

issued under this scheme, which covers around 106 lakh families.

(c) The total subsidy borne by the State Government was Rs. 368.5 crores in 1990-91 and is estimated at about Rs. 523 crores in the year 1991-92.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Procurement of Foodgrains for Central Pool

166. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have launched a concerted and determined drive during the harvest season to procure the "Maximum possible" food-grains for the Central Pool so that the Government can effectively intervene as a market force during the lean months to check the rise in prices of essential commodities;

(b) if so, whether all the States and Union Territories had been advised to procure maximum foodgrains for the Central Pool; sufficient stocks of foodgrains;

(c) if so, whether the Union Government is keen on having sufficient stocks of food grains;

(d) the efforts being made by both Union and States to procure food-grains for the Central pool; and

(e) if so, the quantum so far procured and the target fixed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Due to less and scanty rain-fall during the monsoon season of 1990-91 and consequent apprehended loss in Kharif production to some extent, all efforts have been made in the Food Ministry of maximise procurement of Kharif foodgrains. Before the commencement of the procurement season, a meeting of State Food Secretaries was held and Union Food Secretary emphasised the need to take all steps to maximise procurement. States were also exhorted to reach certain levels in respect of procurement of paddy and levy rice. Stress was also laid on procurement of paddy, especially in large paddy producing States like Orissa, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar, where procurement of paddy can be increased if a larger number of agencies are involved and price support operations are extended in far flung and interior areas. Food Corporation of India has also made all necessary arrangements to make the procurement drive a success by ensuring credit availability, availability of gunny bags, quick transportation of foodgrains etc.

(e) As the sale of foodgrains by the farmers to the Central Pool is voluntary and the farmer is free to sell their produce on prices higher than the minimum support price if he is able to get it, it is not really feasible to lay down any targets. The procurement of rice, including paddy in terms of rice, has no targets. The procurement of rice, 32.45 lakh tonnes till 15th November, 1991 during the current kharif marketing season 1991-92.

Setting up of Industries by Foreign Industrial Units

167. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:
SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR
PATEL:
SHRI RABI RAY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state: