

(b) Yes, Sir. The retail issue price of levy sugar for distribution through Public Distribution System has been varying from 3.75 per kg. to Rs. 9.05 per kg. as indicated below :

Date From which effective	Retail Issue Price Sugar for P.D.S. (Rs. per Kg.)
1-12-1982	3.75
1-2-1984	4.00
1-4-1985	4.40
1-12-1985	4.80
15-12-1986	4.85
1-1-1988	5.10
1-1-1989	5.25
24-7-1991	6.10
21-1-1992	6.90
17-2-1993	8.30
1-2-1994	9.05

(c) Molasses and press mud are by-products of the Sugar Industry. While Molasses is used as raw material for the manufacturer of alcohol, Press mud is used as manure and is usually given to the farmers free of cost by most of the factories. As per the information received from 171 sugar factories, the average realisation of Molasses during the period 1-10-1994 to 31-7-1995 was in the range of Rs. 47.10 to Rs. 244.27 per quintal.

(d) The Government does not maintain profit and loss accounts in respect of sugar mills. The profitability or otherwise of sugar mills depends upon a variety of factors such as size, age and condition of plant and machinery, technical and managerial competence etc.

EXPORT OF RICE

1415. **Shri Sobhanadreeswara Rao Vadde** : Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that there are no takers for Indian Rice abroad despite the low price;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

The Minister of Food (Shri Ajit Singh) : (a) to (c)

During the period April-August, 1995 a total quantity of 14,56,276 Metric Tonnes of rice (Basmati and non-Basmati) valued at Rs. 1186.74 crores has been exported.

FUNDS FOR FRUITS PLANTATION

1416. **Shri Sudhir Sawant** : Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has given priority to Horticulture during 1995-96;

(b) if so, the details of assistance made available to Maharashtra for fruit Plantation;

(c) whether priority is given to Alphonso Mango in Konkan;

(d) if so, the details of programmes being implemented in this regard;

(e) whether any research is being conducted in Deogad Alphonso; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri Arvind Netam) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Government of India is implementing a scheme on 'Integrated Development of Fruits' under which assistance is given to Maharashtra for establishment of fruit nurseries, area expansion and improving productivity of fruit crops, training and demonstration of improved technology etc. with an outlay of Rs. 119.83 lakhs during 1995-96. Besides Government of Maharashtra under Employment Guarantee Scheme linked horticulture development programme is providing assistance wherein average area covered under various fruit crops each year is 98,400 ha. which includes Alphonso Mango in Konkan area also.

(e) to (f) The All India Coordinated Research Project Centre on Sub-Tropical Fruits located at Vengurla in Konkan Region of Maharashtra is conducting researches different aspects of Alphonso Mango. The centre has already standardised propagation technique and induction of flowering by Paclobtrazol. The centre has also released seedless mango known as Sindhu.

FOODGRAINS PRODUCTION

1417. **Shri M.V.V.S. Murthy** :
Shri Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi :

Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) whether the government feel that Rabi production for 1995-96 fixed at 84.5 tonnes is likely to exceed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether State Governments have been asked to release the unspent balance from the Crop Production Oriented Schemes; and

(d) whether the government had received reports from all the States in regard to the Rabi targets?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri Arvind Netam) : (a) and (b) The Rabi production for 1995-96 may exceed the target of 84.5 million tonnes and the likely production during the current year may be of the order of last year i.e. about 90 million tonnes.

(c) All the State Governments implementing various crop production oriented schemes have been permitted to utilise the unspent balances available with them.

(d) All the states provided Rabi production targets during the National Conference on Agriculture for Rabi Campaign 1995-96 held on 27th and 28th September, 1995.

"NOISE POLLUTION"

1418. **Shri Rajendra Agnihotri :** Will the Minister of Environment and Forests be pleased to state :

(a) whether traffic noise in large cities poses a threat to the human health and hearing and causes both physical and mental stress;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted recently and if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) the specific steps taken so far in controlling Noise Pollution of the vehicles;

(d) whether the use of pressure horns have been banned in the major cities, and

(e) if so, the number of prosecutions made against violating the ban especially by the buses in the country?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (Shri Rajesh Pilot) : (a) and (b) High levels of traffic noise are a hazard which may lead to adverse effects on human health, hearing and can cause stress. A survey was conducted at Bhopal, Ahmedabad, Aurangabad, Coimbatore and Mangalore by Central Pollution Control Board during 1993-94. The results of the survey revealed that noise levels at Bhopal in commercial zones exceeded the norms whereas in Ahmedabad, the noise levels in residential, commercial areas and sensitive zones were more than the prescribed norms most of the day time. The position with respect to noise pollution in Aurangabad was found to be relatively better but at

Coimbatore, the noise levels were found more than the permissible limits in residential, commercial areas and silence zones. The noise levels at most of the places in Mangalore were also found to be more than the prescribed limits.

(c) to (e) The standards for noise levels or different areas such as industrial, commercial, residential and silence zones have been notified. Noise limits for the automobiles at the manufacturing stage have also been notified. The use of pressure horn has been banned since 1989, under the Motor Vehicles Act. During the year till 15 November, 1995, one lakh nine thousand prosecutions, including those of bus drivers for using pressure horns, have been made by the traffic Police in Delhi. The information for the rest of the country is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

KRISHI VIGYAN KENDRAS

1419. **Shri Sarat Pattanayak :**
Shri Mullapally Ramchandran :

Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state, the location-wise details of the Krishi Vigyan Kendras likely to be opened during the year 1995-96 and 1996-97?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri Ayub Khan) : (A) Details of the KVKs established in 1995-96 :

1. Kinnaur	(H.P.)
2. Shimla	(H.P.)
3. Cherrapunjee	(Meghalaya)
4. North Tripura	(Tripura)
5. Vishakhapatnam	(A.P.)
6. West Godawari	(A.P.)
7. Amaravati	(M.S.)
8. Sindhudurg	(M.S.)
9. Yavatmal	(M.S.)
10. Tanjavur	(T.N.)
11. Chidambarnar	(T.N.)
12. Warangal	(A.P.)
13. Jhunjhunu	(Rajasthan)
