

posal to postpone the mid-term elections in Orissa and to hold them at the time of the General Elections?

The Minister of Law (Shri A. K. Sen): The question as to when the General Election should be held in Orissa for constituting the new Assembly is under consideration of Government.

Haldia Port

- *54. { Shri Solanki:
- { Shri P. K. Deo:
- { Shri Narasimha Reddy:
- { Shrimati Sharda Mukerjee:

Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that fresh complications have developed over the grant of World Bank Loan for the construction of Haldia Port;

(b) if so, the difficulties which are coming in the way for getting loan; and

(c) the progress made in this regard?

The Minister of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Delhi Milk Scheme

- *55. { Shri Yashpal Singh:
- { Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
- { Shrimati Savitri Nigam:
- { Shri S. C. Samanta:
- { Shri Subodh Hansda:
- { Shri Surendra Pal Singh:
- { Shri Warior:
- { Shri Prabhat Kar:
- { Shri S. M. Banerjee:
- { Shri D. C. Sharma:
- { Shri Inder J. Malhotra:
- { Shi Karni Singhji:
- { Maharajkumar Vijaya
- { Ananda:
- { Dr. L. M. Singhvi:

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

(a) whether the Delhi Milk Scheme has shown any improvement in its

working after the change in its administrative set up;

(b) if so, in what direction;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken in the matter?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri C. Subramaniam):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The improvement has been in regard to procurement and distribution of milk and the general working of the scheme.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

Prices of Foodgrains

- *56. { Shri Shree Narayan Das:
- { Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:
- { Shri Jagdev Singh Siddhanti:
- { Shri S. M. Banerjee:
- { Shrimati Savitri Nigam:
- { Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
- { Shri S. C. Samanta:
- { Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
- { Shri K. N. Tiwary:
- { Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
- { Shri P. C. Borooah:
- { Shri Bagri:
- { Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:
- { Shri D. N. Tiwary:
- { Shri Subodh Hansda:
- { Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:
- { Shri Yashpal Singh:
- { Shri Abdul Ghani Goni:
- { Shri Samnani:
- { Shrimati Renuka Ray:
- { Shri Sarjoo Pandey:
- { Shri M. L. Jadhav:
- { Shri Jedhe:
- { Shri Dinen Bhattacharya:
- { Dr. Ranen Sen:
- { Shri Surendra Pal Singh:
- { Shri Madhu Limaye:
- { Shri Ram Sewak:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to lay on the Table a statement showing:

(a) the wholesale and retail prices of wheat, rice and pulses prevailing in the country, Statewise, during the last three months and how they compare with the prices prevailing during the corresponding period last year;

(b) whether the various measures adopted to check the prices have proved effective; and

(c) if so, to what extent?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) 1. The all India Index number of wholesale prices of wheat, rice and pulses during the months of May, June and July, 1965 compared to those in the corresponding months of the last year is given in the statement as under:—

(Base 1952-53—100)

Month/Year	Price Index Number					
	Wheat		Rice		Pulses	
	1964	1965	1964	1965	1964	1965
May	107.1	129.7	131.1	128.3	135.8	153.4
June	111.5	131.3	136.3	128.4	141.8	151.9
July	116.2	139.0	139.9	133.7	147.6	168.7

2. Statement (Appendix II) showing the wholesale prices of rice, wheat and gram at selected centres for the last three months and the corresponding period of last year is placed on the Table of the House [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4490/65].

3. Statement (Appendix III) showing retail prices of rice, wheat and gram at selected centres is also placed on the Table of the Sabha. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-4490/65].

(b) and (c). With the arrival of the new kharif and rabi crops prices of foodgrains showed a tendency to ease from early this year. The all India Index number of wholesale prices of rice which stood at 146 in September, 1964 declined to 128 in January, 1965. In respect of wheat the Index number of wholesale prices declined from 151 in January, 1965 to 130 in May, 1965. The Index number of pulses which stood at 196 in January, 1965 came down to 151 in June, 1965. The Index number of cereals as a whole declined from 150 in September, 1964 to 137 in May, 1965.

The prices have shown a continued declining trend or remained steady until June, 1965. This is indicative of the success of the various measures adopted to check the prices. From the end of June, 1965 the seasonal rise in prices started and it has been aggravated by the delay in the onset of the monsoon.

Asian Highway

*57. **Shri Surendra Pal Singh:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in a recent Ministerial level meeting of the ECAFE in Bangkok, the member nations were urged upon to complete their respective portions of the Asian Highway by 1970 at the latest;

(b) if so, the portion and length of the said Highway which is the responsibility of the Government of India; and

(c) the expenditure which is likely to be incurred by Government on this project?