

sive Crop Insurance Scheme for covering wheat, paddy, millets, pulses and oilseeds has been finalised recently. The scheme will be extended to all States and U.Ts. which signify their consent. The scheme will cover all loanee farmers taking loans either from Cooperative Banks or Commercial Banks in respect of these crops. The scheme will come into operation from Kharif 1985 and will be implemented by the General Insurance Corporation of India in collaboration with the State Governments/U.Ts.

(b) A meeting between the Union Government and the State Governments/U.Ts. was held on 1.5.1985 in which the modalities of the implementation of the scheme from Kharif 1985 were fully gone into

**Price of Rice Sold at Fair Price
Shops in West Bengal**

5355. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state the price at which rice was sold to West Bengal (per kg.) by the Centre in 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85 and the quantity thereof during each of those years ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): Rice is sold to all State Governments including West Bengal at a uniform issue price, which was Rs. 188/-, Rs. 200/- and Rs. 215/- per quintal for common, fine and superfine varieties respectively, w.e.f. 1-10-1982, and Rs. 208/-, Rs. 220/- and Rs. 235/- per quintal for these varieties, respectively w.e.f. 16-1-1984.

The off-take of rice in West Bengal during the last three years has been :

(In '000 tonnes)

1982-83	...	1592.5
1983-84	...	1290.5
1984-85	...	869.6
		(Provisional)

Fixing Procurement Points for Sugarcane

5356. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Government have fixed three different points in Uttar Pradesh to procure sugarcane;

(b) whether the farmers of Maharashtra have also requested Central Government to fix up three different points in Maharashtra as in U.P. to procure sugarcane; and

(c) if so, by when the same system is likely to be introduced in Maharashtra ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Diversification of Food Processing Industry

5357. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has urged the food processing industry to diversify into new fields;

(b) if so details of guidelines issued by the Government in this regard; and

(c) to what extent the food processing industry will be benefited ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) to (c). The Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies has not issued any instructions/guidelines in this regard.

Decline in Groundnut Yield in Saurashtra

5358. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE