

(f) The Railways portion of the work, the bridge across the Railway tracks, will be completed alongwith the completion of approaches by the State Government.

[English]

Prices of Kabli Gram

2090. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been steep hike in the prices of Kabli Gram during 1994 and 1995 as compared to the previous years;

(b) if so, the details of comparative chart of prices ruling of this commodity during 1994 and 1995 from

Range of wholesale prices year-wise	Name of Centres/States		
	Bihar/Patna	Bombay/Maharashtra	Delhi
1992	1000-1300	1150-1350 (Rs. Per Quntinal)	1000-1500
1993	1250-1350	1150-1350	1250-1525
1994	1300-1400	1000-2150	1400-2450
1995 (Jan-March)	1600-2200	2150-2300	2700-2800

The sharp rise in prices of Kabli Gram may be attributed mainly to relatively short supply besides factors associated with general increase in prices.

(c) and (d). There has been only a modest increase in the wholesale price index of the pulses in the current year as compared to previous years. This may be attributed to relatively slow growth in production of pulses, general increase in prices and increase in demand due to increase in population and per capita income.

(e) In order to increase the production of pulses to meet the domestic demand, a Centrally Sponsored National Pulses Development Programme (NPDP) is under implementation in various State. To augment the supply of pulses, import of pulses is being allowed freely with duty of 10 per cent only.

Allocation of Essential Commodities

2091. SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity and value of foodgrains edible oils and kerosene oil allotted for advance storage during the last two years under rationing system in the inaccessible tribal areas of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the total quantity of the goods in question actually received by the State Government and the quantity stored in these inaccessible areas;

(c) the quantity of these stored goods distributed in such areas in the rainy season and also the quantity of

time to time; indicating the prices ruling in 1992 and 1993 with the reasons for the steep hike;

(c) whether the prices of many pulses have also risen sharply as compared to previous years;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to bring down the prices of the Kabli Gram and other pulses in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The range of wholesale prices of Kabli Gram at selected centres for the years from 1992 to 1995 is given in the following statement:

goods that perished and had gone waste as well as quantity of goods distributed after the rainy season; and

(d) the details of the value and expenditure of transportation of such un-distributed perished goods to these inaccessible areas?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Hoarded Stock of Sugar

2092. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :
SHRI RAJESH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have formulated any multifarious action plan to bring the hoarded stock of sugar in the open market;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) The primary responsibility for curbing malpractices like hoarding, blackmarketing, etc. lies with the State Governments under the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and various regulatory orders issued thereunder.

(b) The Central Government on its part had taken various policy decisions to prevent hoarding of sugar. These include :