare Society and the Forum of Academic Freedom have lately submitted a joint memorandum to the University Grants Commission demanding running grade for college lecturers;

(b) if so, the main demands made in the memorandum; and

(c) the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S. NURUL HASAN): (a) and (b) The University Grants Commission has received a joint Memorandum from the University Forum, Delhi University, University Teachers Welfare Society and Forum for Academic Freedom, Delhi University. The Memorandum contains the following demands :

1. The Delhi University teachers may be given parity in the matter of pay scales with the corresponding posts in the Central Government in the light of the Central pay Commission's recommendations ;

2. The existing three grades of lecturers, Senior lecturers, / Readers and Professors should be reduced to two by the merger of two scales of Lecturers, and Senior lecturers/Readers into an integrated scale, with corresponding changes in nomenclature; and

3. The following amenities should be extended to the teachers :—

(i) Reimbursement of medical expenses.

(ii) Provision of houses on subsidised rent, and pending this, house rent allowance on the pattern of Jawaharlal Nehru University.

(iii) Allotment of Scooters and Cars.

(iv) Free all-route railway pass during vacations, at least once in three years.

(c) The Committee on Governance of Universities and Colleges, appointed by the University-Grants Commission, has recently submitted to the Commission its report on Teachers. The report, which *inter-alia* deals with the pay scales and service conditions of teachers, with the Commission's recommendations thereon are likely to be received by the Government shortly.