

Sugar lying in Godown at Hilsa, Bihar

809. SHRI MUKUNDA MANDAL:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large quantity of sugar has been lying in Government godown at Hilsa, Bihar, for a number of years;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the sugar lying in the godown has become unsuitable for human consumption; and

(d) if so, reasons therefor and the action taken by Government in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) and (b). About 2,608 quintals of sugar was lying in Food Corporation of India godowns at Hilsa at the time of de-control in August, 1979. Out of this 2,026 quintals have already been delivered to Fair Price Shop dealers in January and February, 1980.

(c) No stocks of sugar lying in this godown have become unsuitable for human consumption.

(d) Does not arise.

Audio Visual Education

810. SHRI MUKUNDA MANDAL:
Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intend to extend the Audio Visual Education in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the beneficiaries and expenditure incurred for the Audio Visual Education for the last five years (year-wise)?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c). At present the Central Government have no scheme for audio visual

education as such. However, an Educational Technology Project was launched in 1972-73 which envisages the use of all instructional media, including audio visual aids, at all levels of education.

Free Education in States

811. SHRI MUKUNDA MANDAL:
SHRI SATYA SADHAN
CHAKRABORTY;

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) which are the States in which Secondary Education has been made free;

(b) whether Government are considering extension of the free education throughout the country;

(c) if so, details thereof; and

(d) if not, why not?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) According to information available in the Ministry, Secondary Education is free as below:

(i) *For boys and girls.*

In classes IX-X: Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Karnataka, Kerala, Nagaland and Lakshadweep.

In classes IX-X|XII: Gujarat, Jammu & Kashmir, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Dadra and Nagar Haveli

(ii) *For girls only:*

In classes IX-X: Orissa and Uttar Pradesh.

In classes IX-XI/XII: Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Rajasthan and Sikkim.

(b) to (d). School education is mainly the responsibility of the State Governments, and it is for them to take a decision in this matter.