

(b) if so, whether Agriculture and Processed Food Export Development Authority has estimated that export of wheat at the rate of less than 160 Dollars per tonne is not economically remunerative;

(c) whether the Government had examined the above estimate of the Authority before the decision for export was taken;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(e) the price at which the Indian wheat is likely to be sold in the International Market?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) and (e). In view of the comfortable stock position of foodgrains in the Central Pool, Government has authorised FCI to export/sell for the purpose of export wheat upto 2.5 million tonnes (within the export ceiling of 2.5 million tonnes) and rice (fine and superfine) upto 2.0 million tonnes during 1995-96 at prices as may be decided by the High Level Committee constituted for this purpose from time to time.

(b) No, Sir. No minimum export price has been fixed and it is allowed for export on price as mutually agreed between the buyer and seller.

(c) and (d). Do not arise in view of the reply to part (b).

[English]

#### Introduction of Train

6836. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce Shatabdi type of train between Bangalore and Hyderabad;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) There is no proposal at present.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Operational and resource constraints.

#### Railway Land

6837. SHRI RAM KAPSE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal to provide piece of Railway land at Thane East Kopri to the Thane Municipal Transport Undertaking for setting up a Bus Terminus;

(b) if so, the present status of the proposal; and

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Thane Municipal Transport Undertaking has already been advised that the piece of railway land at Thane cannot be spared for setting up a Bus Terminus, as this land is required for Railway's own development works.

[Translation]

#### Agricultural Price and Procurement Policy

6838. SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the role of Agricultural Price and Procurement Policy in increasing the agricultural production and income of the farmers;

(b) whether the Union Government propose to review this policy; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) The Agricultural Price Policy aims at ensuring remunerative prices to the growers for their produce with a view to encourage higher investment and production. This policy has resulted in increasing the production of agricultural commodities in the desired direction. The increased production has obviously led to higher income of the farmers.

(b) and (c). The Policy is kept under constant review and corrective measures, wherever necessary, are taken.

#### Railway Line

6839. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR :

SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Railway Lines in Maharashtra and Gujarat for which survey work is being conducted or proposed to be conducted during the financial year 1995-96; and

(b) the date fixed for the completion of the survey work?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) and (b). The details are as under :

Name of the Survey	Targetted date for Completion
<b>SURVEYS IN PROGRESS</b>	
1. Reconnaissance survey for new line from Dhule to Nardana.	December, 1995
2. Survey for doubling of Bhigwan-Gulbarga section.	December, 1996
3. Diva Jn. to Kalyan Jn.-Survey for additional line from Up side.	December, 1995
4. Preliminary Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey for Warora-Umrer via Chimur new rail line.	March, 1996
5. Preliminary Engineering-Cum-Traffic Survey for third and fourth lines between Virar and Ahmedabad.	December, 1995
6. Reconnaissance Preliminary Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey for conversion of Bhavnagar-Surendranagar MG line into BG and extension of converted line from Bhavnagar to Pipavav via Alang.	June, 1997
7. Survey for connecting Gandhinagar on main line between Ahmedabad-Delhi.	June, 1996
8. Survey for Bandra-Kurla rail link.	Survey Report has since been received.
9. Construction of a Rail-cum-Road bridge across the Gulf of Cambay.	June, 1996
<b>NEW SURVEYS</b>	
1. Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey for conversion of Dhrangadhra-Kuda Salt siding MG to BG.	June, 1996

[English]

#### **Import of Sugar**

6840. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA :  
SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :  
SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government's decision to import sugar has been opposed from certain quarters;

(b) if so, the reason for importing sugar and the objections raised over the decision;

(c) whether the Government are reconsidering their decision to import sugar;

(d) whether it was necessary to import sugar at higher price; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) to (e). With a view to ensure adequate availability of sugar, the State Trading Corporation of India Ltd. (STC) and the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Ltd. (MMTC), have entered into forward contracts for import of about 4.05 lakh tonnes of sugar.

The National Federation of Cooperative Sugar Factories Ltd. (NFCSF) and the Indian Sugar Mills Association (ISMA) in their joint representation dated 17th May, 1995 have requested that in view of the record sugar production and consequent large available surplus stocks of domestic sugar during the current season. The aforesaid contracts for import of sugar should be cancelled immediately.

The Government is monitoring and reviewing the situation from time to time with a view to taking the appropriate decision as and when it becomes necessary.

[Translation]

#### **Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991**

6841. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991 has been passed with a view to compulsorily provide insurance facility to the factories using hazardous materials;

(b) if so, the number of factories which were provided with insurance facility under this Act during the last year; and

(c) the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) The Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991 has been passed with a view to make owners handling notified hazardous chemicals liable to pay prescribed amount of immediate relief to the victims in the event of a chemical accident in their installations. The owner is required to take an insurance policy for paying this relief to victims of the public.

(b) and (c). Till last year 3076 policies have been issued and Rs. 8,58,38,033 has been collected as premium. It has been reported that Rs. 16,000 have been given as immediate relief against claims in six cases of chemical accidents.