

unit is Rs. 40/- against the control price of Rs. 65?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** Maybe that is correct.

**Shri Dabhi:** How much paddy is Orissa able to supply?

**Shri Kidwai:** I hope that Orissa will supply us about 3 lakh tons of rice. That may be about 5 lakh tons of paddy or 4½ lakh tons.

**Shri Natesan:** May I know whether Madras is one of the recipient States that have not lifted the rice?

**Shri Kidwai:** Madras is one of them. They are arranging for the lifting.

**Shri M. V. Krishnaappa:** It is a major recipient.

**Shri Natesan:** May I know the price at which Orissa sells rice to Madras?

**Shri M. V. Krishnaappa:** It is the cheapest as compared with other rice in India.

**Shri Natesan:** Is the hon. Minister aware that U.P. has been giving rice to Madras at Rs. 33 per maund, which is higher than the price of imported rice?

**Shri M. V. Krishnaappa:** That is a thing of the past.

**Shri Kidwai:** This cannot happen now.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know the quantity of rice so far procured?

**Shri M. V. Krishnaappa:** Eighty thousand tons. At this time last year, they had procured 27 thousand tons.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know whether it is a fact that the Government of Orissa is allotted a bonus of one rupee per maund of procurement?

**Shri Kidwai:** Not for procurement, but for development of the rice areas. They have no means of proper communications and all that. Therefore, this was thought necessary. They have been maintaining the procurement price which was in existence there some years ago. They are the one Government which refused to increase the procurement price because the general cost of living would have gone up. Therefore, they are compensated in this way.

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**Shri Natesan:** Since there is so much shortage of rice in Madras, would the Government of India take steps to see that this rice is rushed to Madras forthwith from Orissa?

**Shri M. V. Krishnaappa:** There is no shortage regarding rice, for the present, in Madras. They have got 160,000 tons of rice with them. The rate of procurement is something phenomenal. They are carrying on a levy system and every week they are getting 15,000 tons of rice. There is no scarcity of rice in Madras. In spite of that, Madras is one of the major recipient States to which we have allotted a major portion of the Orissa rice.

**Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava:** In view of this procurement, will the Government see that imports are reduced?

**Shri Kidwai:** As I stated some time back, this year, we will supply all the deficit States, rice procured in this country. We are importing some to build up stocks. I hope that from next year, there will be no imports of rice.

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

##### "EFOCAINE"

\*252. **Shri P. T. Chacko:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether "Efoaine" has been tested in India in surgical operations and if so, with what results;

(b) whether this drug has been made available in our hospitals; and

(c) whether this drug is used in cases of difficult child births?

**The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur):** (a) and (c). Government have no information.

(b) It is not stocked in the Government Medical Store Depots for supply to hospitals.

##### TIRUPATHI (WEST) RAILWAY STATION

\*253. **Shri Viswanatha Reddy:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether Government have received any representations that Tirupathi (West) Railway Station should be reopened, and if so, what action have Government taken in the matter?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** Yes, the matter is under examination.