

Restriction in credit availability to sugar factories.

2867. SHRI M. RAM GOBAL REDDY:

SHRI R. S. PANDEY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state,

(a) whether Sugar Mills Association has objected to the directive of R.B.I. to the nationalised banks to restrict credit availability to the sugar factories; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) The Indian Sugar Mills Association have been representing from time to time for relaxation of the selective credit control measures applicable to the sugar industry in regard to margin requirements and for grant of increased limits.

(b) The matter is under consideration in consultation with the Ministry of Finance and the Reserve Bank of India

Permission to Tamil Nadu to import rice from foreign countries

2868. SHRI N. K. SANGHI Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government of Tamil Nadu has urged upon the Central Government to permit it to import rice from foreign countries;

(b) if so, whether similar requests have been received from other States

and if so, their names; and

(c) the present shortage of rice in the country and the shortage in supply against demand for each State and when the situation is likely to improve?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) (a) and (b). The Government of Tamil Nadu has only suggested to the Union Government to explore possibilities of importing rice from foreign countries. No requests have been received from any State Government asking for the Central Government's permission to import rice from foreign countries.

(c). Final estimates of production of rice for 1974-75 have not yet become available. However, due to floods and failure of rain-fall in some States, the production of rice during 1974-75 kharif season is expected to be lower than that recorded last year. With the existing stocks available with the Government, together with the procurement effected during the current kharif marketing season, it will be possible to meet the reasonable requirements of the public distribution system.

No regular specific monthly demands for rice are received from the States. A statement is, however, attached showing the demands for rice, wherever indicated by the State Governments for any particular month, and the quantities supplied to them from the Central pool during the period from November, 1974 to January, 1975.

Statement

Month-wise Quantities of Rice Demanded by various States/Union Territories and Quantities Supplied to them from the Central Pool during the Months of November, December, 1974 and January, 1975

(In '000 tonnes)

	November, 74		December, 74		January, 75	
	Demand	Supplies	Demand	Supplies	Demand	Supplies
Gujarat	25.0	2.0	25.0	2.0	25.0	3.0
Himachal Pradesh	3.9	1.0	3.0	0.9	5.0	1.0
Jammu & Kashmir	N.R.]	5.0	N.R.]	4.8	7.5	5.9
Kerala	N.R.]	29.3	70.0	37.5	N.R.]	40.4
Maharashtra	20.0	7.9	20.0	7.9	20.0	8.0
Manipur	N.R.]	0.4	N.R.]	0.1	N.R.]	0.4
Meghalaya	4.0	2.5	4.0	3.4	4.0	3.2
Nagaland	N.R.]	1.2	1.2	1.1	N.R.]	1.3
Tamil Nadu	50.0	..
Tripura	2.5	1.5	2.0	1.5	2.0	1.1
West Bengal	25.0	22.2	30.0	22.3	30.0	17.2
A & N. Islands	0.5	0.8	..	0.5
Arunachal Pradesh	1.1	0.6	1.05	1.0	1.0	1.0
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.1	..	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Delhi	4.0	3.8	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.4
Goa, Daman & Diu	N.R.]	2.8	0.3*	2.0	3.1	2.0
Mizoram	N.R.]	1.5	2.5	2.5	3.0	0.6
Pondicherry (including Mahe & Yanam)	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.4	1.5	0.3
Lakshadweep	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.9

N.R. Not reported.

* Represents demands from Daman and Diu only.