

ANDHRA PRADESH SUGARCANE GROWER'S DEPUTATION TO MINISTER

♦644. SHRI L. K. N. PRASAD : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a deputation of sugarcane growers of Andhra Pradesh had met him in September, 1970 and had urged for a minimum care price of Rs. 100 per tone for the 1970-71 season ;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have considered their views in support of the proposal ;

(c) if so, how far Government have agreed to accept their suggestion; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) It has not been possible for Government to accept their suggestion.

(d) Increase in the minimum price of sugarcane would have disturbed the intra-crop parities of prices and increased the acreage under sugarcane cultivation at the cost of other essential crops. It would also have created a problem of the economic utilization of the sugarcane crop. (The Agriculture Price Commission has also examined this and recommended that minimum price should not be increased). Higher prices of sugarcane paid during 1967-68 and 1968-69 had lead to surplus production of sugarcane in 1969-70 which created difficulties for the growers in disposal and resulted in reduced realisations due to fall in price of gur. Increase in sugarcane price would have continued or aggravated these difficulties. It would have also affected prices of other competing crops and commodities in general.

SETTING UP OF THE F.K.M COUNCIL

♦645. DR. (MRS.) MANGLADEVI TALWAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of India have received any suggestions from the

Malayala Chalachithra Parishad, Madras. in regard to the setting up of a Film Council; and

(b) if so, the reactions of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Executive Committee of the Parishad have asked for nomination of at least one representative of the Government of Kerala and one representative of the Parishad on the Film Council.

(b) The proposal to set up statutory Film Council is under active consideration of Government. The suggestion will be considered at the appropriate time.

'STRIKE IN INDO-SWISS PROJECT' MATTUPETTY

♦646. DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN • SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MENON :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the workers of the Indo-Swiss Project, Mattupetty, Kottayam District Kerala, are on a strike for many days;

(b) if so, what are the details of the demands of the workers; and

(c) what are the steps taken by Government to redress the grievances of the workers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE) : (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

'STATEMENT'

(a) The Government of Kerala in their latest communication has intimated that the labourers of Indo-Swiss Project struck work from the 12th October, 1970.

(b) The demands of the workers were :

(i) All the daily paid labourers should be taken on regular employment basis, as monthly paid employees.

(ii) Family quarters should be constructed for the labourers.

(iii) The labourers should be made eligible for the benefits of Employees Contributory Provident Fund Scheme.

(iv) Blankets etc should be supplied for the year 1970.

(v) The workers should be given preference in the selection of Artificial Inseminators under the Project.

(c) This is a State Government Project. The Government of Kerala have since issued orders converting the skilled and unskilled daily rated posts in the Indo-Swiss Project into monthly paid posts. The State Government have also decided to expedite the completion of family quarters. The proposal for introduction of the Provident Fund is being processed urgently. The demand for supply of blankets etc. will be considered by State Government after ascertaining the practice followed in other Departments. It has also been decided by Government of Kerala to give preference to the qualified workers of the Project when selections are made/ in future to the post of the Artificial Inseminators.

उपभोक्ता सहकारी समितियों के लिए ऋण तथा अग्रिम धनराशियाँ

* 647. श्री राम सहस्र : क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) उपभोक्ता सहकारी समितियों द्वारा जमानत के आधार पर कितनी राशि के ऋण तथा अग्रिम धनराशि प्राप्त की गई और उसमें से उनके द्वारा कितनी धनराशि अदा कर दी गई और सरकार को उनकी ओर से कितनी धनराशि अदा करनी पड़ी; और

(ख) 120 उपभोक्ता सहकारी समितियों द्वारा प्राप्त किए गए कुल ऋणों में से कितनी धनराशि कितनी है जिसके पुनर्भुगतान के लिए सरकार द्वारा गारंटी दी गई थी और तो डूब गई है।

—63 R. S./70

F[LOANS AND ADVANCES FOR THE CONSUMERS' COOPERATIVE SOCIETIES]

*647. SHRI RAM SAHAI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of secured loans and advances obtained by the Consumers' Cooperative Societies and paid off by them and the amount which Government had to pay in their behalf; and

(b) the amount out of the total loans obtained by 120 Consumers' Cooperative Societies which has gone into bad debt for the repayment of which a guarantee was given by Government?

खाद्य, कृषि, सामुदायिक विकास और सह-कारिता मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री जगन्नाथ पहाड़िया) : (क) 3 दिसम्बर, 1970 को गारंटी योजना के अन्तर्गत 70 उपभोक्ता सहकारी समितियों द्वारा जमानत के आधार पर 897.70 लाख रु० की राशि ऋणों तथा अग्रिमों के रूप में प्राप्त की गई है इसके अतिरिक्त, 71 समितियों के बारे में 646.58 लाख रु० की धनराशि के लिए गारंटियों का नवीकरण किया जाना है।

चूंकि ये नकदी ऋण सीमाओं के प्रति चालू खातों के स्वरूप के हैं, अतः लौटाने का प्रश्न नहीं उठता है।

केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा किसी भी वित्तदायी बैंक को इन गारंटियों के प्रति अब तक कोई भी राशि अदा नहीं की गई है।

(ख) चूंकि कोई भी समिति, जिसके लिए केन्द्रीय सरकार ने गारंटी दी थी परिसमापन में नहीं गई है अतः किसी भी राशि को अप्राय ऋण नहीं समझा जा सकता है।

[THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA) : (a) An amount of Rs. 897-70 lakhs has been obtained by way of secured loans and advances by 70 Consumers'

[] English translation.