

**Changes in Price of Milk by Delhi Milk Scheme**

9499. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARASTE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of times the Delhi Milk Scheme revised the rates of its products during last one year ending 31st March, 1978;

(b) the justification of this increase in price by DMS each time; and

(c) the steps taken to bring the cost of production of DMS products down and win confidence of the people?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) During the last one year ending 31-3-1978 D.M.S. revised the prices of only two products viz. ghee and butter out of a wide range of products only once i.e. of ghee on 3-11-77 and that of butter on 3-3-78.

(b) The prices of ghee and butter, were increased for the following reasons:

(i) Increase in the prices of raw milk which is the main ingredient in the manufacture of these products;

(ii) Increase in excise duty as a result of Finance Bill.

(c) About 98 per cent of the total expenditure is operational and is influenced by market trends of raw materials, stores and other services. The administrative over-heads are about 2 per cent and the scope of their reduction is limited. However, Government have recently reconstituted the Management Committee of D.M.S. with a view to improving its operational efficiency. The proposal for conversion of D.M.S. into a Statutory Corporation so as to improve its functioning is also under consideration.

**Closure of Khandsari Units in Gujarat**

9500. SHRI C. R. MAHATA:

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have received a notice that Khandsari units in Gujarat would be closed down from 23rd April, 1978 and launch a 'No tax' campaign; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and the action taken so far or proposed to be taken by the Government to meet their demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PATAP SINGH): (a) and (b). A report has been called for from the Government of Gujarat and the same will be placed on the Table of the Sabha on receipt.

**बिहार में लघु सिंचाई योजनाएं**

9501. श्री हुकम देव नारायण यादव : क्या कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या बिहार में, जहां पर नदियों की बहुतायत है, यदि किसानों को लघु सिंचाई योजनाओं के अधीन सिंचाई सुविधाएं उपलब्ध कराई जायें तो उन्हें काफी लाभ हो सकता है ;

(ख) बिहार में छोटी और बड़ी नदियों की कुल संख्या कितनी है और उनकी लम्बाई किलोमीटरों में, कितनी है ; और

(ग) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार का विचार इन नदियों का सर्वेक्षण कराने और बिहार सरकार के साथ सहयोग करके उपरोक्त योजनाओं को क्रियान्वित करने का है और यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?