

the Central Government for Community Development schemes has been utilised; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Community Development (Shri S. K. Dey): (a) and (b) Information has been called from State Governments and will be laid on the Table as soon as it is received. From replies received so far from certain States, the position appears to be that the Central grants have been fully utilised, but a portion of the Central loans will have remained unutilised. The precise reasons can be indicated after replies from all States, have been received

Desert Control

*677. Shri J. R. Mehta: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the type of trees which have by experience proved to be best fitted for afforestation to check the spread of the desert on the Rajasthan-Pakistan border?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): A statement is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha [See Appendix II, annexure No 81]

Price of Rice

*678. Shri R. C. Majhi: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the price fixed for purchasing common rice in Orissa is much less than the other neighbouring States;

(b) if so, the reason therefor,

(c) the price of rice fixed in Andhra, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa, and

(d) whether it is a fact that restrictions have been imposed on movement of rice from Orissa to outside by the Central Government?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) to (c) A statement is placed on the Table of Lok Sabha showing the prices that the Government of India have agreed to pay for rice and paddy that they are taking over from stockists. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 82.] These prices were agreed upon after discus-

sion with the Orissa Government and the millers and after taking into account the current market prices and also the average of the prices prevailing in Orissa prior to 6th June, 1957, at which the Government could requisition stocks under the Essential Commodities Act

No stocks of rice have so far been taken over in Madhya Pradesh or Andhra

(d) Yes, Sir.

हिमाचल प्रदेश में मिट्टी का बटाव

*६७९ श्री पद्म बेन : क्या यह सच तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बतान की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या यह सच है कि हिमाचल प्रदेश में विशेषकर चम्बल में भूमि का बटाव बड़ा तजी क माय हो रहा है जिससे प्रतिवर्ष सैकड़ों परिवार निर्वासित हो रहे हैं, और

(ख) सरकार ने इस को रोकने के लिये क्या उपाय किये हैं और इस विषय में अब तक क्या सफलता प्राप्त हुई है और आगे काल क्या योजना है ?

साथ तथा कृषि मंत्री श्री अ० प्र० जैन:

(क) जा हा, परन्तु इतनी अधिक नहीं जितना कि मंत्रर महोदय न बतलाई है।

(ख) हिमाचल प्रदेश प्रशासन न भू सरक्षण की सात योजनाये जिनका सम्बन्ध प्राय. वनी स है, चम्बा मणिल में कार्यान्वित करने को लगे ली है। परिणाम क्यासमय उपलब्ध हो जायगे। भोजुवा कार्यक्रम को साल-व-माल आगे बढ़ान वा विचार है।

Production of Cereals

*680. Shri Radhamohan Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether, in view of the shortage of cereals in the Union, any steps have been taken to develop and produce substitutes for foodstuffs;