

(d) how Government propose to implement them?

**The Deputy Minister in the Department of Social Security (Shrimati M. Chandrasekhar):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

**Desert Development Board**

- \*162. {  
 Shri Warrior:  
 Shri Daji:  
 Shri Yashpal Singh:  
 Shri D. C. Sharma:  
 Shri Heda:  
 Shri D. J. Naik:  
 Shri Rameshwar Tantia:  
 Shri Himatsingka:  
 Shri Ram Sewak:  
 Shri P. G. Sen:

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

(a) whether Government have any proposal under consideration to set up a Desert Development Board; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri C. Subramaniam):** (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Planning Commission have already approved of the proposal to set up a Desert Development Board. Details of the proposal are at present being worked out in consultation with the Ministry of Finance. The Board is expected to be set up before the end of 1965.

**Agricultural Aspect of Irrigation Projects**

- \*163. {  
 Shri Ravindra Varma:  
 Shri Venkatasubbalah:  
 Shrimati Renuka Barkatak:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to set up a special unit to study the agricultural aspects of irrigation projects; and

(b) if so, the scope and objectives of the study that this unit will undertake?

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

(b) Briefly, the Unit would devote whole-time attention to the study of the agricultural aspects of irrigation projects from the planning stage onwards with a view to ensuring optimum utilisation of available water resources. It would also assist the States in undertaking Area Development Programmes in the command areas of irrigation projects. However, the detailed scope and objectives of the study that this Unit would undertake are under consideration of the Government.

**Damage to Food Output due to Storage**

- \*164. {  
 Shri Sezhiyan:  
 Shri Kanakasabai:

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

(a) whether Government have made any assessment of the percentage of food output wasted due to bad storage in India; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to reduce such wastage?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri C. Subramaniam):** (a) While no systematic or comprehensive assessment has been made, it is recognised that the extent of loss in storage generally ranges from 3 to 10 per cent. However, in Government-owned storage the loss is negligible, viz., about 0.2 per cent.

(b) Following steps are, being taken to reduce possible wastage:

(i) improvement of the condition of storage by way of providing modern structures such as silos and conventional godowns which are rat as well as damp proof.

(ii) adoption of scientific methods to protect grain from pest attacks; and

- (iii) educating the farmers and traders in the methods of proper storage and handling of foodgrains.

Effect of modern storage on the rice outturn is being assessed in the six modern rice mills set up recently in the Cooperative sector and modernisation of storage, as far as rice is concerned, will be related to the plan of modernisation of rice mills in the country.

### Paradeep Port

\*165. Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a pamphlet called "Paradeep scandal unveiled" wherein a demand for a probe into the expenditure made in the construction of the Port has been made;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) whether any departmental or any other enquiry is being held into the allegations made in the Pamphlet?

The Minister of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). As regards the administration of the Project before the 1st of June, 1965, the responsibility rested with the State Government. It is noted that the State Government had replied to the allegations in their Press Note dated the 7th August 1964. The Government of India do not think that a general probe into the expenditure on the Paradeep Port Project is called for at this juncture in the light of the State Government views in the matter. It is understood that, in all cases where irregularities on the part of the staff of the Project were suspected, suitable action has been taken by the State Government against the individuals concerned. The Government of India also will ensure that there are no irregularities. The Government of India will not hesitate

to take disciplinary action against any individual against whom there is proof of misconduct. There is general all round appreciation about the very satisfactory progress made by the Project and it would not be correct to make allegations of a vague and sweeping character against any individual.

### राज्यों का चीनी का कोटा

{ श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरवा :  
\*166 { श्री म० ला० जाधव :  
{ श्री जेठे :

क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार का राज्यों के चीनी के कोटे में वृद्धि करने का विचार है ;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो किस आधार पर तथा कितनी मात्रा में ; और

(ग) क्या सरकार का चीनी के विक्रय मूल्य को कम करने का भी विचार है ?

खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री (श्री बि० सुब्रह्मण्यम) : (क) इस वर्ष कई राज्यों के चीनी के मासिक कोटों में पहले ही वृद्धि कर दी गयी है ।

(ख) कोटों में यह वृद्धि उत्पादन में हुई बढ़ोतरी और समीकरण भण्डार बनाने की आवश्यकताओं को ध्यान में रख कर की गयी है । कोटे में की गयी कुल वृद्धि लगभग 16,000 मीट्रिक टन प्रतिमास है ।

(ग) जी नहीं ।

### New Rice Mills

\*167. Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the progress so far made in the establishment of new types of Rice Mills in the Public Sector; and