

SHRI B. RATH: What is the total amount of rice that is grown in France?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order, order.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Is the institute receiving any assistance from other countries?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: Most of the expenditure is met by the F.A.O.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Next question.

INTERNATIONAL WHEAT MARKET

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

(a) whether Government are aware of the present trend in wheat prices in the international wheat market;

(b) whether India and other consumer countries have any scheme or plan to control the wheat price in the international market; and

(c) how much wheat has been purchased in 1953 from the United States of America and Canada and at what rates?

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

(b) No.

(c) We have so far purchased 4,56,000 tons and 3,50,000 tons from U.S.A. and Canada respectively under the International Wheat Agreement at about \$1.85 per bushel. In addition we have purchased some 62,000 tons from Canada with the Colombo Plan Funds at an average price of about \$2.15½ per bushel.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Is it a fact, Sir, that we are paying more than last year?

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: Not exactly. But the ceiling and floor prices are more.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: What does "not exactly" mean? Have we paid more prices?

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: The ceiling prices last year have been fixed at 1.80 dollars maximum price and 1.30 dollars minimum price. Though the ceiling was 1.80 dollars, we used to get above that. This year the ceiling has been fixed at 2.05 dollars but we may get below that.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Was not a protest raised by the Government of India in respect of raising the ceiling prices of wheat, Sir?

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: Sir, this has been answered a number of times.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Not on the floor of this House.

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: For about three months both the U.K. and India joined together and went into the whole thing and we got down the prices from original quotations.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Has the U.K. not agreed to this?

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: That is the only country which has not agreed.

EXPENDITURE ON HEALTH MINISTRY

*633. SHRI RAHMATH-ULLAH: Will the Minister for HEALTH be pleased to state the amounts spent by the Health Ministry on various items under its jurisdiction in the year 1952-53?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR HEALTH (SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR): The attention of the hon. Member is invited to column 4 (Revised Estimate, 1952-53) on pages 637 to 683 of Volume I and pages 1405 to 1410