

gramme based on their perception about what kind of programme would be topical and appropriate.

[*Translation*]

### Price Paid for Food-Grains by FCI

1160. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any difference between the cost of production of the food-grains and the procurement price of the same paid by the Food Corporation of India; if so, the percentage thereof;

(b) whether there is any proposal to reduce the said difference for giving full benefit of the subsidy to the consumers; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the proposal is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) The procurement/minimum support prices (MSP) of foodgrains are fixed by Government on the basis of report/recommendation of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP). The cost of production of foodgrains which is one of the various important factors considered by CACP in formulation of its recommendations for fixation of MSP, varies from State to State. The minimum support prices which cover not only the cost of production but also a reasonable return to the farmer are uniform throughout the country. Since the data on cost of production collected under the Comprehensive Scheme for studying the cost of cultivation of principal crops become available with a time lag, projected estimates of cost of production for some of the important States for which data are available, are considered by CACP in formulating its price policy recommendations. It is not practicable to quantify the percentage difference between the cost

of production and the minimum support prices fixed for the above reasons.

(b) The Central issue prices of foodgrains (ex-FCI godown) are kept below the economic cost of foodgrains incurred by FCI so as to make the foodgrains available to the vulnerable sections of the society at reasonable prices and subsidy is borne by Government on this account. FCI has reported that the consumer, subsidy on rice, wheat and coarsegrains in 1990-91 (R.E.) was Rs. 109.03, Rs. 104.54 and Rs. 84.15 per quintal respectively.

Since the consumer subsidy commences after payment of MSP/procurement prices to the farmers and is decided on entirely different considerations, there is no question of giving any benefit to the consumers of the difference between the cost of production of foodgrains and the procurement/minimum support price.

(c) Does not arise.

### Industrial Sickness in Rajasthan

1161. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is large scale industrial sickness in Rajasthan; if so, the details thereof;

(b) the main causes thereof; and

(c) the details of guidelines being issued and resources being made available by the Union Government to the State Government to overcome industrial sickness?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) Data on sick industrial units assisted by the banks in the country is being collected by the Reserve Bank of India. As per the latest information available from Reserve Bank of India, in Rajasthan State, there are 11,063 sick units in the SSI sector and 45 sick