

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

SHORTAGE OF DRINKING WATER IN STATES

1840. SHRIMATI SAVITA BEHEN: SHRI I. K. KALANIA :

Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state the number of villages and the population hit by drinking water scarcity during the recent drought in different States, particularly Rajasthan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI OM MEHTA) : According to the information available the States of Madhya Pradesh, Mysore, Manipur, Haryana and the Dadra and Nagar Haveli Administration have reported that 7,504 villages (38 lakhs population), 4,886 villages (57.56 lakhs population), 1,118 villages (6 lakhs population), 4,143 villages (43.63 lakhs population and 90 hamlets (.09 lakh population) respectively were affected by drinking water scarcity during recent drought. The States of Rajasthan, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry Administration have reported that 18,647 villages (128 lakhs population, 12,109 villages (population figures not available), 825 villages (14.56 lakhs population) and 5 villages (.07 lakh population) respectively were affected by scarcity.

The number of villages where special arrangements for drinking water have been made in Rajasthan stands at 1445. This number will go up with advancing summer.

SHORTAGE OF FOODGRAINS

1841. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be

pleased to state the estimated shortage of foodgrains in this year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE) : The production of foodgrains is being periodically assessed by Government in consultation with the State Governments. Preliminary reports received from the State Governments have shown a likely shortfall in the production of Kharif foodgrains during the year 1972-73. Overall shortfall in the availability of foodgrains is likely to be marginal.

LAND REFORM LAWS

1842. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of bills regarding land reform pending with the Central Government for assent of the President;

(b) the reason for delay in according assent; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the State Governments are deliberately delaying the distribution of the Government land ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE) : (a) and (b) The revised ceiling bills passed by the State Legislatures of Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra are under active examination of the Government prior to the accordance of President's assent to them.

Bills introducing further changes in the revised ceiling laws have also been received from Assam, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. These are also being examined.

(c) No, Sir.

चीनी उद्योग का राष्ट्रीयकरण

1843. श्री सुरज प्रसाद : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि भार्गव आयोग ने चीनी के संबंध में अपना अन्तरिम प्रतिवेदन प्रस्तुत कर दिया है ;