

(b) if so, the main recommendation of the Commission; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE): (a) Yes, Sir,

The Agricultural Prices Commission has submitted two reports during September 1972 on (i) Price Policy for kharif cereals for the 1972-73 season and (ii) Price Policy for wheat for the 1973-74 season.

(b) and (c) A statement giving the required information is attached.

STATEMENT

	Name of the Report	Main recommendation	Reaction of the Government
1.	Report on Price Policy for Kharif cereals for the 1972-73 season.	For standard varieties of paddy, the procurement prices for 1972-73 season be raised by Rs. 2/- per quintal in States where the current procurement prices are Rs. 54/- per quintal or below and by Re. 1 where they are Rs. 55/- per quintal. In States where the current procurement prices for the standard varieties of paddy are already Rs. 56/- per quintal or above, no increase be allowed. In all cases of increase in paddy prices, procurement prices for rice may be upgraded correspondingly.	Government have accepted this recommendation.
2.	Report on Price Policy for wheat for the 1973-74 season.	While reiterating for 1973-74 marketing season its earlier recommendation about the procurement prices for wheat, the Commission has suggested that an emergency wheat premium of Rs. 4/- per quintal be allowed over and above these prices. The prices recommended inclusive of emergency price are Rs. 70/- per quintal for Indigenous (Red) and Rs. 76/- per quintal for Mexican and Indigenous (Common white) varieties of wheat.	Government have decided that the procurement prices for wheat for 1973-74 marketing season be fixed at the same level as for 1972-73 marketing season, namely, Rs. 76/- per quintal for indigenous common white and different Mexican varieties and between Rs. 71/- and Rs. 74/- per quintal for indigenous red variety.

SEPARATE UNIVERSITY AT BIKANER

219. SHRI S. D. MISRA :
SHRI C. D. PANDE :
DR. K. NAGAPPA ALVA :
MISS SAROJ PURUSHOTTAM
KHAPARADE :

Will the Minister of EDUCATION

AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of India have received any proposal from the Government of Rajasthan for the setting up of a separate University at Bikaner; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government of India thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S. NURUL HASAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

SALT LAKE PROJECT NEAR CALCUTTA

220. SHRI KALI MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Salt Lake project near Calcutta has undergone enormous delay; if so, how far is it behind schedule;

(b) the reasons for the delay; and

(c) how far the cost of the project has gone up on account of the delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA) : (a) to (c) The Salt Lake Project is in the State Sector. The details asked in the question have been called for from the Government of West Bengal and on receipt they will be laid on the Table of the House.

WHOLESALE TRADE OF LEVY SUGAR TAKEN OVER BY F.C.I.

221. SHRI KALI MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India has taken over wholesale trade of levy sugar from the wholesale distributors; and

(b) if so, whether the prices of levy sugar have been brought down with the elimination of wholesale distributors of levy sugar; and if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. SHER SINGH) : (a) The wholesale distribution of levy sugar has been entrusted to the Food Corporation of India in Delhi and in some districts of Uttar Pradesh. By the 1st January, 1973, the whole country, will

be recovered by it or other suitable Government agencies.

(b) The effect of the take-over of wholesale trade on the prices of levy sugar will be known only sometime after the scheme is fully implemented.

REBATE TO SUGAR MILLS

222. SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the estimated amount of rebate proposed to be given to the sugar mills on additional production of sugar;

(b) whether this scheme will be able to give relief to the consumers; and

(c) if so, to what extent ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. SHER SINGH) : (a) to (c) As only 76 factories had gone into production during the first month of the new sugar season, it is too early to forecast with any reasonable accuracy the amount of rebate that will be earned by the sugar mills on their additional production. The impact of the new scheme of rebate is, however, seen in the increased production of 1.04 lakh tonnes during the month of October, 1972 compared to 0.41 lakh tonnes during the corresponding month of the previous year. The consumer will no doubt ultimately benefit to the extent the production shows an increase.

UNAUTHORISED SALE OF FOODGRAINS IN ORISSA BY F.C.I.

223. DR. K. NAGAPPA ALVA :
SHRI BANARSI DAS :
SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that six agents of the Food Corporation of India have been arrested for unauthorised sale of foodgrains bought by the Food Corporation of India in Orissa; and

(b) if so, who are they and what is the amount of advance paid to each of these parties and the quantity of foodgrains involved ?