

**REMUNERATIVE PRICE TO COTTON AND  
JUTE GROWERS**

950. SHRI SUIAJ PRASAD :  
SHRI BHOLA PRASAD :

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up public sector agencies to assure a remunerative price to cotton and jute growers and to safeguard their interests from the vagary of market fluctuations; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK): (a) and (b) An agency in the public sector known as Cotton Corporation of India with headquarters at Bombay has been set up. The Corporation will, inter-alia, undertake purchases of cotton by way of price support. As regards jute, the State Trading Corporation continues to be in charge of price support operations during 1970-71.

**DELAY IN PROGRESS OF POWER PROJECTS**

951. SHRI BACHANDRA MENNON:  
SHRI BHOLA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the delivery of generating and other equipments ordered on Heavy Electricals Ltd. and the Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. for the various power projects is likely to be delayed;

(b) if so, to what extent this delay will affect the progress of the power projects; and

(c) whether any steps are being taken to ensure completion of the projects as scheduled?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) and (c) Deliveries of generating equipment ordered on HEL and BHEL in respect of some of the power projects scheduled for commissioning during the fourth Plan are likely to be delayed according to present indications. Efforts are being made by the manufacturers to expedite the deliveries of the equipment.

4-47 R. S./70

A committee has been set up in the Ministry of Irrigation & Power for reviewing periodically in detail the progress made in the placement of orders and manufacture of generating equipment and also to co-ordinate the progress of manufacture with the progress of civil works. Further a Committee has been appointed to evaluate the manufacturing capability of indigenous manufacturing concerns to deliver the generating units according to the requirements and suggest measures to meet the anticipated delays. The Committee is expected to submit its report within 6 months.

**IMPORT OF CINEMATOGRAPHIC FILMS**

952. SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN :  
Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have agreed to licence the import of rolls of positive unexposed cinematographic films to promote film industry in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK): (a) and (b) Licences for the import of 40,000 rolls of 35 mm black and white positive raw film and 10,000 rolls of 16 mm black and white positive raw film have been issued to the State Trading Corporation.

**FALL IN NORTH INDIA TEA CROPS**

953. DR. DEBIPRASAD CHATTOPADHYAYA: Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the North India tea crops during the current season have considerably fallen compared with the previous crop; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**PER CAPITA INCOME IN THE COUNTRY AND  
RURAL AREA**

954. SHRI K. S. MALLE GOWDA:  
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita income in the country and rural area in 1951; and

(b) the per capita income in the country and rural area in 1969 ?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) and (b) The per capita income in the country in 1951-52 was Rs. 274.2 at current prices and Rs. 250.3 at constant (1948-49) prices. Figures per capita income for the country for 1969-70 have not yet been prepared.

The estimate of national and per capita income are not worked out for rural areas separately.

**WEST BENGAL'S REQUEST FOR FUNDS FOR COMPLETION OF TEESTA AND SONAPURHAT BARRAGES**

955- SHRI KALYAN ROY : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of West Bengal have asked for Rs. 12 crores from the Centre for the completion of the Teesta and Sonapurhat barrages in North Bengal during the next four years;

(b) if so, whether the Central Government have agreed to the request of the State Government; and

(c) what is the progress so far made in respect of these two projects?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (RPOF. SIDDHESWAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The Government of West Bengal has sought financial assistance from the Planning Commission for executing the Tista Barrage Project (including the Sonapurhat barrage). The Planning Commission have not agreed to treat the scheme as a Centrally sponsored scheme and have asked the State Government to include it under the State's irrigation sector of the Plan.

(c) The Tista Barrage Project Report as submitted by the West Bengal Government in September, 1968, was to irrigate 13.5 lakh acres at an estimated cost of Rs. 80 crores, to be implemented in phases. The Union Minister for Irrigation and Power and the then Minister for Irrigation and Waterways, West Bengal, discussed on 22nd November, 1969, about its rephasing and the areas that would be covered in the modified first phase. The Government of West Bengal

have been requested to frame a Project Report for the first phase accordingly, for consideration.

**RUBBER BOARD OFFICE IN DELHI**

956- SHRI G.GOPINATHAN NAIR : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Rubber Board has an office in Delhi;

(b) if so, the place where the office is situated and what is the monthly rent paid for this office; and

(c) what are the main functions of office ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (CHOWDHARY RAM SEVAK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Rubber Board's office is situated at X-3 Green Park, New Delhi-16. The rent is Rs. 413/- per mensem.

(c) A statement containing the required information is attached.

**STATEMENT**

The main functions of the Rubber Board's office in Delhi are as under :

(1) To enquire about the bona-fides and suitability of applicants for issue of fresh licences (a) to acquire raw rubber and (b) to deal in raw rubber.

(2) To expedite collection of arrears of excise duty by personal approach to manufacturers and in the case of arrears reported for revenue recovery to follow up with revenue recovery authorities as there is a very large number of manufacturers in this category.

(3) To collect information and take timely action against deliberate evasion of excise duty and possible loss of revenue to the Board, closure of business, alienation of assets, absconding of proprietors/partners so as to defeat recovery of excise duty, etc.

(4) To make enquiries about the manufacturers who stop renewing licenses to acquire raw rubber and to take prompt action for recovery of any arrears due from them.