

Shri Gurupadaswamy: I want to know whether there has been a refusal?

Mr. Speaker: The same question is being repeated.

Shri K. Subrahmanyam: In the case of the offer from China may I know whether the money will be paid to the Chinese Embassy in India?

Shri Kidwai: I do not know about the arrangement for payment. The agreement signed there has not yet reached us but the money will be paid according to the usual channels.

Shri G. P. Sinha: Is it a fact that the said country's demand is for supply of essential commodities in exchange for grains?

Shri Kidwai: But I have said that the arrangement is on a cash basis.

RATIONING

*515. **Shri Velayudhan:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the States where the ration has been increased recently; and

(b) the States which demanded the increase of their ration?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) Only in Travancore-Cochin has there been an increase in the over-all ration during this year.

(b) None.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether the Government is aware that while this increase has been ordered no ration is given?

Shri Kidwai: If the hon. Member brings to my notice any case where the rations are not supplied then I will ask the Travancore-Cochin Government to look into the matter.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether Government is aware that there is a decrease in the purchase of rations by the cardholders after the rise in the price of rations?

Shri Kidwai: I am not aware of it but I will make enquiries if the hon. Member so desires.

Shri Punnoose: Can the Minister tell us the amount of ration that is given in the Travancore-Cochin State?

Shri Kidwai: Rice 6 oz. and wheat 6 oz.

Shri Pocker Saheb: May I know whether there has not been a demand from the State of Madras for an increase in the rice ration?

Shri Kidwai: Yes, there has been a demand for the increase of the rice portion of the rations.

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : क्या मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से यह पूछ सकता हूँ कि दिल्ली राज्य में चावल की किस्म में कोई सुधार होने की उम्मीद है ?

[**Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** May I know whether there is any possibility of supplying better quality rice in Delhi?]

श्री किदवाई : क्षोशिश की जा रही है कि विन्ध्य प्रदेश से यहाँ चावल मंगाया जाय और उम्मीद है कि वह अच्छा होगा ।

[**Shri Kidwai:** Efforts are being made to get rice here from Vindhya Pradesh the quality of which is expected to be better.]

Shri Punnoose: Is he aware that at present in Travancore-Cochin the quantity of ration is 4½ oz. rice plus 1½ oz wheat? That comes to 6 oz.?

Shri Kidwai: I have got before me information that six ounces of rice and 6 ounces of other cereals are being supplied in the rationed areas.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: That is not being given effect to.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: In view of the long period of austerity rations in rice-eating areas and in view of the fact that we are getting rice from various other countries to meet the shortage, is there any proposal before Government to increase the amount of rice given to rice-eating States like West Bengal?

Shri Kidwai: Rice is being imported only to be supplied to States where there is shortage of rice.

LAND TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME

*516. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments have selected certain areas with assured water supply where they will concentrate their efforts of "Grow More Food" campaign and make available necessary funds and technical facilities with a view to secure maximum yield within a short time as a part of the land Transformation Programme; and

(b) if so, what are the areas selected by the Government of Bihar?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) Yes.

(b) A list is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 22.]

Shri S. N. Das: What is the total acreage of land covered by this intensive cultivation throughout the country?

Shri Kidwai: The total is in the statement itself.

Shri S. N. Das: I want the total acreage throughout the country covering all the States.

Shri Kidwai: The question was confined only to Bihar and therefore I have not got the all-India figures.

Shri S. N. Das: What percentage of the total funds allotted for the Grow More Food Campaign will be diverted to these areas and what percentage to the other areas?

Shri Kidwai: The funds are allotted to the States and it is for them to decide in what particular area the money is to be spent.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether any conditions are laid down which the cultivators in these areas will have to fulfil if they apply for these funds?

Shri Kidwai: It is for the State Governments to decide whether they should lay down any conditions or whether they are satisfied that such conditions are unnecessary.

SUGAR MILLS

*517. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) how many sugar mills there are in India (State by State);

(b) whether Government propose to set up or encourage the setting up of any sugar factory in West Bengal in the near future; and

(c) the amount of production of sugar-cane and sugar in the State of West Bengal in the year 1951-52?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) A statement giving the required information is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 23.]

(b) The matter is under consideration.

(c) The estimated production of sugarcane during 1951-52 in the State

of West Bengal is 85,000 tons in terms of gur. The quantity of sugar produced in that State during 1951-52 amounted to 7157 tons.

Shri S. C. Samanta: The statement says that there are three sugar mills in West Bengal. May I know the location of these three mills?

Shri Kidwai: I think the hon. Member knows better than I do.

Shri S. C. Samanta: What is the number of proposed new sugar mills in West Bengal, since the hon. Minister's reply to part (b) was that the matter was under consideration?

Shri Kidwai: Different proposals have been received from the State as to where new factories are to be established but the matter has not yet been decided as to whether we require more mills or the present mills alone will suffice for our purposes.

Shri S. C. Samanta: With reference to part (c) of the question, may I know how far in West Bengal the supply of gur and sugar falls short of the demand?

Shri Kidwai: They have always imported them from other parts of the country into West Bengal. As to what is the exact quantity consumed and what is the quantity suspected to be smuggled to East Bengal I am not able to say.

Shri B. S. Murthy: What is the additional acreage brought under sugarcane cultivation during 1951-52?

Shri Kidwai: The question did not relate to that. I think the additional acreage brought under sugarcane cultivation during the last two years is 25 per cent. in excess of the previous acreage.

Shri K. K. Basu: May I know whether any of the sugar factories in India utilise the by-products?

Shri Kidwai: Some of it is being utilised.

Shri K. K. Basu: What is the number of factories utilising it?

Shri Kidwai: Power alcohol is manufactured in several places but since this question did not relate to that subject, I have not got that information.

TUNG TREES

*518. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state: