

(c) whether the Minister is in a position to assure that all eligible cases will be finalised by 31st August, 1968?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

SURPLUS STAFF IN DANDAKARANYA PROJECT

1254. SHRI D. THENGARI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of Class III & IV employees have been declared surplus in the Dandakaranya Project and have been reported to Central (Surplus) Cell;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a large number of employees in these categories are on deputation from other Central and State Government Offices in the Project

(c) if the replies to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, why the deputationists were not sent back to their parent offices before the direct recruits were declared surplus;

(d) whether it is not against the Government of India orders on the subject; and

(e) if so, what action is being taken to regularise the above employees?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

FOODGRAIN PRICES IN DELHI

1255. SHRI R. P. KHAITAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the food-grain prices in Delhi have not come down despite bumper harvest crop in Delhi villages and neighbouring States;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that wheat and rice are not imported to Delhi from Haryana in large quantities- if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what steps are being taken by Government to remove the restrictions regarding free flow of foodgrains in the Northern food zone?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE) : (a) and (b) There was a considerable fall in the prices of foodgrains in Delhi markets during May and June, 1968. The prices have tended to show a rise thereafter on account of transport difficulties and fall in market arrivals due to rains.

(c) Since July 1968 there has been a fall in the rate of market arrivals in Delhi due to rains.

(d) There is no restriction on movement of rice and wheat in the States of Punjab, Haryana, J & K and the Union territories of Himachal Pradesh, Chandigarh and Delhi. Movement of coarse grains are also free in Punjab, Haryana and Delhi.

SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN FOODGRAINS

1256. SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any positive steps have been taken by Government to make the country self-sufficient in foodgrains by 1971 as announced by Government.

(b) if so, what are those steps, and

(c) the names of the States in which steps have been initiated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE) : (a) to (c) For the attainment of self-sufficiency in food-grains for the country by the end of 1970-71, a new strategy of agricultural development has been adopted since 1966-67. The main steps taken under the new strategy are: High Yielding Varieties Programme, Multiple Cropping, Minor Irrigation for intensive cultivation, organised provision of inputs like fertilisers and pesticides, timely and liberal credit facilities including institutional finance, farmer's education and training and intensification of research. The new strategy has been adopted by all the States in the country to

the extent feasible in the conditions and resources of each.

POST AND TELEGRAPH EMPLOYEES IN ASSAM ETC.

1257. SHRI G. BARBORA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of Post and Telegraph employees in Assam, Tripura, Mani-pur, Nagaland and NEFA who have been provided with quarters and whether this percentage is at par with other States, and

(b) how many Post and Telegraph establishments in the Assam Circle are now running in rented buildings and what is the total amount of rent paid every month ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) The percentage of P. & T. employees in Assam Tripura, Manipur, Nagaland and NEFA provided with Government accommodation is 11.8%. This is the highest percentage excepting Delhi State where the percentage is 15%.

(b) 452 P. & T. establishments in Assam Circle are at present in rented buildings and the total amount of rent paid is Rs. 54,862 per month.

FOOD BONUS TO SURPLUS STATES

1258. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that food bonus is not to be given to wheat producing States on their surplus wheat supplied to the Centre or other States this year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of the food bonus scheme; and

(d) the nature of food bonus given to any State during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Incentive bonus payments to State Governments add to the economic cost of procuring the grain, which is ultimately passed on to the consumer. In view of bumper harvest and the necessity of giving incentive price to the farmer and reasonable prices to the consumer, it was not considered desirable to pay food bonuses on wheat to State Governments;

(c) Does not arise;

(d) Only Punjab Government qualified for incentive bonus on wheat during 1967-68 marketing season. The amount paid was at the rate of Rs. 4.00 per quintal including service charges.

1259. श्री निरंजन वर्मा : क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि 50 हार्स पावर के रूसी ट्रैक्टरों के वितरण में धांधली की रिपोर्टें सरकार को मिली हैं;

(ख) प्रत्येक राज्य को उपरोक्त रूसी ट्रैक्टरों का कितना-कितना कोटा अलाट किया गया था;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि इस वर्ष मध्य प्रदेश को 44 ट्रैक्टरों के कोटे में से केवल 14 ट्रैक्टर ही दिये गये हैं ?

[DISTRIBUTION OF RUSSIAN TRACTORS

1259. SHRI NIRANJAN VARMA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have received reports regarding irregularities in the distribution of 50 H.P. Russian tractors;

(b) what is the quota of the above mentioned Russian tractors allotted to each of the States; and

(c) whether it is a fact that only 14 tractors have been supplied to Madhya Pradesh out of a quota of 44 tractors allotted to Madhya Pradesh this year?