

will be fixed for the next season so that there is plenty of production of sugarcane and sugar famine will not recur this year.

PROF. SHER SINGH : I Sir, the question of fixing a minimum price for the season 1972-73 is under consideration, is in its final stages, and I hope we will be able to announce a minimum price for sugarcane for the next year during this Session itself. (*Interruptions*). Don't depend on rumours,

SHRI M. K. MOHTA : My second question. May I ask the hon. Minister whether he will give an assurance to the House that the minimum price will not be less than Rs. 8/- which has been recommended by the Agricultural Prices Commission and whether the minimum price will be based on the recovery, taking into consideration the recovery in North India as well as South India ?

PROF. SHER SINGH : The recoveries, etc. will be kept in view while fixing prices, but I cannot give any assurance at this stage I have already submitted that during this Session itself prices will be announced.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : From the statement it is seen that the highest that has been paid in 1971-72 is Rs. 13 and the lowest is Rs. 8.50. If the millowners can afford to pay Rs. 13/-, why should the Government fix the maximum price, the individual price, at Rs. 7.37 ? Now, the cultivators are switching on to other kinds of cultivation and the production of sugar cane in the country is going down.

PROF. SHER SINGH : It is a fact that during the last two years the area under sugarcane went down, but last year because some incentive prices were given to the sugarcane growers—as the hon. Member himself has said it has ranged between Rs. 8.50 and Rs. 13—there has been an increase in area under sugarcane this year.

SHRI K. C. PANDA : Will the Minister kindly let this House know if there is any machinery which has examined the cost of growing sugarcane per hectare ? Is the cost commensurate with the price fixed by

the Government as the minimum, especially when Rs. 13 has been allowed by Maharashtra and when the price of sugar is shooting up from Rs. 2 to Rs. 4.50 or Rs. 5 even ? In comparison, may I know whether the Minister thinks it fit to pay the growers their due share ?

PROF. SHER SINGH : I have already submitted that we will take all these facts into consideration, the cost of production and other factors while fixing the . . .

HON. MEMBERS: No, no.

PROF. SHER SINGH : While fixing the minimum price, we will take into consideration the recommendations of the Agricultural Prices Commission, the recommendations of the State Governments and also all other interests concerned, including the interests of the cane-growers themselves.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : The Minister says that the area has increased, but how much sugarcane area has increased last year . . .

DR. Z. A. AHMAD : A minimum price of Rs. 10/- you should give. Nothing short of rupees. Otherwise, we, cane-growers, will give up cane-growing.

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : It is true that at present there is no estimate on the basis of which the cost of production can be found out. As I have already said, we are taking up a study to find the cost of production not only of sugarcane, but also of wheat and other foodgrain. As a result of our efforts, we have made a beginning so far as wheat is concerned and rice is concerned. We shall take up the question of finding out the cost of production of sugarcane.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS SEIZURE OF MOTOR CARS CARRYING BANGLA DESH NUMBER PLATES

*329. SHRI CHANDRA MOULI
JAGARLAMUDI ; SHRI
K. C. PANDA : SHRI
LOKANATH MISRA :

will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY
AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT
be pleased, to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have advised the State Governments to seize all motor cars carrying Bangla Desh number plates;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) how many motor cars have so far been seized by the State Governments; and what action, if any, has been taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) :
(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

CAPSULE CONTAINING EVENTS OF NEHRU ERA

*330. SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHA-RAN : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether a capsule containing events of the Nehru Era was placed underground at Shanti Vana; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI UMA SHANKAR DIKSHIT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of Sabha.

STATEMENT

The capsule lowered in the Shanti Vana has been specially designed with a view to preserve the contents for posterity. It consists of 3 shells. The outermost shell is made of a special variety of stainless steel. Inside the stainless steel shell is another shell made of pure electrolytic copper. Inside the copper shell are pyrex glass tubes in which the contents are placed and sealed, excepting the copper plate records, optical recordings and the 35 mm film. The last three are inside the copper shell. The contents of the pyrex glass tubes are in complete vacuum but in an atmosphere of helium

with a critical amount of moisture. The copper and stainless steel shells are all hermetically sealed after the complete evacuation of air and filling with pure nitrogen.

2. The contents of this capsule comprise the following items :

(i) Parchment scrolls containing Nehru's will and testament and a narrative of the most significant domestic and international events, which have taken place since 1964.

(ti) Three microgroove records on copper discs of Nehru's speech "Tryst with Destiny", excerpts from his address to UNO and Smt. Indira Gandhi's readings from Nehru's "Discovery of India", and three reels of optical recordings of the same material.

(iii) A 2,000 feet 35 mm film on Nehru's Life prepared by Shri Vithalbhai Jhaveri.

(iv) Three specimens of a special variety of rose.

(v) Two ears of Kaljan Sooa variety of wheat.

(vi) Ten special stamps to commemorate different events.

(viii) Ten coins of various denominations.

(viii) Portraits of Shri Jawaharlal Nehru and the Prime Minister.

देश में खाद्यान्नों, चीनी तथा रुई के मूल्य

*331. श्री मानसिंह वर्मा :

श्री डी० के० पटेल :

श्री लाल भाडवाणी :

श्री रत्न लाल जैन :

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर :

श्री ना० कु० शेखवलकर :

क्या कृपि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे

कि :