

be knowing the text they need to sing the National Anthem properly. The National Anthem is included in the school text-books of many States. It is also taught through Radio lessons. Once every quarter the National Anthem is included in the School Broadcasts for teaching, on the stations of the All India Radio which broadcast programmes to schools. In the case of stations which do not have school broadcasts, the National Anthem is included in the Children's Programme of most of the stations. Under one of the schemes of the Government of India, operated through the State Governments, training of teachers and students is undertaken in the correct singing of the National Anthem, further, the correct singing of the National Anthem is included in the Teacher Training Colleges programmes.

SUGAR PRODUCTION

31. SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : SHRI K. C. PANDA : SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL : SHRI M. K. MOHTA : SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) total percentage of sugar production in the country which is allowed to be sold in the free market;
- (b) whether Government are taking initiative to bring this quantity also under the category of sale with Government's permission;
- (c) whether the sugar industry has sharply reacted to this proposal; and
- (d) whether attention of Government in this regard has been invited to a report in the Economic Times of the 15th January, 1972; and if so, the reaction of Government in this regard

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. SHIR SINGH): (a) There is no statutory control on price or distribution of sugar. However, the sugar industry both of the joint stock and cooperative sectors has agreed on an informal basis to make available sixty per cent of the sugar released every month at a fixed price to meet emergent requirements and for distribution to domestic consumers through fair price shops. They have also agreed to earmark 35 per cent of the quota at the same price for export. The quantity available to them for sale in the open market is 36.5 per cent of the monthly released quota.

(b) to (d) The Government have seen the report in "The Economic Times" of 15th January, 1972. Early in January, 1972, when

the prices of free sale quota of sugar rose steeply, the Government suggested to the industry that the ex-factory prices of free sale sugar also should not go beyond a reasonable limit. The industry replied that on account of the differences in the cane prices paid and also because of the differences in the cost of production of sugar in different parts of the country, it had not been possible for them to arrive at an agreed decision among themselves in regard to a uniform ceding price for free sale sugar applicable all over India. Subsequently, the prices of free sale sugar showed a downward trend. During the last two weeks again, the prices have recorded a steep rise. The matter is under discussion with the industry again.

AGRICULTURE COMMISSION ON PERTHISBR

32. SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : SHRI M. K. MOHTA : SHRI K. C. PANDA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that in its interim report the National Commission on Agriculture has pointed out defects in Fertilizer production and its distribution during the past 2/3 years and have made certain remedial suggestions; and
- (b) whether the Commission has submitted its final report; and if so, the broad features thereof, and the reaction of Government with regard to the suggestions/recommendations made therein ?

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

The following are briefly some of the important recommendations of the National Commission of Agriculture on the subjects :

Fertiliser Production

1. Corrective action has to be initiated to increase the percentage utilisation of indigenous utilisation capacity.
2. A suitable programme should be formulated for upgrading the nutrient content of fertilisers issued from the superphosphate factories.
3. In future, all fertiliser plants should preferably produce complex/compound fertilisers of required grades for promoting balanced fertilisation.
4. Arrangements should be made to utilise pyritic varieties and Rajasthan Rock phosphates speedily.

Fertiliser Distribution

5. Intensive Fertiliser Promotion work should be organised along with a sustained soil testing programme in those areas which are not serviced by the manufacturers.

6. Adequate measures should be taken to organise storage of fertilisers at various levels commensurate with the capability and need of the "manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers.

7. The Department of Agriculture should assist in construction of storage godowns by cooperatives at suitable intermediate storage points and also at primary cooperative level.

8. The Department of Agriculture should coordinate the railway movement plans for indigenous and imported fertilisers to ensure smooth transportation of fertilisers to the wholesale and retail points.

9. The Railway should give 'C' priority to the programmed movement of fertiliser for long haulage.

10. The Department of Agriculture should subsidise transport of fertilisers to the interior and backward areas.

11. Special incentives should be accorded to the cooperative system to encourage them in distribution of large quantities of fertilisers.

12. The distribution margin for fertilisers wholesalers and retailers should be increased taking into account the increased cost of transport, handling etc.

13. State policy should be specifically oriented to give preferential treatment to small farmers in the matter of credit and fertiliser supplies.

14. Special measures should be taken to control the quality of fertilisers at the manufacturers, wholesalers and retailer's level.

These recommendations are under consideration of the Government, (b) No, Sir.

IMPORT OF FOODGRAINS UNDER PL-480

33. SHRI LOKANATH MISHRA : SHRI K. C. PANDA : SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL : SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : SHRI BHOLA PRASAD .

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have finally decided to stop import of foodgrains under PL-480.

(b) if so, from what date; and

(c) the extent to which the food position in the country is likely to be effected as a result thereof'.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE) : (a) and (b) The decision to stop all concessional foodgrain imports, including those under PL-480, after 1971 is being implemented.

(c) No adverse effect on the country's food position is anticipated.

RESOURCES OF VEGETABLE OIL.

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

(aj) whether the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry had made certain representations and suggestions for augmenting oil seeds and vegetable oil resources of the country; and

(h) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE) : (a) Yes, Sir. Certain suggestion for increasing the production of cotton seed oil and cultivation of sunflower have been received from the Federation.

(b) The Government have already taken certain steps and have under consideration further action for increasing the production of cottonseed oil and cultivation of sunflower. The suggestions made by the Federation, in this connection, have been noted.

FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES FACED BY PRIVATE ENGINEERING COLLEGES AND POLYTECHNICS

35. SHRI RAM SAHAJ : Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that due to continuous fall in admissions in private engineering colleges and polytechnics since 1968, the institutions located in Madhya Pradesh are unable to repay instalments of loans advanced for hostels by the Government of India; (b) if so, whether Government propose to postpone the repayments of instalments for the next five years; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the negative, what other measures are proposed to ease the financial burden of these institutions

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE :