

(2) Variations in the cost of transportation.

(3) Variations in the overheads and rentals.

FLOUR MILLS IN ASSAM

*471. SHRI P. CHETIA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of working flour mills and small chaki mills in Assam;

(b) what is the quantity of whole wheat allotted to these mills per month for crushing;

(c) what is the quantity of wheat products sent to Assam per month on an average during the current year from the Central pool; and

(d) whether there is any check or Government control in the matter of distribution of wheat products of Assam mills?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) Five roller flour mills are working in Assam. The number of small chaki mills is not readily available.

(b) On an average about 10,000 tonnes of wheat is allotted per month to the roller flour mills in Assam. Allotment of wheat to small chaki mills is made by the State Government out of the monthly wheat quota allotted to them by the Centre.

(c) The Central Government do not control distribution of wheat products, only whole wheat is distributed from Central Government stocks.

(d) The ex-mill price of wheat products manufactured by the roller flour

mills have been statutorily fixed. The State Government have also been authorised to regulate the distribution of wheat products produced by the roller flour mills. The atta produced by small chaki mills is distributed by the State Government through fair price shops.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO KHADI AND VILLAGE INDUSTRIES COMMISSION

*471-A. SHRI RAM SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of financial assistance given by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, Bombay to the State of Uttar Pradesh for the development of Gur and Khandsari industries in Eastern Districts during 1960-61; and

(b) how much amount out of the above assistance was utilised?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) and (b) The Khadi and Village Industries Commission have reported that out of the total allotment of funds of Rs. 2.15 lakhs as grant and Rs. 3.21 lakhs as loan to the State of Uttar Pradesh in 1960-61 for the development of Gur and Khandsari, a sum of Rs. 3.860 as grant and Rs. 38,260 as loan was spent in the Eastern Districts.

ACREAGE UNDER CULTIVATION

643 { SHRI D. L. SEN GUPTA:
SHRI LOKANATH MISRA:

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

(a) the acreage of land under cultivation in India for the purpose of growing paddy and wheat;

(b) the acreage of land which remains yet unexplored for the purpose of growing food,

(c) the average yield of paddy and wheat per acre in India during the last 3 years,

(d) the acreage of land under cultivation, with commodities other than paddy and wheat, and

(e) whether any steps are being taken to grow food on the lands mentioned in parts (b) and (d) above?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) Area under any crop varies from year to year depending on a number of factors notably, weather conditions, relative prices of competing crops, etc. According to the latest estimates, area under paddy and wheat during the last three years was as follows:—

	(Thousand acres)	
	Paddy	Wheat
1961-62	84650	33410
1962-63	86325	33748
1963-64	87659	32878

(b) This would include lands classified as (i) fallow lands other than current fallows, (ii) culturable waste and (iii) lands under miscellaneous tree crops and groves not included in net area sown. The total area under these classes according to the latest land use statistics for 1961-62 was 84,895,000 acres. It is not precisely known what part of this area can be brought under cultivation. It is believed however, that only a small percentage of this area can be brought under cultivation at a reasonable cost.

(c) The required information is given below —

	(lbs)		
	1961-62	1962-63	1963-64
Paddy in terms of cleaned Rice)	907	815	918
Wheat	794	707	657

(d) The total area under crops including pulses and other cereals, but other than paddy and wheat, was 267,524 thousand acres in the year 1961-62

(e) With a view to utilising the large sized blocks of land which have either gone out of cultivation or have never been brought under cultivation, an Expert Committee for their survey and categorisation was set up by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture in June, 1959, as such areas afford great promise for increased agricultural production. The Committee has, so far, surveyed 12 States and has recommended reclamation of 10.8 lakh acres at a total cost of Rs 16.84 crores (See Appendix XLIX, Annexure No 45). The State Governments have been requested to take up the reclamation programme suggested by the Committee and to complete it before the end of the Third Plan period. A Centrally sponsored scheme for survey of smaller blocks has also been undertaken by the State Governments, who are given grants to the extent of Rs 50,000 per district surveyed. This survey is in progress.

ग्राइसक्रीम पाउडर बनाने की मशीन का लगाया जाना

६४४ श्री भगवत नारायण भार्गव :
क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या सरकार केले से निर्मित ग्राइसक्रीम पाउडर बनाने की मशीन चालू करने वाली है, यदि हाँ, तो कब और कहाँ, और किस लागत पर यह मशीन लगायी जायेगी तथा इस से कितना पाउडर प्रति वर्ष तैयार होगा ?