

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE):

(a) and (b) West Bengal Government have been promised 15,000 tonnes of rice and 75,000 tonnes of wheat per month upto June, 1967. They have been told that supplies during the rest of the year will depend upon Centre's availability during that period.

(c) During the four months January to April, 1967, about 73,000 tonnes of rice and 274,000 tonnes of wheat were despatched to West Bengal. In addition another 13,000 tonnes of wheat was despatched to the tea gardens in West Bengal.

#### FOOD PRODUCTION DURING 1967

\*148. SHRI UTTAM SINGH DUGAL;  
DR. (MRS.) MANGLADEVI TALWAR:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any final estimate has been made about the food production during 1967; and

(b) if so, whether this is likely to exceed the earlier estimate of 76 million tonnes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE):

(a) No. The Final estimates of over-all food production during 1966-67 are expected to become available from the State Governments only during July 1967 after the close of the agricultural year.

(b) Does not arise.

#### FIXATION OF PRICES OF WHEAT PRODUCTS

\*149. SHRI K. SUNDARAM: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a report has been submitted by the committee headed by Dr. Varma for revision of ex-mill prices and fixation of prices for wheat products;

(b) whether Government have accepted the rates recommended by this Committee; and

(c) whether Government propose to implement its recommendations, and if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise at present.

#### DEVELOPMENT OF ROADS IN MADHYA PRADESH

223. SHRI K. C. BAGHEL: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of grant given out of the Central Roads Fund to the Government of Madhya Pradesh for the development of roads during 1966-67; and

(b) the amount of such grant proposed to be given during 1967-68?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING (PROF. V. K. R. V. RAO): (a) Rs. 33,13,700.

(b) The quantum of the grant is dependent on the actual expenditure on approved schemes. A budget provision of Rs. 40,00,000 exists for giving the grant to Madhya Pradesh Government.

#### BRIDGE ON KOYANA RIVER AT KARAD

224. SHRI G. R. PATIL: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the life span of the bridge on Koyana River at Karad on National Highway

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 ANNASAHAB 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 (Lakh tonnes) | Foreign exchange earnings (Rs. crores) |
|----------------|------------------------|--|
| 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 ANNASAHAB SHINDE):