

(b) some reports have been received regarding malpractices in release of wheat from certain areas.

(c) Preliminary investigation made by the FCI Vigilance Squad had revealed that during June, 1996, 22,500 MTs. of wheat were allotted to Karnal District (Haryana) for open sale. Out of this, release orders for 14,775 MTs were issued till 6.6.1996. On 7.9.1996, 102 parties had deposited the Demand Drafts together. Investigations have revealed that the Principle of "First-come-First Served" was not followed by the officials of FCI District Office, Karnal. It was also made out that the officials had issued the release orders even in the back date to 18 parties without any specific approval of District Manager, who was, the competent authority. The Police Authorities registered a case against the erring officials. During the course of the raids at houses of some of the FCI officials, authorities seized some cash and bearer cheques. Two FCI officials were taken into custody. Five officers/officials have been placed under suspension including one category I officer. The State Govt. has handed over the case to CBI. The report from the CBI is still awaited.

In an earlier case, the State Vigilance Department raided the District Office, Rohtak (Haryana) on the basis of a complaint. During the course of this raid, currency notes were reported to have been recovered from the residence of some FCI officials. In this case four officials were placed under suspension. FIR has been registered by the Police on 31st January, 1996.

(d) and (e). The question of conducting enquiry into all the permits for release of wheat stocks in Punjab and Haryana, in general, is not considered necessary.

(f) and (g). Revised guidelines with a view to further check malpractices in open sale of wheat have been issued on 26.8.1996. They include allotment by a three member committee at the FCI Region level on proper identification of the intending purchasers. The quantity to be sold to one purchaser in a month has also been reduced.

(h) to (j). Details are given in reply to part (c) above.

[Translation]

#### **Sugar Mills**

3297. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the total demand of sugar in the country during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) whether licenses have been given to sugar mills accordingly;

(c) if so, the total number of sugar mills granted licenses during the above plan period, State/Union territory-wise;

(d) whether above sugar mills have been started production as per schedule;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) The total internal consumption of sugar during the 7th Plan period from 1985-86 to 1989-90 (October-September) was 466.63 lakh tonnes.

(b) and (c). 103 letters of intent were issued for the establishment of new sugar factories during the 7th Plan period (1985-90). The State-wise breakup is as under:-

S.No.	State	No. of letters of intent
1.	Tamil Nadu	12
2.	Maharashtra	36
3.	Uttar Pradesh	20
4.	Punjab	5
5.	Karnataka	5
6.	Gujarat	8
7.	Andhra Pradesh	6
8.	Orissa	5
9.	Haryana	3
10.	Dadra Nagar Haveli	1
11.	Madhya Pradesh	2
Total :		103

(d) to (f). Out of the 103 letters of intent issued for establishment of new sugar mills during the 7th Five Year Plan, 48 have been implemented upto 31.7.96. 11 letters of intent have been treated as lapsed as the entrepreneurs did not make any satisfactory progress. The remaining letters of intent are under various stages of implementation. Government is monitoring the progress of their implementation.

#### **S.T.D. facility in Madhya Pradesh**

3298. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state: