

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : (a) and (b). Suggestions have been received to the effect that a suitable residence should be constructed for the Prime Minister. Government have not yet taken a decision on these suggestions.

(c) Does not arise.

Supply of Punjab Rice to Kerala

2164. PROF. K.V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Kerala has given any representation to the Food Corporation of India to change the Punjab rice ; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir, the Government of Kerala, have requested the Food Corporation of India for allotment of better quality of rice from Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, in place of Punjab superfine boiled rice which requires longer cooking time.

(b) Kerala is being supplied rice from various sources including Andhra Pradesh

and Karnataka, depending upon the availability of stocks and operational constraints. Food Corporation of India has also advised their concerned units to despatch better quality of rice.

Supply of Cereals to Bihar

2165. SHRI YOGESHWAR PRASAD : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the annual quota of cereals *viz.* wheat, rice and sugar being distributed to Bihar under Public Distribution System through Fair Price Shops ;

(b) whether the annual quota of cereals has been increased during last five years ; and

(c) what additional items of daily use are to be distributed in Bihar under the system in the coming years ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b). The allocations of wheat, rice and sugar are made on a monthly basis. The quantities allotted to the Government of Bihar for public distribution during the last five years were as under :

(In '000 tonnes)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Wheat</i>	<i>Rice</i>	<i>Sugar</i>
1980	620.00	785.00	323.00
1981	205.00	750.03	323.00
1982	331.00	380.00	353.00*
1983	690.00	215.00	367.00*
1984	864.00	222.00	384.00*

*Includes about 5,000 tonnes additional quantity on account of festivals.

(c) Under the scheme of Public Distribution System, the Central Government is responsible to supply 7 essential commodities *viz.* wheat, rice, sugar, edible oils, kerosene oil, controlled cloth and soft coke to the States. The States have

been given the option to add any other commodity of mass consumption which is considered essential after making arrangements for its procurement at their own level.