

torate they would select for the purposes of elections to the local bodies.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know, Madam, from the hon. Minister whether actually rolls are prepared by one authority or whether there are different authorities for preparing different electoral rolls, the Election Commission for the Parliamentary constituencies and the State Governments for the State Assemblies and the District Boards for the Panchayats and local bodies? What is the position?

SHRI JAGANATH RAO: In every State the Chief Electoral Officer prepares the rolls on behalf of the Election Commission.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: In view of the fact that large-scale malpractices occur in preparing the electoral rolls for Panchayats may I know whether the Government have considered the desirability of advising the State Governments to have a common electoral roll for the Assemblies as well as for the Panchayats?

SHRI A. K. SEN: I do not think it is the business of the Central Government to advise the State Governments as to how to run their Panchayat elections. If the Panchayat elections have revealed any largescale malpractices in the matter of the preparation of electoral rolls, I have no doubt the matter will be taken up by the respective State Government to prevent such malpractices from occurring. As far I know, separate laws are provided for preparation of electoral rolls, for the filing of petitions, for hearing of objections and various other matters, similar to the procedure we follow in preparing our rolls.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Madam, the hon. Deputy Minister has said that the Chief Electoral Officer has been vested with the responsibility for the preparation of the State Legislative Assembly rolls and the rolls for Parliament. May I ask him whether the Chief Electoral Officer does not employ the staff of the State Governments, or is any staff of the Election Commission associated with him in regard to the preparation of these electoral rolls?

There have been some cases in the electoral rolls where the names of Ministers of the State Governments and of important members of the Legislative Assembly have been omitted, and therefore I put this question.

SHRI JAGANATH RAO: No officer of the Chief Election Commission is associated with the preparation of the electoral rolls. Naturally the State Electoral Officer employs the State officers. Mistakes do occur and when they occur and they are pointed out, they are corrected.

*569. [The questioner (Shri G. K. Kapoor) was absent. For answer, vide cols 3918—21 infra.]

FIXATION OF PADDY AND RICE PRICES FOR ORISSA

*570. SHRI M. MISRA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the maximum and minimum prices for paddy and rice have been fixed by the Central Government for Orissa agriculturists;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the attention of the Government of India has been drawn to the fact that the agriculturists in the interior do not get the benefits of the legitimate price for their products?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN): (a) Maximum prices of paddy have been statutorily fixed. Support prices at assembling points for paddy have also been announced. Maximum wholesale and retail prices of rices have also been statutorily fixed. All the prices have been fixed by Orissa Government in consultation with the Central Government.

(b) A statement giving the details is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) No, Madam.

STATEMENT

RICE

Name of the places	Name of the variety	Maximum wholesale price of rice per quintal inclusive of cost of gunny and sales tax or purchase tax payable upto previous stage	Maximum retail price per kilozram
		Rs. P.	Paise
Notified area Council areas of Steel Township, Rourkela, Civil Township, Rourkela, Rajganjpur, Biramitrapur, Barbil, Joda, Hirakud, Angul, Talcher, Phulbani, Koraput and Rairangpur and port area of Pradip, and Baliguda town, G. Udaigiri town, and Bisra, Khansbahad, Brajrajnagar, Bel-pahar, Kirubiru, Bahalda, Gorumahishani, Salaiput, Tikabali, Sunabeda, Machkund, Chittrakunda, Orkel and Balimela, and the area falling within a ten mile belt all along the border of the State	Common rice	63 20	67
	Fine Rice	68 60	72
	Superfine II rice	73 25	77
	Superfine I rice	76 00	80
2 Any place other than the places specified above	Common rice	59 50	64
	Fine Rice	64 75	69
	Superfine II rice	69 25	74
	Superfine I rice	72 00	77

PADDY

Variety	Maximum prices per quintal for naked grains at the notified assembling Centres
	Rs. P.
Common Paddy	35 00
Fine Paddy	37 68
Superfine Paddy II	40 36
Superfine Paddy I	42 00

Support prices at assembling points for paddy have been fixed at one rupee per quintal below the maximum prices.

SHRI M MISRA May I ask Madam, whether any minimum price has been fixed?

SHRI D R CHAVAN That has been mentioned in the Statement

SHRI N SRI RAMA REDDY May I know Madam if the Food Corporation is carrying on its operations purchases, etc. there?

SHRI D R CHAVAN No

SHRI M MISRA Madam in the Statement there is no minimum price mentioned

SHRI D R CHAVAN The minimum price is mentioned at the bottom. That is the producer's price or what is called the support price which is one rupee below or less than the maximum price statutorily fixed

SHRI M M DHARIA May we know what are the principles that are adopted while fixing the maximum and minimum prices and whether some care is taken in order to see that the cultivator gets a remunerative price?

SHRI C SUBRAMANIAM As hon Members are aware, Madam these prices are fixed on the basis of the recommendations of the Jha Committee appointed to make *ad hoc* recommendations for the purpose of being adopted during the last season. Just now we have appointed the Agricultural Prices Commission also which will go into this matter in greater detail and make recommendations with regard to the coming season

SHRI M M DHARIA How long will this Price Commission take in order to bring out its report?

SHRI C SUBRAMANIAM I am hoping that for the next *kharif* season before the sowing, it should be possible for us to announce the prices

SUPPLY OF WHEAT FROM U.S.A

571 SHRI SURJIT SINGH ATWAL Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of the United States of America have announced the issuance of a PL 480 authorisation for supply of wheat to the Government of India

(b) if so what is the total tonnage of wheat to be supplied, and

(c) what are the terms and conditions of the agreement?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI D R CHAVAN) (a) Yes, Madam under PL 480 agreement of 30th September 1964 as amended on 31.12.64

(b) The agreement provided funds for the import of about 4 million tons of wheat during the period July 1964—June 1965

(c) The following are the main terms and conditions —

(i) The cost of the commodity is payable wholly in rupees

(ii) Freight for 50 percent of the commodity required to be shipped in US flag vessels is payable in rupees at the freight rate applicable to non-US flag vessels

(iii) The rupee funds accruing on above account are to be used, broadly speaking towards

(a) US expenditure in India

(b) Loans to the Government of India, for economic development purposes etc

SHRI SURJIT SINGH ATWAL May I know the price of this wheat in America, the total cost for importing into this country and the price at which it is sold to the consumers here?

SHRI C SUBRAMANIAM Madam, recently we have announced that Rs 48 would be the issue price for the consumer. I am sorry I do not have the figures immediately with regard to the actual cost at the port of arrival

SHRI GOPIKRISHNA VIJAIVARGIYA In answer to part (c) of the