

(c) The terms and conditions of the loan are as follows:—

- (1) The loans are recoverable in 20 annual equated instalments comprising both principal and interest.
- (2) Repayment will commence from the 6th anniversary of the dates on which the loans have been drawn.
- (3) Interest alone would be recovered on each of the 5 anniversaries from the dates the loans have been drawn.
- (4) The loans will carry interest at 8.25 per cent per annum but if the instalments of principal and/or interest are paid on the due dates, the rate of interest will be reduced to 5.75 per cent per annum.

Cost of American Wheat

*430. **Shri Madhu Limaye:** Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are in a position to give definite figures about the average cost of each of the different grades of American wheat per kilo imported under P.L. 480 during the three year period of 1963-66, including cost, transport from the port of supply, handling charges, etc., at Bombay, Calcutta and Madras;

(b) the price at which it was sold to the consumer in the ration shops in these cities during the above period; and

(c) the reasons for the difference between the cost and selling price?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Govinda Menon): (a) For the purposes of distribution as also maintenance of accounts all varieties of wheat imported from America under PL-480 are treated as of one grade. The average cost, sea freight and incident-

tal expenses incurred on various services from the stage of discharge and clearance at the ports (including Bombay, Calcutta and Madras) in India up to the stage of distribution at the Central Storage godowns during the period of three financial years 1963-64 to 1965-66 are given in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7377/66].

(b) The prices for the years 1963-66 (last month of each year) at which this wheat was sold to the consumers from the fair price shops at Bombay, Calcutta and Madras are given in another statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7377/66].

(c) The reasons for the difference between the economic cost and the actual selling prices are the element of subsidy, the incidental charges of the State Government and the margin of profit of the retailers.

Coastal Shipping

*431. **Shri Subodh Hansda:**
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
Dr. M. M. Das:

Will the Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that coastal Shipping is facing a crisis due to high excise duty on furnace oil and Devaluation;

(b) whether any representation has been received to increase the freight rate and also to set up permanent body like Maritime Freight Commission; and

(c) if so, the Government's reaction thereto?

The Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): (a) and (b). Some representations in this regard have been received.

(c) The excise duty on furnace oil was reduced from Rs. 71.70 to Rs. 40.11 per tonne with effect from 15th January, 1966 and to Rs. 5.23 per tonne with effect from 26th August, 1966. The points raised in the representations are under examination.

सहकारी समितियों के सम्बन्ध में एकरूप विधान

* 432. श्री विभूति मिश्र :

श्री क० ना० तिवारी :

क्या साख, कृषि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार मंत्री यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सहकारी समितियों के सम्बन्ध में समूचे देश में एकरूप विधान पेश करने का कोई प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन है ; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो सरकार का इस सम्बन्ध में क्या कार्यवाही करने का विचार है और कब तक ?

साख, कृषि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार मन्त्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री श्यामधर मिश्र) : (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

River Steam Navigation Company

* 433. Shri Hem Barua:

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:

Will the Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the River Steam Navigation Company plying their boats in the Brahmaputra have decided to stop their services; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): (a) and (b). The river services provided by the Rivers Steam Navigation Company Limited on the Calcutta-Assam route have been suspended since September, 1965 on account of the hostilities with Pakistan. As regards its other activities, the future of the Company is under Government's consideration.

Import of Foodgrains from U.S.A.

* 434. Shri Indrajit Gupta:

Shri Hem Raj:

Shri P. Kunhan:

Shri Imbichibava:

Shri M. N. Swamy:

Shri Maheswar Nalk:

Shri P. C. Borooah:

Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the P.L. 480 agreement for import of foodgrains from U.S.A. will be replaced by the new 'Food for Peace' legislation enacted in that country;

(b) whether the said legislation prohibits any food shipments to nations trading with North Vietnam or Cuba; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction to the implied restrictions on India's sovereign trading rights?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Govinda Menon): (a) At present the Food for Peace Programme of the U.S.A. is being implemented through the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954 of U.S.A., also called Public Law 480. This Act has been amended by the "Food for Peace Act 1966".

(b) This legislation denies PL-480 sales agreements with countries which are covered by the following clause in that legislation:

"For the purpose only of sales of agricultural commodities