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production units and procurement of plant and machinery *vis-a-vis* the total allocation for each of these heads, quarter-wise?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) to (f). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

Yash Pal Committee Report

241. SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA: SHRI NARAIN SINGH CHAUDHARY: SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the outcome of the discussions held in the fifteenth meeting of the Central Advisory Board on Education which, interalia, discussed the Yashpal Committee Report; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to implement the action plan in this regard in the schools of the Central Government and State Governments?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b). In the 50th meeting of the CABE held on 2.3.94, States expressed their broad agreement with the recommendations of Yash Pal Committee. The consensus of such views has been identified and States would be advised of this. Implementation in the school system directly under the control of the Central Government will be ensured by the Central Organisations. Since most of the schools are under the control of the State Governments, implementation of the recommendations of the Yash Pal Committee rests with the State Governments.

New Computer System

242. SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have developed a new computer system for translation of English language into other Indian languages which would facilitate day-to-day working of the Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said computer system is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Financial Assistance to Sugar Mills

243. SHRI NITISH KUMAR: SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards the newsitem captioned "Awry sugar production Estimate led to spiral" 207 Written Answers

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appearing in daily `Pioneer' dated May 28, 1994;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the Government had provided several facilities during 1992 in the form of financial assistance to the sugar mills to raise their production;

(d) if so, the result achieved so far in this regard; and

(e) the amount of additional financial assistance likely to be received by the sugar producers, per quintal, as a result of this financial assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). The Sugar Industry is an agro based Industry and the production of sugar depends upon various factors such as weather conditions. drought/flood, diversion of cane to other sweetening agents, etc. It is true that initially the sugar factories had estimated a higher sugar production during the current 1993-94 season. However, the actual sugar production during 1993-94 season is now expected to be of the order of 96 lakh tonnes. This fall in production could be attributed to the heavy diversion of cane to gur and khandsari sectors in Uttar Pradesh and also due to the fall in sugarcane and sugar production in the major producing State of Maharashtra.

(c) and (d). Government provides loans at a concessional rate of interest and easy re-payment terms to sugar factories from the Sugar Development Fund for sugarcane development schemes and also for rehabilitation and modernisation of its plant and machinery. During the year 1992-93, loans amounting to Rs.109.85 lakhs were disbursed to various sugar factories for this purpose. Since, there are other several factors such as agroclimatic conditions etc. which determine production, the impact of loans from the Sugar Development Fund cannot be quantified.

(e) The financial assistance likely to be provided from the Sugar Development Fund in future would depend upon the number of applications received from Sugar factories.

[English]

Natural Calamity Fund

244. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments have requested the Union Government to raise the Central share of Natural Calamities such as floods, drought and freak tomados, hail storms etc. in the States in the recent years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) to (c). The existing Scheme of Financing Relief Expenditure in the wake of natural calamities including allocation of Calamity Relief Fund is based on the recommendations of the IX Finance Commission. The X Finance Commission is reviewing the present scheme. Most of the State Government have represented to the X Finance Commission for enhancing the allocation under the Calamity Relief Fund. The Commission will consider the demand of the State Governments while finalising its recommendations.