

higher than the quantity imported in 1945, 1946 and 1947.

(b) The main reasons for increase in imports are:

1. The increase in demand for foodgrains due to increase in population, increase in money-supply as a result of large-scale developmental and defence expenditure, rise in general standard of living, growth of urbanisation and influx of refugees.
2. Non-fulfilment of anticipated targets of foodgrain production in 1962-63 and 1963-64, mainly because of adverse weather conditions.

(c) Foreign exchange spent on food grains during the financial years 1961-62 to 1963-64 is as follows:

(In crores of rupees)	
1961-62	28.4
1962-63	30.1
1963-64	22.0

PAY SCALES OF CLERICAL STAFF IN CIVIL AVIATION DEPOTS

143. SHRI T. V. ANANDAM: Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of clerical staff employed in all the Civil Aviation Depots in India; and

(b) the different scales of pay in force for them and the number of posts in each scale?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI N. KANUNGO): (a) and (b) A statement giving the requisite information in respect of clerical posts in the Stores Organisations of the Civil Aviation Department is attached.

382 RS—3.

STATEMENT

Number of clerical posts sanctioned in the stores organisations of the Civil Aviation Department and the scales of Pay attached to each category

Designation of post	No. of posts sanctioned	Scale of pay attached to the post
Store-Keeper (Selection Grade)	5	Rs. 270—10 290—15— 350.
Store-keeper	49	Rs. 130—5 —160—8— 200—EB— —8—256— EB—8— 280—10— 300.
Store Clerk	47	Rs. 110—3 —131—4— 155—EB— 4—175—5 —180.
TOTAL	101	

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE UNIFORMS COMMITTEE AND THE STORES COMMITTEE

144. SHRI T. V. ANANDAN: Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for delay in the implementation of the recommendations of the Uniforms Committee and the Stores Committee appointed by the Ministry of Civil Aviation; and

(b) by when the recommendations are expected to be enforced?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI N. KANUNGO): (a) and (b) Both these Committees were set up by the Director General of Civil Aviation, and consist of Departmental Officers. The report of the Stores Committee has since been submitted to Government and is under examination, while the report of the

Uniforms Committee is still under consideration of the Director General of Civil Aviation.

The recommendations of the Stores Committee involve major changes in the existing pay structure and recruitment policy in respect of various posts, a detailed examination of which is necessary in consultation with other Ministries concerned.

RATE OF INTEREST ON LOANS GIVEN TO AGRICULTURISTS

140. SHRI T. V. ANANDAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any move on the part of the Ministry to reduce the rate of interest charged by Cooperatives on loans granted to agriculturists; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI B. S. MURTHY): (a) and (b) While communicating decisions on the recommendations of the Committee on Taccavi Loans and Cooperative Credit, the Government of India suggested to the State governments in September, 1963 that the rates of interest charged by cooperatives should be realistic depending on the money market and other factors and should generally be kept below 8 per cent and¹ should be periodically reviewed. The recent increase in bank rate will have repercussions on the interest rates charged by cooperatives. The Reserve Bank is also carrying on certain studies on the question of appropriateness of margins retained by the credit structure at different levels. In the light of these studies State governments will take steps to review their interest rates taking into account conditions in the money market and other local factors.

CONTRACT GIVEN FOR CLEARANCE OF FOODGRAINS AT BOMBAY PORT

146. SHRI P. ABRAHAM: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in April 1962 the Food Ministry appointed any contractor for the clearance of the foodgrains at Bombay Port;

(b) if so, to whom this contract was awarded; and

(c) whether it is a fact that Government have lost about Rs. 57 lakhs due to this contract?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir. <

(b) M/s P. T. Anklesaria & Co., Bombay.

(c) No Sir. The contract was awarded to the lowest tenderer.

IMPORT OF RICE

147. SHRI P. ABRAHAM: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have entered into an agreement with foreign countries for supply of rice to India; and

(b) if so, how much quantity has been imported from different countries so far?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Apart from imports of rice from U.S.A. under PL. 480, agreements have been entered into with Burma, Pakistan, U.A.R., Thailand and Cambodia for the purchase of rice.