

(a) whether the Sugar Industry is going to be nationalised;

(b) whether Sugar Exports have stopped;

(c) whether Dual Pricing System of Sugar is removed;

(d) whether complete decontrol of sugar distribution will be introduced; and

(e) whether protection to Sugar Industry will be abolished?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) The nationalisation question has been dealt with in considerable detail in the Report of the Sugar Industry Enquiry Commission, submitted in February, 1974. Copies of the Report, along with action taken note, were placed before the Parliament in August, 1974. There are a number of complexities and any decision will have wide ranging implications. It will, therefore, take some time to come to a final decision.

(b) to (e). Exports in the calendar year 1977 upto 31st May were 2.54 lakh tonnes. The various issues relating to exports, dual pricing, decontrol, etc. will be taken into account when Government next consider its sugar policy.

Coconut Board

1062. SHRI K. A. RAJAN:
SHRI P. K. KODIYAN:

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

(a) whether a scheme for constituting a Coconut Board on the lines of other commodity boards, prepared by the Kerala Government has been forwarded to the Union Government for its approval long back; and

(b) if so, hurdles in its approval?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal is under consideration in consultation with the main Coconut growing States.

Request from Kerala for increase in monthly quota of rice

1063. SHRI K. A. RAJAN:

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA:

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

(a) whether the Kerala State Government has asked the Centre to increase the monthly quota of rice from June onwards; and

(b) if so, how much is the increase asked for and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) and (b). A request was made by the Minister of Food and Civil Supplies, Kerala on 4th May, 1977, for increasing the allotment of rice from the Central Pool to Kerala, from 1.25 lakh tonnes, allotted for the month of April, 1977, to 1.50 lakh tonnes, for the months of May, June and July, 1977. The requirement of rice for the month of June, 1977 was subsequently worked out by the Kerala Government as 1.64 lakh tonnes. No increase in the allotment of rice for May, 1977 was agreed to. The allotment of rice for June, 1977 was increased to 1.35 lakh tonnes. For July, 1977 also, Government will try to maintain the allocation of rice at the level of 1.35 lakh tonnes.

प्राचीन कर्जों का परिसमापन

1064. श्री कर्पूरी ठाकुर :

श्री जनेश्वर मिश्र :

श्री चतुर्भुज :

क्या कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या विगत कुछ वर्षों के दौरान कृषि मजदूरों पर व्यक्तिगत कर्जों का भार बढ़ा है ;