

†[THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) Yes, Sir. It should be added that the House has been kept informed of the efforts made by Pakistan to acquire military equipment from various countries.

(b) and (c) Attention is invited to the answer given in the House on 12th March, 1970 to Unstarred Question No. 1035.]

WEST BENGAL SCHEME TO CHECK INUNDATION

1197. SHRI N. G. GORAY: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of West Bengal submitted any scheme to the Central Government to solve the "Dubda Basin" problem of inundation;

(b) if so, the decision taken by the Central Government in regard to this urgent problem; and

(c) whether it has been given top priority as it is likely to make available more than 2.5 lakh areas of paddy land in a State which suffers from food shortage?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (PROF. SIDDHESWAR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The scheme has been approved by the Planning Commission in July, 1970, at an estimated cost of Rs. 268.35 lakhs.

(c) The Government of West Bengal have proposed an outlay of Rs. 80 lakhs for this scheme in the revised Fourth Plan proposals now under consideration of the State Government.

SEPARATING OF DEPARTMENT OF INTELLIGENCE FROM HOME MINISTRY

1198. SHRI B. T. KEMPARAJ :
KUMARI SHANTA VASISHT :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for separating the Department of Intelligence from the Ministry of Home Affairs at the time of

recent Cabinet reshuffle and again putting it under the same Ministry after the reshuffle ; and

(b) whether there were any complaints against the former Minister of Home Affairs, and if so, what are they ?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI-MATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) The Intelligence Bureau has not in any way been affected by the recent changes ; it was, and continues to be, under the administrative control of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

(b) No, Sir.

मिलिटरी कृषि फार्मों में भूसे की क्षति

1199. श्री सुरज प्रसाद : क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि मेरठ में मिलिटरी कृषि फार्म में खेतों में तिरपालों के नीचे रखा हुआ सैकड़ों मन भूसा हर साल वर्षा ऋतु में खराब हो जाता है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार ऐसे मिलिटरी कृषि फार्मों में भूसे का स्टॉक करने के लिये गोदाम बनाने की व्यवस्था करने का विचार रखती है ?

†[DAMAGE OF CHAFF IN MILITARY AGRICULTURE FARMS

1199. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that hundreds of maunds of chaff kept in the fields under tarpaulins at the Military Agricultural farms at Meerut gets damaged every year during the rainy season ;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to make arrangements to construct godowns for stocking chaff in such military Agricultural farms?]

रक्षा मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री नरेंद्र सिंह महीड़ा) : (क) जी नहीं भूसे का भण्डार चट्टों में निमित्त उठी कुसियों के स्थानों में किया जाता है। चट्टे यद्यपि ऊपर आकाश

की ओर से खुले होते हैं, उन पर आम चास या गारे लिपाई कर के उन्हें सुरक्षित कर लिया जाता है। इस से काफी बचाव हो जाता है।

(ख) उपरोक्त (क) के उत्तर के समक्ष प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

†[THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI NAKENDRA SINGH MAHIDA): (a) No, Sir. The chaff is stacked on constructed plinth sites. The stacks though open to the sky are protected by thatching with coarse grass or with mud mortar *lepai*. This provides adequate protection.

(b) Does not arise by virtue of answer to (a) above.]

EXPORT OF COAL TO HONG KONG

1200. SHRI DHARAM CHAND JAIN : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that coal is being exported to Hong Kong by the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Coal exported by the MMTC is going to another country from Hong Kong; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to make a thorough enquiry into the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) Yes, Sir. M.M.T.C. exported only B-hive coke to Hong Kong.

(b) Government have no information; the sale was on FOBT basis.

(c) Exporting countries can not possibly seek to regulate the re-export of their products imported by entrepot centers such as Hong Kong and Singapore.

†[] English translation.

REDUCTION IN EXPORT QUOTA OF COFFEE

1201. SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Coffee Board has suggested to Government to reduce the additional quota of Coffee allotted by Government for export; and

(b) if so, whether this reduction in the quantity of export would meet the domestic demand?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

SHORTAGE OF COTTON

1202. SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a possibility of shortage of cotton in the internal market after satisfying the export commitments in view of low cotton harvest in 1969-70; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to meet the domestic requirements and hold the price line of cotton?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) Availability of domestic cotton during the cotton year 1969-70 has been somewhat unusually below the level of cotton requirements. Exports of cotton are confined to certain specific varieties which are either not spinnable or the production of which is in excess of the demand and, therefore, do not affect this position.

(b) Steps taken are :—

(i) arrangements have been made for additional import of cotton/staple fibre;

(ii) limits upto which cotton stocks can be held by the mills have been reduced by one month; and

(iii) credit limits in respect of cotton have been suitably adjusted.