

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE): (a) to (c) Government have not seen the statement of the Education Minister of Kerala about the offer of one lakh tonnes of rice by a foreign firm with headquarters at Singapore. A Singapore firm had offered 50,000 tonnes and subsequently a further quantity of 100,000 tonnes of Italian rice on behalf of its principals in Europe. The offers were not accepted as enquiries made by Government revealed that the offers were not genuine and were unlikely to materialise.

WHIPS CONFERENCE IN SIMLA

*173. DR. (MRS.) MANGLADEVI TALWAR:

SHRI SURJIT SINGH ATWAL:

Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Conference of Whips of different States was held in Simla in October, 1967; and

(b) if so, what decisions were taken in the Conference?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH): (a) Yes; Sir. the Sixth All India Whips' Conference was held at Simla from 4th to 6th October, 1967.

(b) A copy of the recommendations adopted at Conference is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix LXII, Annexure No. 37.]

MINOR IRRIGATION FACILITIES TO RAJASTHAN

*174. PROF. SHANTILAL KOTHARI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have provided any minor irrigation facilities to Rajasthan during the last one year;

(b) if so, the details of these facilities; and

(c) what other minor irrigation facilities are proposed to be provided in the near future?

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) Yes, Sir.

(b) During 1966-67 an outlay of Rs. 145 lakhs was utilised in the State to create irrigation facilities from surface water, storage and diversion works. The groundwater development on which an expenditure of Rs. 351.251 lakhs was incurred, contributed to the creation of the following additional facilities:

	Nos.
(1) Construction of wells	18,000*
(2) Deepening of wells	37,061
(3) Boring in wells	74
(4) Drilling of tubewells	54
(5) Installation of pump sets	5,570
(6) Installation of persian wheels	6,355

*16,000 wells were constructed by the cultivators from their own resources.

In addition to the above, 166 successful tubewells for irrigation/drinking water purposes have been constructed in West Rajasthan by the E. T. O. of the Government of India under the special programme taken up in 1965.

(c) The emphasis on Minor Irrigation is being maintained.

CITY SORTING OFFICES IN GWALIOR

*175. SHRI R. S. KHANDEKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of city sorting offices which are located in Greater Gwalior in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) what is the work load and whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to open any