STEPS TAKEN TO ENSURE NORMAL SUPPLY AND PRICE OF FOODGRAINS

*531. Shri AMOLAKH CHAND: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether Government have taken any steps to ensure that, in spite of heavy October rains and waterlogging in various States, the foodgrains supply and their prices are maintained at a normal level? If so, what are those steps?

MINISTER OF FOOD AND THE AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. P. JAIN): The October rains affected the crops only in a few States and, in spite of this, the kharif harvest this year is expected to be a very good one. The Governments are. State however. continuing distribution of foodgrains to consumers through fair price shops at fixed rates in those parts of their respective States where such distribution is considered necessary.

TRACING OUT OF UNAUTHORISED TELE-PHONE CONNECTIONS BY CALCUTTA POLICE

- *532. Dr. A. N. BOSE: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that recently some unauthorised telephone connections were traced by the Calcutta Police in a particular area noted for speculative business:
- (b) if so, whether anything has been found to show the complicity of telephone officials of the Calcutta Telephone District;
- (c) whether it is a fact that a few years ago a similar discovery of unauthorised telephone connections and miniature exchanges was made; and
- (d) whether Government have decided to set up a departmental enquiry into the matter and/or an anti-corruption organisation in the Department?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI S. K. PATIL): (a) In October, 1958 the Police carried out a raid on a suspected gambling and discovered that subscribers in 10 instances had put up tappings or other attachments to their telephone connections without permission,

- (b) Not so far.
- (c) A few years ago some unauthorised non-exchange telephone lines and switch-boards with extensions were detected in Calcutta.
- (d) The question of any complicity of telephone officials is already under investigation departmentally.

SUGAR PRODUCTION IN CERTAIN MILLS

*537. Shri P. D. HIMATSINGKA: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the total quantity of sugar produced by the undernoted mills during 1957-58 and up to the 30th September, 1958.

- (i) Sakhotitanda.
- (ii) Neoli,
- (iii) Rosa,
- (iv) Bijnor.
- (v) Motinagar.
- (vi) Burhwal,
- (vii) Baitalpur,
- (viii) (a) Padrauna,
 - (b) Kathkuiyan,
 - (c) Marhowrah,
- (ix) Barachakia,
- (x) Samastipur,
- (xi) New Siwan,
- (xii) Ryam, and
- (xiii) Malwa?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. P. Jain): A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

The quantity of sugar produced by each of the mills during 1957-58 season up to 30th September, 1958 was as follows:—

			Tons
1. Sakhotitanda		•	8,481
2. Neoli			9,701
3. Rosa	•		7,922
4. Bijnor *	•	•	16,263
5. Motinagar .	٠	٠	11,547
6. Burhwal .		•	7,084
7. Baitalpur .		•	9,463
8. (a) Padrauna	•	•	9,259
(b) Kathkuiyan	•	•	7,422
(c) Marhowrah		٠	11,177
9. Barachakia .	•		8,217
10. Samastipur .			7,626
11. New Siwan .		•	6,186
12. Ryam .		•	8,143
13. Malwa (Dhuri)		•	5,041

CONSTRUCTION OF A MODERN SLAUGHTER HOUSE AT DELHI

*542. SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to construct a modern slaughter House at Delhi and if so, what are its details; and
- (b) whether any representations have been received by Government against the construction of such a house and if so, what are the main objections?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): (a) The Delhi Municipal Corporation have under consideration a proposal for constructing a slaughter house on Rohtak Road about 7 miles from Delhi for re-locating the existing slaughter house near Idgah.

- (b) Yes, Sir. The objections are on the following grounds:—
 - (i) It hurts religious feelings.
 - (ii) India being an agricultural country and cows and bulls forming its economic wealth, their slaughter would result in tremendous loss to agriculture.

COTTON PRODUCTION

*544. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the target fixed for the production of raw cotton for the year 1958-59?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. P. JAIN): 57.3 lakh bales.

Amendments proposed by India in the basic principles of the International Wheat Agreement

- *553. MOULANA M. FARUQI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether any amendments in the basic principles of the International Wheat Agreement were sponsored by the Indian Government representatives at the recent meet of the International Wheat Conference; and
- (b) if so, what are those amendments?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. P. JAIN):
(a) and (b). The proceedings of the U.N. Wheat Conference have been treated as confidential, and the second session, at which detailed proposals will be discussed, is due to take place in January, 1959. It would not be in the public interest to give any information at this stage.