

(b) and (c). No distinction is made between Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes employees and other employees in the matter of ad hoc allotment. As such, no separate information is maintained about ad hoc allotments made to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes employees.

Frog cultivation in Orissa

9820. SHRI PADMACHARAN SAMANTASINHERA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the frog cultivation is being carried out in Orissa;

(b) if so, the place where it is being carried out and the amount sanctioned therefor during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether the scheme is making profit or loss; and

(d) the number of staff employed, category-wise, in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of Lok Sabha.

Procurement of Wheat by F.C.I. during 1979

9821. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated procurement of wheat by Food Corporation of India during 1979;

(b) what arrangement including storage and transportation have been made by Government to procure it throughout the country;

(c) whether it is being felt by farmers that inadequate storage facility and poor transportation will deprive them the full benefit of the production; and

(d) if so, his reaction thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH): (a) About six million tonnes are expected to be procured by the Food Corporation of India during 1979-80 rabi marketing season. This includes direct purchases by the F.C.I. of about 1.6 million tonnes and procurement by State Governments and their agencies of about 4.4 million tonnes for the Central Pool.

(b) Adequate arrangements for storage and transportation of the stocks expected to be procured have been made by the Central and State Governments. Some of the steps taken for storage are given below:—

(1) Optimum utilisation of the existing capacity is being made for storage of foodgrains by increasing the stock heights.

(2) Hiring of private accommodation through various sources is being resorted to by the public agencies. Apart from this, the use of CAP storage is also being made as a short term measure wherever necessary.

(3) A project has been undertaken, with the assistance of the World Bank for construction of additional capacity to the extent of 3.757 million tonnes which is expected to be completed by 1981-82. This would be in the form of buffer storage of godowns of bigger capacity of 25,000 tonnes and more at each centre. This comprises 25 lakh tonnes of conventional godowns, 10 lakh tonnes of bulk storage and 75,000 tonnes of silos.