

for sale. Shortage of sugar in any particular area might occur due to temporary transport difficulty.

(b) The scheme under which the sugar industry is making available 60 % of the monthly released quota of sugar at a fixed price to meet emergent requirements and for distribution to domestic consumers through fair price shops is voluntary and all the factories are delivering their share of the monthly sugar quota.

(c) As there is no statutory control on price of sugar, the question of a black market does not arise.

DEMAND FOR PRICE RISE OF SUGARCANE IN U.P.

46. SHRI SITARAM KESRI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the cane growers of Uttar Pradesh have threatened to stop the supplies of sugarcane to factories unless the prices are raised; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to meet the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. SHER SINGH) : (a) Government are not aware of any such threat from cane growers at present.

(b) The sugar factories in Uttar Pradesh have already been persuaded to pay higher prices for sugarcane. The prices being paid are Rs. 11.50 per quintal in West U.P., Rs. 10.50 per quintal in Central U. P., and Rs. 10.00 per quintal in East U. P.

ग्वालियर में भूमि का कृषि योग्य बनाया जाना

47. श्री ना० कृ० शेजवलकर : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ग्वालियर में डाकू समस्या के हल करने के साथ साथ कृषि उत्पादन के विकास हेतु चंबल के बीहड़ों को समतल बनाकर कृषि योग्य बनाने का विचार रखती है, और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो उसका व्यय क्या है और इस सम्बन्ध में क्या प्रगति की गई है ?

RECLAMATION OF LAND IN GWALIOR.

47. SHRI N. K. SHEJWALKAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to reclaim the land under Chambal ravines by levelling it in order to develop the agricultural production besides solving the dacoits problem in Gwalior; and

(b) if so, what are the details and progress made in this regard ?]

कृषि मन्त्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अण्णा-साहेब शिन्दे) : (क) तथा (ख) बड़े पैमाने पर बीहड़ भूमि को सुधार कर जिसमें गहरी बीहड़ भूमि में कृषि तथा वनरोपण के लिये सुधार सम्मिलित है तकनीकी तथा आर्थिक संभाव्यता बनाने के उद्देश्य से, ग्वालियर प्रभाग में 50 लाख रुपये की लागत से 2000 हेक्टेयर बीहड़ भूमि के सुधार के लिये चौथी योजना में एक आदर्श परियोजना की केन्द्रीय प्रायोजित योजना आरम्भ की गई है।

केन्द्रीय प्रायोजित आदर्श परियोजना के लिये लगभग 190 हेक्टेयर क्षेत्र का सुधार किया गया है।

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE) : (a) and (b) A 4th Plan Centrally Sponsored Scheme of a Pilot Project for Ravine Reclamation for an area of 2000 hectares at a cost of Rs. 50.00 lakhs has been taken up in the Gwalior Division to establish the technical and economic feasibility of large scale ravine reclamation, which involves reclamation • for agriculture as well as afforestation of deeper ravines.

An area of about 190 hectares has been reclaimed for the Centrally Sponsored Pilot Project.]

LIQUOR POISONING IN DELHI

48. SHRI A. D. MANI :
SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH :

Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that as many as 78 persons died by liquor poisoning in New Delhi on January 23, 1972;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the liquor was purchased on a 'dry day' in Delhi;

(c) whether Government have conducted any inquiry in the matter; and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take in order to prevent illicit liquor being manufac-

tuicd and sold in this Fashion in the Union territory ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (PROF.S. NURUL HASAN): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as it is received.

FIRST PHASE OF WATER SUPPLY SCHEME IN RANIGANJ COAL-FIELD AREA

49. SHRI KALYAN ROY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to refer to the reply to the Unstarred Question Nos. 123 and 545 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 21st July 1971 and 24.11.71, respectively and state :

(a) whether the first phase of the Scheme for supply of drinking water in coalfield areas in Raniganj-Asansol has since been completed;

(b) if not, the reasons thereof and approximate lime within which it will be completed; and

(c) whether Government would hold an impartial enquiry to ascertain the real causes of this delay in completing the Scheme and if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. K. ISKU) : (a) to (c) The Raniganj Coal Field Area Water Supply Scheme is 'a State Scheme and the information is awaited from the State Government. It will be laid on the Table of the Sabha on receipt.

IMPORT OF FERTILISER

50. SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering a proposal to reduce the amount incurred on the import of fertilizer; and

(b) if so, what is the amount spent on the imports of fertilizers during the last one year and what is the extent of the cut proposed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHAB SHINDE) : (a) and (b) In view of its critical importance in agricultural development, Government imports fertilisers to the extent the requirements of farmers cannot be met through indigenous production. The actual quantity of fertilisers thus imported depends upon the stocks on hand, the estimated

requirements and the estimated domestic production. Government does not propose to reduce the import of fertilisers to the detriment of agricultural production.

In the year 1970-71, the imports of fertilisers were 4.77 lakh tonnes of N, O. 32 lakh tonnes of P205 and 1.08 lakh tonnes of K20 valued at Rs. 75.90 crores on cost-cum-freigh basis. In 1971-72 the imports are expected to be larger — 4.80 lakh tonnes of N, 2.30 lakh tonnes of P205 and 2.80 lakh tonnes of K20 at an estimated cost of Rs. 95.87 crores on cost-cum-freight basis. The increased import in 1971-72 was called for due to increased consumption of fertilisers envisaged in 1971-72.

SECOND PHASE OF WATER SUPPLY SCHEME IN RANIGANJ COALFIELD AREA

51. SHRI KALYAN ROY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question No. 545 given in Rajya Sabha on the 24th November, 1971, and state;

(a) whether the Government of West Bengal has approached the Central Government for funds to start the second phase of the Raniganj Coalfield Areas Water Supply Scheme;

(b) if so, the amount needed for the Scheme;

(c) whether the funds have been sanctioned by the Union Government; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. K. ISKU) : (a) Yes, The Government of West Bengal had requested the Central Government for special assistance outside the State Plan for the execution of the second phase of the scheme.

(b) The second phase of the Scheme is estimated to cost Rs. 3.28 crores.

(c) and (d) No special assistance is proposed to be given to the State Government for this scheme as Central assistance to the State: is now being given in the form of block loans and block grants without reference to any particular scheme. It is for the State Government to find funds for the scheme from within their overall plan resources.

NEHRU MEMORIAL MUSEUM AND LIBRARY

52. SHRI A. D. MANI : Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state ;