

†[THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT (SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN): (a) There has been reduction in fares to the extent of 5 paise on a few sections on some routes.

(b) The following are the stages where this reduction has been effected:—

- (1) Shanti Path for route No. 7 and 45.
- (2) Mukerji Park on routes No. 6, 13, 16, 16A, 16B, 47 and 53.
- (3) M. C. K. R. Hospital on routes No. 24, 30A and 43.
- (4) Chiragh Delhi corner on route No. 56.
- (5) Mall Road on routes No. 4, 4A, 9, 9A, 9B, 21 and 35.
- (6) Krishi Bhavan and Udyog Bhavan stages were merged into one stage called Rafi Marg covering routes No. 5, 5A, 6, 6A, 7, 7A, 8, 9, 9A, 14, 14A, 15, 27, 27A, 30, 30A, 37, 37A, 45 and 47.]

MISAPPROPRIATION OF MONEY IN DELHI MILK SCHEME

325. SHRI SUNDAR MANI PATEL: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government of India has been drawn to a news item in a Bombay Weekly "March of the Nation" (4th July, 1964, p. 16) regarding misappropriation of Government money amounting to lakhs of rupees in the Delhi Milk Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action, if any, has been or is proposed to be taken against the persons concerned?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN):

(a) The attention of the Government

has been drawn to the news item; but it does not refer to any misappropriation of Government money. It is also not true that lakhs of rupees have been misappropriated. The news item, however, refers to certain alleged irregularities in transactions. These are under investigation.

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

SUGAR PRODUCTION

326. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the target of sugar production in the Third Five Year Plan period;

(b) how much of the production target has been achieved; and

(c) what steps are being taken to achieve the target?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN):

(a) The target of sugar production by the end of Third Five Year Plan i.e. 1965-66 is 35 lakh tonnes.

(b) and (c). Sugar production during 1961-62 was 27.14 lakh tonnes, in 1962-63, 21.52 lakh tonnes and upto 31-8-1964 in 1963-64, 25.11 lakh tonnes, the decline in the previous and the current year being largely due to fall in production of sugar-cane. Measures have been taken to step up production of sugar-cane and also to establish additional capacity, so as to achieve the target.

HOARDED FOOD-GRAINS SEIZED IN DELHI

327. SHRI JAGAT NARAIN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the police authorities in Delhi made a statement to the effect that they had seized 2 lakh maunds of hoarded food-grains; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Delhi Administration made a statement that these raids were not to bring out hoarded food-grains but for verification of the stocks; if so, what is the actual position in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN): (a) and (b). No statement was made by the police authorities to the effect that they had seized 2 lakh maunds of hoarded food-grains. As news appeared in the papers about the police having uncovered considerable quantities of hoarded grains, the Chief Commissioner of Delhi called a press conference and explained that the operations were conducted for physical verification of stocks with the licensees.

RICE MILL MACHINERY

328. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Government delegation visited Europe in the month of July to buy rice mill machinery for the public sector;

(b) if so, who were the members of the delegation; and

(c) what is the result of the visit?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN):

(a) Yes.

(b) The delegation consisted of Dr. P. K. Kymal, Technical Adviser, Department of Food, Dr. Dorris D. Brown, a Ford Foundation expert and Shri V. S. T. Mudaliar, a representative of the co-operative rice milling industry in India.

(c) The delegation studied on the spot the combinations of the different modern equipments, assessed their technical efficiency, selected six units that are designed to give an increase in outturn of rice from paddy, negotiated prices, arranged for trial run-

ning of the mills and training of Indian technicians, and discussed about the programmes of development of the improved equipments in India.

IMPORT OF WHEAT FROM UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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

(a) whether the United States of America has offered to ship four million tons of wheat to India; and

(b) if so, how much quantity has so far been received?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN):

(a) At present wheat is being imported from U.S.A. from out of the quantities which were carried forward from the 4 year Agreement of May, 1960 which expired at the end of June, 1964. A new Agreement under P.L. 480 is under negotiation with the U.S. Government which would enable imports of wheat to be continued when the present quantity is used up. It is not possible at this stage to indicate the quantity of wheat which would be covered under the new agreement.

(b) Does not arise.

ROAD SAFETY COUNCIL

330. SHRI P. ABRAHAM: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have decided to start a Road Safety Council; and

(b) if so, what will be the functions of this organisation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT (SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN): (a) and (b) The Government of India propose to