

OVERSEAS TRADE

140. SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the over all share of Indian Shipping in the country's overseas trade is only 20 per cent;

(b) whether the country is entitled to carry 50 per cent of its overseas trade in Indian bottoms;

(c) whether any steps are being taken to increase the share of Indian shipping in the country's overseas trade during the fifth Plan.

(d) if so, what are the details of the steps being taken in this respect; and

(e) how much of the country's overseas trade is expected to be carried in Indian bottoms by the end of the fifth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) The Fifth Plan target for shipping has not yet been fixed. ! As more than two-thirds of our overseas trade consists of movement of bulk commodities Government have, since the beginning of the Third Plan laid emphasis on acquisition of bulk carriers and tankers. As at present there are 8 tankers of 4.28 lakhs dwt, 23 bulk carriers of 9.68 lakh dwt and 10 OBOs of 467 lakhs dwt in operation in the overseas trade. In addition 17 tankers of 8.81 lakhs dwt, 8 bulk carriers of 5.89 lakhs dwt and 3 OBOs of 3.18 lakhs dwt are under construction. It is the aim of Government -that Indian shipping should carry a minimum of 50 per cent of the overseas trade by the end of the Fifth Plan, as also to participate in the cross trading to the extent possible.

PRODUCTION OF GRAIN IN RABI SEASON

141. SHRI N. G. GOARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state;

(a) the probable production of grain in the Rabi Season 1972-73; and

(b) the states where the crash programme for producing more Rabi crops was carried out; and the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASHIB SHINDE): (a) and (b). The Emergency Agricultural Production Programme for increasing production of foodgrains during Rabi-Summer, 1972-73, is being implemented in almost all the States. The main emphasis under the programme is on quick-maturing minor irrigation schemes, such as energisation of tubewell/pump sets, lift irrigation projects, etc. As a result of this programme and the beneficial winter rains, area and production of rabi crops are expected to show an increase over 1971-72 in some of the States like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Punjab and Haryana. In the States of Maharashtra, Gujarat and Rajasthan where rains have continued to be deficient in the rabi season, rabi crops output may register some fall. Apart from the continuance of adverse weather conditions in some States, the overall shortage of power and fertilizers also might affect the production during the rabi season to some extent. While increase over last year's rabi production is expected, in the country as a whole, firm estimates of production of rabi foodgrains would become available at the close of the agricultural year, i.e. sometime in July-August, 1973.

NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

142. SARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the lengths of the National Highways that pass through the ter-

ritories of Haryana and Punjab respectively;

(b) the amount given to these Governments for the repairs etc. of the Highways during the last 3 years, year wise; and

(c) the details of the work done during the period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI M. B. RANA): (a) Lengths of National Highways at present passing (through the States of Haryana and Punjab are 600 Kms. and 961 Kms. respectively. In Punjab, lengths totalling to 436 Kms. were added to the National Highway System in two instalments only in July 1971 and March 1972.

(b) The amount allotted to the Governments of Haryana and Punjab for the repairs etc. of National Highways during the last 3 years is as under:—

	Rs. in lakhs
Amount given	
Haryana	
1969-70	38.71
1970-71	54.99
1971-72	44.20
Punjab	
1969-70	22.23
1970-71	18.00
1971-72	

(c) The maintenance works mainly consisted of the following categories in the two States:

- (i) Normal maintenance and repairs;
- (ii) Periodic renewals; and
- (iii) Special repairs.

However, while in the Punjab, the Special Repair was of a small order, that in Haryana was sizeable. In addition, there were also substantial flood damage repairs in Haryana.

SETBACK IN THE RABI CROP PRODUCTION

143. SHRI GANESHI LAL
CHAUDHARY: DR. K.
NAGAPPA ALVA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Rabi Crop production drive has received a set back as reported by Nited News of India and published in the Indian Express on January 15, 1973;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASHIB SHINDE): (a) to (c). As a result of the Rabi crop production drive aided by the beneficial winter rains, area and production of rabi crops are expected to show an increase over 1971-72 in some of the States like Uttar Pradesh Bihar, Punjab and Haryana. On the other hand, in the States of Maharashtra, Gujarat and Rajasthan where rains have continued to be deficient in the rabi season, rabi crop output may register some fall. Apart from adverse weather conditions in some States, the overall shortage of power and fertilisers might affect the production during the rabi season to some extent. While increase over last year's rabi production is expected in the country as a whole, firm estimates of production would become available after the close of the agricultural year, i.e. some time in July-August, 1973.

ASSISTANCE TO LIBRARIES

144. SHRI D. THENGARI:
SHRI J. P. YADAV:
SHRI MAN SINGH VERMA:
SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD
MATHUR:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state the state-wise list of Librari-