

- (c) to the State Governments and distributors selling powdered rockphosphate for direct use as manure.

The pool issue prices of fertilisers imported by the Government of India and distributed by the Central Fertiliser Pool were also maintained at the rates prevailing before devaluation and the losses arising from this absorbed by the pool

2. The position was reviewed by Government and it was decided that:

- (a) The subsidy on phosphatic fertilisers referred to in paragraph-1 (i) above which had been introduced in the first Plan to popularise phosphatic fertilisers should be abolished from 1.4.67 as phosphatic fertilisers had become sufficiently popular with the farmers

- (b) the subsidies mentioned in paragraph 1(ii) above, which were being allowed in certain Union Territories (where fertilisers use is still not substantial) should be gradually reduced and completely abolished from 1970-71. Accordingly the percentage of subsidy in these special areas has been fixed at the rates indicated below from 1967-68:—

	Nitrogenous Fertilisers	Phosphatic Fertilisers
1967-68	20%	40%
1968-69	15%	25%
1969-70	Nil	Nil

3 The subsidies given to offset the increase in prices of fertilisers as a result of devaluation were also reviewed and it was decided to revise these as indicated below from 1st April 1967.—

- (a) All subsidies on fertilisers produced indigenously using imported raw materials were withdrawn.

- (b) The subsidy on imported Muriate Potash was reduced to 50 per cent of the previous rate and fixed at 18.25 per cent of the C.I.F. cost of the fertiliser. The subsidy on sulphate of potash which is the other potassic fertiliser used in the country was abolished completely as it is used primarily for tobacco and grapes which are remunerative crops.

- (c) The subsidy on powdered rockphosphate was reduced from Rs 57 to 30 per tonne; and

- (d) The pool issue prices of fertilisers imported and sold by the Central Fertilisers Pool were revised upwards in order to reduce the losses being suffered by the Central Fertiliser Pool. The new prices were brought into effect from 1.4.1967. Even after this Government would be subsidising fertilisers to the extent of about Rs 19 crores.

Part (b).—Several States have represented against the increase in prices

*26. [Transferred to the 31st May, 1967.]

FAMINE AFFECTED AREAS

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

- (a) whether any more areas in the country have been declared as famine affected areas; if so, which are those areas;

- (b) the number and names of the famine affected areas in different States/Territories at present; and

- (c) the Central aid given to relieve those areas of the famine conditions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE). (a) and (b) A statement giving the areas declared as famine areas is placed on

the Table of the Sabha. (See Statement I).

(c) The declaration of famine does not imply the assumption by Government of any new responsibilities for combating distress. It is a recognition that the distress has assumed proportions which require a widening of ameliorative measures, a more ample provision of funds and consequently more detailed and more frequent reports on the situation. A statement indicating the assistance provided to Bihar Government to meet the drought situation is placed on the Table of the Sabha. (See Statement II).

STATEMENT I

The Bihar Government have declared the following areas as famine affected:—

1. Palamau—Entire district.
2. Hazaribagh—Entire district.
3. Gaya—Entire District (excluding the canal-irrigated blocks namely, Arwal, Karpi, Obra, Haspura and Daudnagar).
4. Shahabad—Entire Babhua Sub-division; Itarhi, Dumraon, Simri, Barhampur and Buxar Anchals of Buxar Sub-division; Sasaram, Sheosagar, Rohtas, Nawhatta and Chenari Anchals of Sasaram Subdivision; and Shahpur, Behea, Jagdishpur, Arrah, Udwant Nagar, Koilwar, Sandesh, Barhara, Charpokhri Anchals of Sadar Sub-division. Sub-division.
5. Patna—Sadar Sub-division; Bihar-shariff Sub-division; Sarmera, Harnaut, Fatwa, Fundarak and Mokameh Anchals of Barh Sub-division.
6. Monghyr—Jamui Sub-division; and Sadar Sub-division (excluding Kharagapur, Sangrampur and Tarapur Anchals).
7. Bhagalpur—Banka Sub-division (excluding Belhar and Sham-

bhuganj Anchals); and Sadar Sub-division (excluding Sabour, Colgong, Pirpanti, Gopalpur, Bihpur and Naugachia Anchals).

STATEMENT II

Allotments of imported foodgrains to Bihar have been increased from time to time as indicated below:—

	Tonnes
October 1966 . . .	72,000
November 1966 . . .	110,000
December 1966 . . .	152,000
January 1967 . . .	175,000
February 1967 . . .	179,500
March 1967 . . .	178,000
April 1967 . . .	200,000
May 1967 . . .	225,000

11,000 tonnes of gift wheat have been allotted to Bihar for free distribution. 8,162.175 tonnes of gift milk powder have been allotted to the State for free feeding programmes for the benefit of children and expectant and nursing mothers. 147 tonnes of biscuits and 216 tonnes of beans have also been allotted.

The Ministry of Health and Family Planning have allotted a substantial quantity of vitamin tablets, baby food, medicines, etc., to Bihar to ward off or combat diseases resulting from scarcity conditions.

Drinking water schemes estimated to cost Rs. 507 lacs have been approved. Rigs for this purpose have been given on loan by the Geological Survey of India, Oil and Natural Gas Commission, Army etc.

Six rigs have been obtained from UNICEF and these were airlifted from U.K. to India. U.S. AID have arranged for spares worth Rs. 1.75 lakhs at the instance of the Government of India. Foreign Exchange has been released for spare parts for commissioning some of the rigs. The Geological Survey of India have loaned

the services of Geologists and Geophysicists for locating suitable sites for drilling as also a large contingent of technical staff like drillers.

A cattle protection and feeding plan estimated to cost Rs. 7.43 crores has been approved.

The Ministry of Finance has so far sanctioned Rs. 23.75 crores as loans and grants as assistance in respect of relief expenditure. In addition the following loans have also been granted:

	Rs. crores
For minor Irrigation Programmes	2.70
For Rural Electrification Programmes	6.00
For Drinking Water Supply	1.00
For extension of Water Courses under major and medium projects	0.30

In addition short-term loans for seeds, fertilizers and pesticides amounting to Rs. 16.49 crores were also provided relaxing the general rule that only 50 per cent of the expenditure is assisted by Central loans. The assistance was 100 per cent of the expenditure.

A number of voluntary organizations are running free kitchens in the State. To assist them they have been given so far about 1335 tonnes of wheat at economic prices. A quantity of 10,000 tonnes of Italian Gift wheat has been placed at the disposal of the Prime Minister's Drought Relief Fund for release to voluntary organizations for running free kitchens. Out of this, 4135 tonnes have been allotted by the Fund to various voluntary organizations in Bihar so far.

The Department of Food have purchased from the Army and placed at the disposal of the Bihar Relief Committee 18 Jeeps with trailers and 10 Trucks. A further number of vehicles are proposed to be released shortly. The Government of Bihar have also been allotted a van-cars and 8 Trucks received as gift from abroad.

PRODUCTION OF KHANDSARI, BURA ETC.

*28. SHRIMATI TARA RAM-CHANDRA SATHE: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that some of the sugar mills in the country have started producing Khandsari, Bura and similar varieties of uncontrolled sugar and thereby earning heavy profits by selling it at high prices in the open market; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken so far or propose to take to check such practice on the part of the sugar mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) No, Madam, Government has no such information.

(b) Does not arise.

हवाई अड्डों पर जाने वाले व्यक्तियों से शुल्क का लिया जाना

*29. श्री राम कुमार भुवालका : क्या पर्यटन तथा नागरिक विमान चालन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार हवाई अड्डे पर विदाई देने वाले अथवा लेने जाने वाले लोगों से शुल्क लिए जाने की योजना पर विचार कर रही है;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इस शुल्क की क्या दर होगी; और

(ग) यह योजना कब तक कार्यान्वित हो जायेगी ?