

17. Ensuring that all FCI owned godowns are constructed and maintained on scientific lines for storage of foodgrains.
18. Only covered rail wagons are to be used for movement of foodgrains so as to avoid damage during transit.

Production of sugar in Assam

4062. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has conducted any survey of production of sugar in Assam;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of sugar mills in the State, in private and public sector, separately; and
- (d) the number of sugar mills in public as well as in private sectors which are closed and the total number of sugar mills declared sick?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K. V. THOMAS): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) There are 03 sugar mills in the State, out of which 02 sugar mills are in cooperative sector and 01 sugar mill is in public sector.
- (d) The State Government has informed that both the cooperative sugar mills have been liquidated. The third sugar mill in the public sector was leased out to one private party but it has also stopped its operation. No sugar mill in the State has been declared sick.

Shortcomings in NFSB

4063. SHRI T. M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that eminent development economists of the country have opened that the present National Food Security Bill (NFSB) has some very serious shortcomings;