

# RENEWAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL WHEAT AGREEMENT

\*176. SHRI H. C. MATHUR (ON BEHALF OF SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO): Will the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to draw up a fresh International Wheat Agreement; and

(b) what are the specific items that will be discussed at the next meeting of the International Wheat Council?

THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE (DR. P. S. DESHMUKH): (a) There is a proposal to draw up a new Agreement to succeed the present IInd International Wheat Agreement when it terminates in July 1956.

(b) The agenda of the next meeting of the Council has not yet been drawn up.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Is it the intention of the Government to renew the wheat agreement and go in for the purchases?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: The present position is that the present agreement is to last upto July 1956. What happened at the International Wheat Council held in October was that it was decided that efforts should be made to bring in other countries which have not joined it and the terms of the agreement should also be revised.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Has the Government taken any decision and do we think that it is in the interests of the country to be in the pool and make purchases?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: If my hon. friend is referring to the agreement already signed, it was undoubtedly Government's view that it was beneficial for us to enter into the agreement. So far as the future is concerned, I am afraid I am not in a position to say.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: At what rate were the purchases made last year under the present agreement and how did it compare with the market prices in the country?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: Last year I don't think we made any purchases except very small quantities.

# SHARE OF CANE GROWERS IN PROFITS OF SUGAR MILLS

\*177. SHRI H. C. MATHUR (ON BEHALF OF SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO): Will the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assurance was recently given to sugarcane growers that they would be given a share in the extra profits of sugar mills; and

(b) if so, whether any formula has been evolved for the sharing of such profits?

THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE (DR. P. S. DESHMUKH): (a) It was announced on 25th January 1954 that the Government of India was considering the question of introducing a scheme by which a legitimate share of the additional profit made by sugar factories during 1953-54 can be passed on to cane growers.

(b) Yes.

SHRI N. PRASADARAO: Some figures were published in the press. Were they reliable? They were about profit-sharing.

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: I cannot say which particular paper published and on what date.

SHRI S. N. DWIVEDY: Have the Government any formula?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: Yes.

SHRI S. N. DWIVEDY: What is the basis for it?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: I have got it and I am prepared to place it on the Table of the House.

SHRI N. PRASADARAO: Is it a fact that the percentages were much lower than the profit-share already being implemented in Andhra in the