

Bihar Govt's SOS for Additional Supply of Sugar

692. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bihar Govt. had sent an SOS for additional supply of sugar to the State in the last week of February, 1980;

(b) if so, the Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the quantities of sugar demanded and supplied for the State during January and February, 1980?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) and (b). No, Sir. But earlier in the month, there was a request from Bihar Government for speeding up the movement of sugar in the State. Necessary action was instituted through the agency of the Food Corporation of India.

(c) After the introduction of partial control on sugar with effect from 17th December, 1979, Bihar State is being allotted a levy quota of 26,929 tonnes per month as used to be allotted immediately prior to decontrol of sugar in August, 1978. As a result of various measures taken by the Government, there has been a considerable improvement in the despatches of sugar by the Food Corporation of India to Bihar State.

Amendment in Land Acquisition Act

693. SHRI L. S. TUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government have received a request from the Punjab Government to carry out amendments in the Land Acquisition Act in accordance with the recommendations of a Central Committee which reported 10 years ago;

(b) Whether Government have accepted the suggestions of the Punjab Government in this regard; and

(c) The date by which the Act is expected to be amended?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Punjab Government was advised to await the completion of amendments to the Central Land Acquisition Act of 1894 which were being processed in the Ministry of Agriculture. It is not possible to indicate any date by which the amendments under consideration will be effected.

Financial Assistance to Vidyasagar University

694 SHRI SATYA SADHAN CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the financial assistance for the Vidyasagar University is still pending under the consideration of University Grants Commission; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):

(a) and (b). According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission, there is at present no University in the country, established under Law, with the name "Vidyasagar University". If however, the reference is to the University proposed to be established by the Government of West Bengal at Midnapore, the question University Grants Commission providing any assistance to it would arise only after the University has been established and is under Section 12A of the UGC Act declared fit by the Commission to receive assistance from it.