

Purchase and Sale Price of Gowar Seeds

3037. SHRI HET RAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that farmers have to purchase the Gowar Seeds at much high rates and sell the crop at lower rate thereby incurring heavy loss;

(b) if so, the reasons for wide variation in the prices of Gowar at the time of the sowing and at the time of harvest; and

(c) the steps contemplated by Government to avoid the loss being suffered by the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir, Generally the crop production rates are governed on demand and supply principle. In case of production of seed the extra expenditure is incurred on grading, certification, handling, storage, packing, transportation etc. which increase the prices of seed. The prices of grain is always lower in every crop and gowar is no exception to it. The gowar crop is normally sown under rainfed conditions. During the year 1987 the gowar crop was severely affected due to severe drought condition that prevailed in the country. During Kharif 1988 monsoon was quite favourable and demand of Gowar seed increased very much. This situation therefore, led to the increase of the prices of Gowar seed at the time of sowing. The continuation of good monsoon during 1988 has resulted to good production of gowar crop and therefore, there was a wide variation in the prices of Gowar at the time of sowing and at the time of sowing and harvesting.

(c) Question does not arise.

Development of Iron Ore Mines in Orissa

3038. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of iron ore mines in Orissa have been declared sick;

(b) if so, the number of those mines both in public and private sectors respectively;

(c) the reasons for the sickness of those mines;

(d) the steps taken to develop and revive those mines during the last three years;

(e) whether any-anti-pollution measures have been taken in working iron ore mines in Orissa and if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) to (f). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Anti-Pollution Vessels for Major Ports

3039. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI:
SHRI HARIHAR SOREN:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to deploy anti-pollution vessels in major ports;

(b) if so, whether such vessels are being imported;

(c) if so, the number thereof including their cost and the country from which they are to be imported; and

(d) the ports where such vessels are likely to be deployed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (d). There is a provision in the Annual Plan of 1989-90 for purchase of 10 anti-pollution vessels for the Major Ports of Madras, Bombay, Cochin,