

The Minister of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). A statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4769/65].

Drought Conditions

- *462. { Shri P. Venkatasubbalah;
Shri Ravindra Varma;
Shri Hukam Chand
Kachhavalaya;
Shri Yashpal Singh;
Shri D. S. Patil;
Shri Kamble;
Shri H. C. Linga Reddy;
Shri Bishwanath Roy;
Shri B. N. Kureel;
Shri Brajeshwar Prasad;
Shri Gopal Datt Mengi;
Shri Surendranath
Dwivedy;
Shri Jena;

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

(a) whether it is a fact that almost the entire country is facing drought conditions due to lack of rains;

(b) whether the kharif crop will be seriously affected; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to procure necessary foodgrains, internal as well as by importing, to ensure adequate and continuous supply to the people?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) and (b): The monsoon has been erratic over large parts of the country this year, but lately there have been good rains which are expected to prove beneficial to standing Kharif crops.

(c) Every effort is being made to intensify internal procurement and to import as much foodgrains from abroad as possible within the resources available with the Government. With these and the stocks on hand, Government expects to maintain the present rate of distribution.

Reservation of Parliamentary Constituencies for S.C. & S.T.

*463. **Shri B. N. Kureel:** Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state the criteria adopted for the reservation of Parliamentary Constituencies for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes?

The Minister of Law (Shri A. K. Sen): The reservation of Parliamentary Constituencies for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are made having regard to the provisions contained in clauses (c) and (d) of subsection (1) of Section 9 of the Delimitation Commission Act, 1962.

Ban on Movement of Coarse Grains

*464. **Shri Jashvant Mehta:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the States have banned the movement of coarse grains out of the State boundaries;

(b) if so, the names of those States;

(c) whether the States had sought permission of the Central Government before imposing the ban; and

(d) the steps Government have taken to overcome the difficulties experienced by the deficit States due to this order?

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

(b) Andhra Pradesh, Madras, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Jammu and Kashmir, Mysore, Punjab, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Surplus States which have traditionally been exporting coarse grains to other States have been asked to continue to allow such export on a regulated basis. About one lakh tonnes of milo has also been imported and allotted to the deficit States.