

arranged by the Government of India; the Sugar for this is procured from the mills. The mills are paid contract price for the raw sugar purchased from them.

(b) Cess (Cane) is levied and collected by the State Governments from factories in their respective states, and information in this regard is not available.

Paradeep Port

1525. Shri P. K. Deo:
Shri K. F. Singh Deo:
Shri D. N. Deb:
Shri A. Dipa:
Shri G. C. Naik:

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

(a) whether he recently visited the Paradeep Port and examined the question of constructing a cargo berth there; and

(b) if so, when the construction of the cargo berth is likely to be taken up?

The Minister of Transport and Shipping (Dr. V. K. R. V. Rao): (a) My programme to visit the Port during April, 1967, had to be postponed due to pressing work in Delhi.

(b) This will be considered after the traffic studies now underway are completed.

Tourist Facilities in Konarak (Orissa)

1526. Shri P. K. Deo:
Shri K. F. Singh Deo:
Shri D. N. Deb:

Will the Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to improve Tourist facilities at Konarak in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when it is likely to be executed?

The Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation (Dr. Karan Singh): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. There is a scheme to develop Konarak as a seaside resort at an estimated cost of Rs. 42.50 lakhs. The details of the schemes are being worked out. It will be executed during the Fourth Five Year Plan period.

Drought Prevention Studies Board

1527. Shri Sharda Nand:
Shri J. B. Singh:
Shri Bharat Singh Chauhan:
Shri Kanjit Singh:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a drought Prevention Studies Board keeping in view the persistent drought in the country;

(b) if so, the terms of reference and the personnel of the proposed Board; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to start functioning?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) No. The question of setting up suitable machinery to deal with various aspects of drought has been under consideration for some time past. It has been decided to assign the work in this behalf to Units, specially earmarked for the purpose, in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development & Cooperation (Department of Agriculture), Ministry of Irrigation & Power and the Ministry of Health & Family Planning, the overall coordination being done by the Department of Agriculture. Accordingly, a special Cell in the Department of Agriculture has been assigned this work.

(b) and (c). The questions do not