

- Land development (Ha.)	- 4973
- Seed quality Unit (Nos.)	- 6
- Poultry Units (Nos.)	- 500000
- Pig Breeding Units (Nos.)	- 20000
- Qty. of Fertilizer subsidised (Tonnes)	- 419126
- Buffer Seed Stocking (Qtls.)	- 130000

[English]

Contract for Import of Wheat from United States

2073. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA :
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a delegation from United States visited India and impressed upon the Government for taking high-quality of wheat at a concessional rate from the US;

(b) if so, whether the Government have examined all the aspects including the quality of wheat ;

(c) if so, the total quantity of wheat so far contracted and at rates fixed therefor ; and

(d) the extent to which this rate is lower in comparison to the other countries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A US Team had visited India in April, 1997. The purpose of the visit was to review the foodgrains production in India and explore possibilities of import of foodgrains from the USA and to discuss the quality, health and phytosanitary norms in India with reference to the US requirements on the subject. No specific trade/business negotiations were held with the team.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Foodgrains Supplied to J & K under PDS for Open Market

2074. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Jammu and Kashmir Government has projected the demand of 8.88 lakh metric tonnes of foodgrains for the current year;

(b) whether the expert committee has approved the quota of just 3.12 lakh metric tonnes ;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(d) the various kinds of foodgrains supplied for Public Distribution and for open market to the state through various

Channels and the quantity of foodgrains supplied by FCI and profit loss of FCI thus caused during each of the last three years ;

(e) whether the production of foodgrains has been gone up in the State during the last several years; and

(f) if so, the reasons for the heavy increase in the imports of foodgrains especially when there had been allegations that Indian foodgrains are finding their way to Pakistan occupied Kashmir and also to Pakistan via J & K?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The monthly quotas of rice and wheat for Jammu & Kashmir as well as for other States/UTs have been fixed under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) from June, 1997. The requirement of rice and wheat for population Below Poverty Line (BPL) has been worked out so as to provide 10 Kg. foodgrains per family per month. Transitory allocation for population Above Poverty Line (APL) is also being made which has been fixed on the basis of 10 years average lifting minus BPL quotas.

(d) The details of wheat and rice allotted and supplied to Jammu & Kashmir Government under PDS during 1994-95, 1995-96 & 1996-97 as well as quantity sold under Open Sale are as under :

UNDER PDS

(Figs. in Lakh Mt)

Year	Wheat		Rice	
	Allot.	Lifting	Allot.	Lifting
1994-95	3.50	1.45	5.20	1.83
1995-96	3.60	1.31	5.28	2.83
1996-97	3.60	1.49 (P)	5.28	3.54 (P)

UNDER OPEN SALE

	Quantity sold	
	Wheat	Rice
1994-95	0.70	0.02
1995-96	0.69	Nil
1996-97	0.86 (P)	Nil

(P) Provisional.

The said quantities of foodgrains are issued by FCI on the prices fixed by Ministry of Food & Consumer Affairs. FCI by its preamble is a 'no profit no loss' organisation, hence, there is no question of any profit and loss earned by the Corporation on account of sale of foodgrains. Sales were made at subsidised rates as decided by Government of India

from time to time and subsidy was borne by the Government of India.

(e) The estimated production of foodgrains in Jammu & Kashmir declined in 1994-95 & 1995-96 to 14.43 lakh tonnes & 13.67 lakh tonnes respectively, as compared to 14.43 lakh tonnes in 1993-94. The advance estimated production of foodgrains for 1996-97 is 16.87 lakh tonnes.

(f) Due to decline in production of wheat by 31 lakh tonnes during the Crop Year 1995-96 (marketed during 1996-97) and the consequent fall in procurement of wheat by 41 Lakh tonnes during 1996-97 Rabi Marketing Season, Government took a decision to import 2 million tonnes of wheat.

This was done to augment the availability of wheat in the country and to contain the rising trend in the prices of wheat in the domestic market.

Government are alert about possibility of smuggling of foodgrains across international borders but allegations of such incidents *via* Jammu & Kashmir borders are unsubstantiated.

Violation of Environmental Law

2075. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have noticed violation of environmental laws by some State Governments by issuing licences to various polluting industries during the last three years ;

(b) if so, the number of such cases during the said period till date ; and

(c) the remedial steps contemplated by the Government to prevent such violation in future ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) The State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) / Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) in Union Territories are responsible for implementation of the provisions of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act,

1981 in the various States/Union Territories. Necessary permission from the SPCBs/PCCs is required before discharging effluents emanating from the industries.

No cases of violation of environmental laws by State Governments have come to the notice of the Government while issuing licences to various polluting industries during the last three years.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Scheme to Encourage Cash Crops

2076. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate any scheme to encourage for growing cash crops in various States ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the assistance proposed to be provided to each State under this scheme during 1997-98 ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) For increasing production and productivity of cash crops in potential States, following Centrally Sponsored Schemes are already being implemented :

1. Intensive Cotton Development Programme (ICDP)
2. Special Jute Development Programme (SJD)
3. Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping Systems (SUBACS).
4. Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP).

(c) The State-wise allocation (Central share) for the year 1997-98 under various schemes is given in the attached Statement.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

State-wise allocation (Central Share) under various Schemes during 1997-98

(Rs. in lakh)

State	ICDP	SJD	SUBACS	OPP
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	150.00	44.56	172.75	1100.00
Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	40.00
Assam	—	66.52	45.51	175.00