

ment to provide sufficient assistance to those who are living in slums ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN- TARY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) :
(a) The Central Government have provided necessary guidelines to the State Governments for environmental improvement of urban slums.

(b) The emphasis of the Government policy is on environmental improvement of slums on site rather than their massive relocation. Under the State sector scheme of Environmental Improvement of Urban Slums, the guidelines for which have been provided by the Central Government, basic amenities like drinking water supply, sewers and storm water drains, paving of pathways, street lighting and community baths and latrines etc. are provided in identified slums. The per capita cost of improvement was raised from Rs. 150 to Rs. 250 with effect from 1.4.1984.

Since the progress of implementation of the scheme was not very satisfactory during the first three years of the Sixth Plan, Central incentive grants were provided to States during the last two years of the Plan for additional coverage of slum dwellers. The modalities of implementation of the Scheme during 7th Five Year Plan have not been finalised.

Relaxation in forward Trading in Agri- cultural Produce

3111. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the names of agricultural commodities in which forward trading restrictions have been relaxed during the last five years ;

(b) the reasons for not giving the same relaxation to forward trading in cotton ; and

(c) the time by which the appeals made by the trade in this regard will be considered.

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) Futures trading has been resumed in gur with effect from 5.4.1982. Trading in the non-transferable specific delivery contracts in groundnut and groundnut oil has been permitted with effect from 26.11.1983. Ban on futures trading in castorseed has been lifted with effect from 16.4.1985. Futures trading in potatoes has been allowed with effect from 15.5.85.

(b) and (c) Facility for trading in the non-transferable specific delivery contracts in Cotton is available through 10 associations situated at Bombay, Bhatinda, Ujjain, Indore, Ahmedabad, Surat, Broach, Surendranagar, Coimbatore and Guntur since April 1973.

Remunerative Prices for Sugar-cane to Farmers

3112. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the sugar production in the country will continue to decline unless the farmers are given remunerative prices for sugarcane ; and

(b) if so, the steps Government are considering to ensure remunerative prices to growers ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b) Sugarcane availability is the major factor having a bearing on sugar production and the prices received by the growers is one of the factors affecting availability. Consequently, in the fixation of the statutory minimum price of sugarcane payable by sugar factories, under the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966, due regard is given to the following :

(i) the cost of production of sugarcane ;

(ii) the return to the grower from alternative crops and the general

trend of prices of agricultural commodities ;

- (iii) the availability of sugar to the consumer at a fair price ;
- (iv) the price at which sugar produced from sugarcane is sold by producers of sugar ; and
- (v) the recovery of sugar from sugarcane.

In actual practice, however, the growers have generally been getting prices much higher than the statutory minimum, under the advice of the State Governments or as a result of the operation of the Bhargava Sharing Formula enshrined in the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966.

Wage Boards for Newspaper and Sugar Industries

3113. SHRI B.V. DESAI :
SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN :
SHRIMATI USHA CHAUDHARI :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government announced the appointment of statutory wage boards for employees of Newspaper industry and for sugar industry ;

(b) if so, whether Government are in favour of the Wage Board approach to settle emoluments of employees in all industries ;

(c) the time by which the two Boards are likely to submit their reports ; and

(d) by what time Government are likely to implement their recommendations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) : (a) Two Statutory Wage Boards: one for working journalists and the other for non-journalist employees of newspaper industry have been set up on 17th July,

1985. A third Wage Board, which is non-statutory, has been set up on 17th July, 1985, for the workers of Sugar Industry.

(b) Government are of the view that collective bargaining should continue to govern industrial relations, but wherever necessary wage boards would be established for protection of workers' interests and maintenance of industrial peace.

(c) and (d) The term of all the three Wage Boards is one year. Government will take necessary decisions upon receipt of the award of the Boards.

Request from Maharashtra for Revision of Incentive Scheme to new Sugar Mills

3115. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHEPATIL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the incentives to be given to new sugar mills recommended by the Samprth Committee have become ineffective because of difference between the free sale price and levy price as also difference in their excise duty ;

(b) whether the finalising of the levy free quota is often delayed causing difficulty to the beneficiaries ;

(c) whether Government of Maharashtra have requested the Central Government to revise the incentive scheme to get over the above difficulties ; and

(d) when this request was received and the time by which a decision will be taken ?

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

(b) No, Sir. Immediately after receipt of incentive claims, froms new sugar factories, in the prescribed proforma containing full relevent data, provisional assessment of entitlement is made and incentive benefits allowed on provisional basis which are slightly lower than the