

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN):** (a) and (b). With the coming into operation of partial control on sugar with effect from 17-12-1979 the monthly levy sugar quotas are being allotted to the State Governments on the basis of their quotas obtaining during partial control immediately prior to de-control of sugar on 16-8-1978. Thus West Bengal is getting a monthly levy sugar quota of 21,994 tonnes for distribution through fair price shops. In view of steep decline in sugar production in 1979-80 season and consequent very tight availability of levy sugar, it has not been possible to increase the monthly quota of any State.

#### **Pension scheme for destitute widows**

1686. SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUHURY: Will the Ministry of SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce a Pension Scheme for Destitute Widows in the country;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any State Government has introduced this scheme;

(d) if so, the names of those States; and

(e) the reaction of Government thereto?

**THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):** (a) There is no such proposal under consideration at present.

(b) Various State Governments have schemes for Old Age Pension which include pension for destitute widows. The Seventh Finance Commission has also recommended adequate provisions in each state to enable payment at the rate of Rs. 60/- per month as social security pension

to 0.1 per cent of the population according to 1971 census. Furthermore the Central Government operates Centrally Sponsored Schemes to assist Voluntary Organisations to set up Training Centres/Institutes for Rehabilitation of Women in Distress and for destitute women.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) As per information available, the following State Governments have pension scheme for destitute widows/widows/old age pension:—

(1) Andhra Pradesh, (2) Bihar, (3) Haryana, (4) Himachal Pradesh, (5) Jammu and Kashmir, (6) Karnataka, (7) Kerala, (8) Maharashtra; (9) Orissa, (10) Punjab (11) Rajasthan, (12) Tamil Nadu, (13) Uttar Pradesh and (14) West Bengal.

(e) Some State Governments already have schemes for destitute widows/widows/old age pension. Other States have been advised to introduce similar schemes in the light of the recommendations of the Seventh Finance Commission.

#### **Sugar allotted and supplied to West Bengal during last three years**

1687. SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of sugar allotted for West Bengal during the last three years, month-wise; and

(b) the actual supply so far made during the same period, month-wise?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN):** (a) and (b). Since in the last three years i.e. from 1977 to 1979 there was decontrol of sugar from 16-8-1978 to 16-12-1979, it was only during partial control periods i.e. from January, 1977 to 15-9-1978 and from 17-12-1979 onwards that the monthly levy sugar