1477 Oral Answers [COUNCIL]

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: There are various varieties of paddy in this country. They differ from place to place, from soil to soil, and from province to province. In some places like Punjab, we get the most superior quality rice, superfine rice. which costs double the price of the varieties in Orissa. What is called superfine rice in Orissa is common rice in Punjab. And so, we cannot have a common classification for the whole of India. There are hundreds of varieties of rice, differing, as I said, from soil to soil and from province to province.

EXPORT BONUS SURCHARGE ON RICE TRANSPORTED TO OTHER STATES FROM ORISSA

*228. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Orissa Government is levying a surcharge on rice that is exported to other States;

(b) if so, what is the rate of this surcharge and since when it is being levied; and

(c) what was the income derived by the Orissa State from this source in the year 1952-53?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA): (a) Yes.

(b) At the rate of As. 0-8-0 per maund of rice with effect from 1st August 1952.

(c) Approximately Rs. 13.23 lakhs.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Is Orissa the only State which has been allowed to raise this cess or are the other States also collecting cesses like this?

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: This is only a special case. In Orissa the procurement price is the lowest. In the beginning of last year Orissa urged that they should get something in order to develop the rice growing area in that State, and as a special case we allowed them to charge eight annas per maund on rice exported from Orissa.

to Questions

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Is it not a fact that the Madras procurement price is lower than the Orissa price? Is there any cess on articles that are exported to Orissa?

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: My information is that the lowest price is in Orissa and just as we encourage the agriculturists to develop rice growing areas, so also we allow an eight-anna surcharge to be levied.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: The statement given in answer to the previous question gives the Madras price as between Rs. 9-10-0 and Rs. 9-14-6.

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: There is a difference between paddy and rice.

LOSS OF SHIPS

*229. SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Will the Minister for TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian ships lost during the years 1951, 1952 and 1953; and

(b) the circumstances in which they were lost?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAIL-WAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a) Only one steamship in 1951.

(b) The ship was stranded and lost as the result of the Master mistaking the identity of a navigational light due to poor visibility.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: How many sailing vessels were lost during this year?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Our information is that 94 vessels were lost.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Is it not a fact that many of these vessels were lost on account of not receiving warning of bad weather in time?