

consumers cooperatives organised under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme in 1963-64 and 1964-65 is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library, see No. LT-4039/65]. Information with regard to the organisation of consumer stores outside the centrally sponsored scheme is not readily available

Motor Vehicles Act

1418. Shri Wadiwa: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 491 on the 5th March, 1963 and state the progress made in the matter of amending the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939 regarding time limit for filing an application for compensation before a Motor Accidents Claims Tribunal?

The Minister of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur): It is proposed to include in the next Motor Vehicles Amendment Bill a provision to raise suitably the time limit of sixty days for filing an application for compensation before a Motor Accidents Claims Tribunal.

Foodgrains Stocks in Govt. Godowns

1419. Shri Shree Narayan Das: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently there has been depletion of foodgrain stocks in most Government godowns;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what have been the demands and supplies of foodgrains for the months of February and March, 1965?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan): (a) and (b). Due to a bad rice crop in 1962-63 and two successive bad wheat crops during 1962-63 and 1963-64, prices of foodgrains during 1964 went up steeply and demand for distribution of Government foodgrains increased. This necessitated issues on a larger scale from Government godowns and led to

depletion of stocks in most of the Government godowns.

(c) The requirements of each State are examined in consultation with the State Governments and supplies are arranged keeping in view the needs of all the States and the overall availability of foodgrains with the Central Government. During February 1965, a little over 6 lakh tonnes of foodgrains were issued from Central stocks. The demand was much larger. Complete figures for the month of March are not yet available.

12 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

CONTINUANCE OF PRESIDENT'S RULE IN KERALA

Shri Narendra Singh Mahida (Anand): Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:

"The reported decision of the Government to continue President's Rule in Kerala."

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Nanda): Sir, to enable me to make a definite statement on the subject, I would request that I may be given a little more time, maybe two or three days, maybe three days, till Friday.

Mr. Speaker: He may answer it on Friday.

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): Sir, I wrote to you this morning about a very important matter.

Mr. Speaker: He will get that information.

Shri Hem Barua: It is about the Chinese Embassy in New Delhi chal-