

**Shri Jaganatha Rao:** Government have no power in regard to the allotment of symbols, but that is a point which the Election Commission may consider. We shall convey this suggestion to them.

**Mr. Speaker:** Next question.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Let there be a round table conference of all the parties with the Election Commission to consider this matter.

#### Trading in Foodgrains

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- +\*539. **Shri M. L. Dwivedi:**  
**Shri S. C. Samanta:**  
**Shri Subodh Hansda:**  
**Shri S. N. Chaturvedi:**  
**Shri Parashar:**  
**Shri R. S. Pandey:**  
**Shri Rajeshwar Patel:**  
**Shri R. Barua:**  
**Shri Krishna Deo Tripathi:**

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

(a) whether any action has been taken with regard to the proposal to take over trading in foodgrains by Government with a view to ensure a balanced distribution of foodgrains and to check further rise in prices;

(b) the arrangements proposed to be made to rehabilitate the displaced foodgrains traders in case Government decide to take over trading in foodgrains through the State Governments; and

(c) the steps taken or being taken to check the rise in prices till this trade is nationalised?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan):** (a) There is no proposal at present for Government to take over the entire foodgrains trade by introducing monopoly procurement of foodgrains on a national scale.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Licensing control on trade has been strengthened. Bank advances against foodgrains are being regulat-

ed. Statutory maximum prices have been fixed in many States and the administrative machinery to enforce the discipline on prices has been strengthened.

**श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी :** मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि खाद्य गंवों के दस मुआव के अनुसार कि खाद्य व्यापार सरकार अपने हाथ में ले लेगी जो पत्र राज्य सरकारों को लिखे गये थे उनके राज्य सरकारों से क्या उत्तर दिये कि वह खाद्यान्न के व्यापार को अपने हाथ में ले सकती हैं या नहीं, और दस बारे में क्या प्रगति हुई है ।

**Shri D. R. Chavan:** In the main answer I have stated that there is no proposal under consideration.

**श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी :** मेरा प्रश्न यह है कि राज्य सरकारों ने क्या उत्तर दिये ।

**Mr. Speaker:** His question is what reply the State Governments have given.

**Shri D. R. Chavan:** About what? About monopoly purchase?

**Shri Inder J. Malhotra:** About State trading in foodgrains.

**Shri D. R. Chavan:** I am mentioning that. I have mentioned in the answer to the main question that there is no proposal to have monopoly purchase.

**Mr. Speaker:** I have said so many times that the hon. Ministers should address me and not a particular Member.

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri C. Subramaniam):** A few State Governments have made the suggestion that they should have monopoly procurement and they have been permitted to have monopoly procurement, particularly the State of West Bengal.

**श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी :** मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि बाकी जिन राज्य सरकारों ने यह उत्तर दिये हैं कि खाद्यान्न व्यापार सरकार अपने

ह्रास में नहीं ले सकती है, वहाँ पर खाद्यान्न के व्यापार का क्या इन्तजाम किया जायेगा और देश भर में एक ही नीति चलती रहे इसके सम्बन्ध में सरकार का क्या निर्णय है।

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** The uniform policy is to have a levy on the producers and wherever it is possible, to also have a levy on the trade and the millers. This is the uniform policy, but only a few States have undertaken monopoly procurement and that too has been put into operation only in West Bengal.

**Shri S. N. Chaturvedi:** May I know where the Foodgrains Trading Corporation would come into the picture in this arrangement?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** The next starred question is on that.

**Shri R. Barua:** In some of the States, for want of supervision and due to bad storage facilities, foodgrains have deteriorated to a great extent. May I know what steps Government are contemplating to avoid such wastage and to improve the storage system?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** We have built up considerable storage, and within the last two or three years considerable improvement has been made with regard to the storage system and the wastage in godowns has been brought down considerably.

#### Wheat and Rice Purchased by Food Corporation of India

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- \*540. **Shri P. C. Borooah:**  
**Shri Yashpal Singh:**  
**Shri Madhu Limaye:**  
**Shri Bagri:**  
**Shri Indrajit Gupta:**  
**Shri D. C. Sharma:**  
**Shri Vasudevan Nair:**  
**Shri Kapur Singh:**  
**Shri Basappa:**  
**Shri Yogendra Jha:**  
**Shri D. S. Patil:**

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

(a) the total amount of wheat and rice procured by the Food Corporation of India up-to-date, State-wise, and on all-India basis;

(b) the total amount of rice and wheat proposed to be procured by the Corporation in each State; and

(c) the number of State Food Corporations set up under the Food Corporation of India Act, 1964 and in which States such Corporations have been set up and in which other States such Corporations are proposed to be set up?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan):** (a) and (b). No wheat has been procured by the Food Corporation of India so far, nor is there any proposal to purchase wheat during the current year. A total quantity of about 413 thousand tonnes of rice has been purchased by the Corporation from 1-4-1965 to 31-10-1965 the State-wise break up of this quantity together with the likely purchases during 1965-66 season are indicated in the statement laid on the table of the Sabha. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5261/65].

(c) No State Food Corporation has so far been set up, and there are no proposals at present to set up any.

**Shri P. C. Borooah:** Is it a fact that under the present system grain is not being purchased directly by the Food Corporation from the peasants but through commission agents, and thereby farmers are deprived of the incentive price fixed? May I know whether Government have any proposal to introduce on the spot cash purchase of grains at the incentive price from the farmers?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri C. Subramaniam):** The Food Corporation cannot by itself operate at the village level everywhere. That is why wherever it is possible, it appoints co-operative societies as its agents for the purpose of purchase. Where co-operative societies are not available, it makes