

No, 4 is over and the bridge is dangerous for heavy traffic;

(b) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to construct a new bridge there; and

(c) if so, when the construction work of the bridge is scheduled to be started and completed?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING (PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO): (a) It is a fact that the bridge is very old and weak and is therefore unable to carry the modern heavy and fast moving traffic. Also, the condition of one of its 5 spans is unsatisfactory. Load restrictions have therefore been imposed on the bridge and vehicles exceeding 24,000 lbs laden weight are not allowed over the bridge. Action is also being taken to strengthen the one span which as stated above, is unsatisfactory.

(b) and (c) An estimate amounting to Rs. 23.27 lakhs for the construction of a new bridge is under consideration. It will be sanctioned subject to availability of funds. The bridge will take about two years to complete after it is sanctioned.

PRODUCTION OF SUGAR

225. SHRI G. R. PATIL: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of sugar produced during the years 1964-65, 1965-66 and 1966-67 in the country;

(b) the quantity of sugar exported during these years and the amount of foreign exchange earned therefrom; and

(c) the amount of subsidy, if any, paid to the sugar mills in the country during this period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE): (a) The quantity of sugar produced

during the sugar years 1964-65, 1965-66 and 1966-67 (from 1st Nov. to 31st Oct.) in the country is as under: —

(Figures in Lakh tonnes)	
Year	Total quantity produced
1964-65	32-58
1965-66	35-08
1966-67 (up to 15-5-67)	21-05

(b) Sales of sugar for export are made on calendar year basis. The quantity of sugar exported and the amount of foreign exchange earned in 1965, 1966 and 1967 are as under:—

Year	Quantity	Foreign exchange earnings
	(Lakh tonnes)	(Rs. crore*)
1965	2-67	11-24*
1966	4-41	17-99*
1967	2-20*	13-80*

•Estimated

(c) No subsidy is paid to the mills directly for meeting the export loss; the mills are paid full contracted price for sugar purchased for export.

'SICK' SUGAR MILLS OF U.P.

226. SHRI D. THENGARI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government propose to set up a Corporation to take over the 'Sick' Sugar Mills of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE): (a) The quantity of sugar produced