

The matter is being pursued with the other State Governments.

Supply: Continuous efforts are being made to ensure adequate share of controlled and non-controlled commodities to consumers co-operatives.

Sugar Production

- *35. { Shri Vishram Prasad:
Shri Bagri:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri Dinen Bhattacharya:
Dr. Saradish Roy:
Dr. Ranen Sen:
Shrimati Ramdulari Sinha:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the sugar production in the first half of the year 1964 increased as compared to the production in the corresponding period last year, if so, to what extent;

(b) the total stock of sugar available in the country at the end of June, 1963 and June, 1964;

(c) the main reasons for increased scarcity of sugar all over the country this year, despite the increase in production; and

(d) how far the cost of production of sugar has increased this year as compared to last year and how far this increase has been passed on to the consumers by way of increased retail prices?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) Yes, Sir. The production of sugar during the period 1st January to 30th June this year exceeded that during the corresponding period last year by 2.63 lakh tonnes.

(b) The closing stock of sugar with factories on 30th June, 1964 was 8.77 lakh tonnes as compared to 9.56 lakh tonnes on the corresponding date last year.

(c) The main reason is that the total availability this year after taking into account the carryover from the previous year, was about 27 lakh tonnes as against 31 lakh tonnes last year.

(d) The cost of production of sugar during 1963-64 has been higher mainly due to increase in the cane price, lower recovery and duration of season in certain areas. Increase in cost on account of these factors varied from area to area. This incidence of the higher cost was generally passed on to the consumers.

Supply of Foodgrains from fair price shops

*36. **Shri S. N. Chaturvedi:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quantity of wheat or flour made available per person per month from the fair price shops varies from State to State;

(b) if so, the range of variation between different States; and

(c) the basis on which allotments of imported wheat are made to the States?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement showing the quantum of wheat/atta issued from fair price shops in different States is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3360/64].

(c) Allotment of imported wheat to various States is made on the basis of requirements of each State and the availability of wheat stocks with the Centre.

Kharif Foodgrains

*37. **Shri Shree Narayan Das:** Will the Minister of Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which cooperative institutions in various States have been able to enter the grain market for the purchase of Kharif foodgrains: