

**RESERVATION OF POSTS FOR SCHEDULED  
CASTES AND TRIBES IN POST MASTER  
GENERAL'S OFFICE**

**\*426. SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE:** Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Class III and Class IV posts in the Post Master General's Office, Nagpur, that were reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes during the years 1960, 1961, 1962;

(b) the number of posts that were actually filled in during this period; and

(c) the number of posts that were converted as general posts during the same period due to non-availability of suitable Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe candidates?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI B. BHAGAVATI): (a) to (c) Two statements containing the requisite information in respect of cadres in Class

III and Class IV which were filled (i) by direct recruitment (ii) by promotion on the basis of departmental competitive examinations during the years 1960, 1961 and 1962 (from 1-1-62 to 31-7-62) are laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix XL, Annexure No. 40]

**PRODUCTION OF FOODGRAINS, COTTON  
AND OIL-SEEDS**

**\*427. SHRI M. C. SHAH:** Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the target of production of foodgrains, cotton and oil-seeds in the country for the year 1960-61 and 1961-62; and

(b) what was the actual production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH): (a) and (b) A statement giving the Second and Third Plan targets and the available estimates of production in 1960-61 and 1961-62 is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

**STATEMENT**

*Second and Third Plan targets and production of Foodgrains, Cotton and Oilseeds in 1960-61 and 1961-62*

Commodity	Unit of weight	Target		Production	
		Second Plan	Third Plan	1960-61	1961-62
Foodgrains . . .	Million Tons	80.5	100.0	79.3	Not Available.
Cotton . . .	Lakh bales	65	70	53.9	45.0
Oilseeds . . .	Lakh tons	75.5	98	65.2	68.25

NOTE.—1960-61 being the last year of the Second Five Year Plan, the targets for the Second Plan are also the targets for that year. For 1961-62 no specific targets are laid down in the Plan.

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**RICE IMPORT**

**\*428. SHRI DHANANJOY MOHANTY:** Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the target quantum of rice import during the current financial year; and

(b) from which countries import is to be made?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI A. M. THOMAS): (a) About 4 lakh metric tons.

(b) Imports are likely to be from Burma, United States of America and the United Arab Republic.

#### MYSTERY DISEASE BY INTAKE OF WHEAT FLOUR

\*429. SHRI ANSARUDDIN AHMAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether she enquired into a mystery disease resulting in gastrointestinal irritation and paralysis of the lower limbs and even death which afflicted many persons in Malda and Nadia in West Bengal and Darang in Assam and now threatens the whole of the Eastern region of India;

(b) whether it is a fact that this disease has been traced as due to contamination of wheat flour imported and packed in paper bags and donated by the American Friendship Society; and

(c) whether this wheat flour has been frozen as unsuitable for consumption?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH (DR. SUSHILA NAYAR): (a) to (c) A statement giving the requisite information is placed on the Table of the Sabha.

#### STATEMENT

(a) 450 cases of a disease crippling the patients by paralytic action of lower limbs occurred in Malda and Dinajpur Districts of West Bengal from 1st week of April upto 19th June, 1962. 20 cases in whom the main symptoms were burning sensation of the feet and legs together with sense of heaviness and weakness in them were also reported from 3

villages in Nadia District. There was no evidence of frank paralysis in any one of them and excepting one woman (the first case) there has been no death.

In Assam, cases of paralysis occurred in Chhotopukhuri in Darang District in a Catholic Mission affecting 180 inmates after taking foodstuffs prepared from imported wheat flour contaminated with triorthocresyl phosphate.

No such complaints have been received from any other State or other districts of West Bengal and Assam.

(b) Under the Indo-U.S. Agreement of 1951, the consignments are sent by philanthropic non-profit-making agencies in U.S.A. to their counterparts in India for free distribution amongst the poor and needy. The flour is first packed in paper bags and then put in gunny bags.

(c) The bags of flour which were suspected to be contaminated were seized by the Governments of West Bengal and Assam. The other State Governments have been advised to take immediate steps to ensure that the contaminated wheat flour is not issued to the public in any form.

#### SHORTAGE OF POWER AT THE END OF THIRD PLAN

\*430. SHRI M. C. SHAH: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the power capacity to be reached under the Third Plan in terms of million voltage; and

(b) what is the shortage of power expected by the end of the Third Five Year Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a) The aggregate generating capacity of plants in commission and under erection and testing is expected to be