

Ex-MPs may be increased from present maximum of Rs. 500/- per month to Rs. 750/- per month; and

(ii) Provision of facility of four journeys by rail, by first class from usual place of residence of ex-MP to Delhi and back in a year. These recommendations are under consideration of the Government.

#### Arrears in Payment to Sugarcane Growers

93. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether huge arrears are outstanding against the sugar mills payable to the sugarcane growers;

(b) if so, the State-wise details of the outstanding amount; and

(c) the action taken by Government to ensure that payments of these outstanding amounts are made ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b). State-wise position of sugarcane price remaining unpaid by sugar mills as on 30.11.1984 for the 1984-85 and earlier seasons is given in the statement attached.

(c) Ensuring payment of cane price arrears is the direct responsibility of the

State Governments, who have the necessary field organisations and powers to enforce such payments. The Central Government monitors the position and issues directions to State Governments, from time to time, for expeditious clearance of cane price arrears. The State Governments have been advised recently to keep a watch on cane price payments from the beginning of the season itself.

The Central Government, on its part, has been taking steps aimed at improving the liquidity of the industry to enable it to pay the cane dues. The steps taken over the last 2-3 years include liberalisation of bank credit facilities, reduction in bank margins on credit against sugar stocks, change in the method of valuation of sugar stocks to the benefit of the industry, judicious monthly releases of free-sale sugar for maintaining desired level of prices, creation of buffer stocks against which industry was entitled to 100% credit in addition to holding costs, etc. Besides, ways and means advances have also been granted to a few States in the context of high cane price arrears in those States.

As a result, for the 1983-84 season only about 2.6% of the cane price remains to be cleared, as on 30.11.1984.

Arrears in the earlier part of the season, when crushing is in full swing, tend to be high. However, as the season tapers off, the outstanding payments start getting liquidated faster.

#### Statement

*Statement showing the State-wise position of cane price payable, price paid and balance outstanding for cane purchased during 1984-85 season upto 30.11.84 as well as the earlier years' arrears of cane price, as on 30.11.84*

(Figures in Lakh/Rupees)

Sl. No.	State	Total price payable for cane purchased during 1984-85 season upto 30-11-84	Cane price paid upto 30-11-84	Balance cane price payable as on 30-11-84	Arrears of cane price as on 30-11-84 or the latest available date	
					1983-84 season	1982-83 and earlier seasons
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	144.75	18.51	126.24	0.18	158.57

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2. Assam		—	—	—	1.28	0.30
3. Bihar		—	—	—	1285.81	405.26
4. Goa		—	—	—	—	—
5. Gujarat		481.79	330.03	151.76	70.39	136.82
6. Haryana		198.62	26.51	172.11	0.12	0.24
7. Karanataka		1455.45	604.55	850.90	99.67	66.61
8. Kerala		1.99	1.99	—	0.12	41.08
9. Madhya Pradesh		—	—	—	8.87	16.76
10. Maharashtra		3407.85	983.83	2424.02	94.82	126.31
11. Nagaland		—	—	—	—	27.24
12. Orissa		—	—	—	0.50	0.30
13. Pondicherry		—	—	—	0.04	1.44
14. Punjab		511.22	152.85	358.37	0.91	0.57
15. Rajasthan		—	—	—	4.04	0.07
16. Tamil Nadu		155.63	78.45	77.18	0.33	30.07
17. (i) U.P. (West)		1326.98	349.08	977.90	3.23	25.03
(ii) U.P. (Central)		603.03	92.14	510.89	15.30	260.23
(iii) U.P. (East)		115.29	—	115.29	312.88	40.17
(iv) U.P. (Total)		2045.30	441.22	1604.08	331.41	325.43
18. West Bengal		—	—	—	1.86	20.08
ALL INDIA		8402.60	2637.94	5764.66	1900.35	1357.15

NOTES :—1. This does not include information in respect of 28 factories which have not furnished figures for 1984-85 season.

2. As per the provision in the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966, the payment of cane price has to be made within 14 days of delivery of cane. The figures in col. 5 include amount which have not yet become overdue, i.e., the price of cane purchased in the previous fortnight.

#### Closure of Sugar Mills

94. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV :  
Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether many sugar mills in the country are still lying closed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the causes of closure of these mills; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to get them reopened and the results achieved thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b). Out of installed

sugar mills, reports of commencement of production, during the current sugar year have not been received from 43 mills. It is possible that some of these mills may be starting soon or may have already started and the position is known only when the mills send reports under statutory provisions of commencement of production. However, as per reports received 296 mills were in production on 15-1-1985.

(c) and (d). It is the responsibility of the State Governments to ensure that sugar mills commence cane crushing for any sugar season timely. Non-availability of cane, financial and labour problems are generally the reasons for which mills remain closed.

[*English*]

#### Kharif Production

95. SHRI KAMAL NATH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether kharif crops in 1984 was satisfactory;

(b) what has been the production of rice and other products in that crop;

(c) whether there is any proposal to export rice or other produce of the kharif crop; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) and (b). Final estimates of production of kharif crops for 1984 have not yet become due from the States.

(c) and (d). Under the current export policy, only basmati rice is allowed for export under the open General Licence. Export of non-basmati rice is not allowed. Export of bajra is canalised through NAFED within a ceiling and within the overall canalisation policy, private parties are also allowed to export bajra subject to certain conditions. Export of maize is also allowed within a limited ceiling. Proposals to export agricultural

commodities are reviewed from time to time in the light of the crop size and surplus available within the country.

#### Recommendation of Lokur Committee Regarding Charges for Peripheral Services

96. SHRI KAMAL NATH : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to refer to the reply given to part (a) of the Unstarred Question No. 3209 on 13 August, 1984 regarding recommendation of Lokur Committee regarding charges for peripheral services and state :

(a) whether Government have referred the recommendations of the Lokur Committee to the Attorney General of India;

(b) if so, his opinion thereon; and

(c) whether the requisite information referred to in part (b) of the above mentioned reply has since been collected ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOR) : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes.

#### Impact of Late Crushing of Sugarcane on the Sugar Price

97. SHRI KAMAL NATH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether crushing of sugarcane started late in this crushing season as compared to last year;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether it will have any impact on the production and price of sugar; and

(d) what is the estimate of sugar production for the current season ?

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