

Actually, the Foreign Supplier delivered a quantity of 1.80 lakh tonnes against the contracted quantity of 2 lakh tonnes by exercising his option of shipping 10 per cent less. The quantities of imported sugar were further expected to be reduced en voyage due to damages etc. These sugar stocks at the ports were kept handy to meet such type of marginal short-falls in the actual imports.

In September, 1980, the Government considered expedient to hold on these stocks for some time more in view of the new scheme for pooling the imported and 'Levy-free' indigenous sugar for internal distribution for the months of September-October, 1980.

Out of 2331 tonnes of sugar stocks at Madras Port, 1800 tonnes of sugar have been released to Tamil Nadu State. The balance stocks of about 1666 tonnes at these ports have been kept for tiding over any unexpected internal requirement till the new production of sugar during the crop year 1980-81 (October-September) reaches a sufficient level for meeting the domestic demands during the months of November and December, 1980.

#### **Central Assistance to the Hutment Dwellers at Bombay**

183. SHRIMATI PRAMILA DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is true that due to torrential rain in August, 1980 in Bombay city, heavy damage was done to the hutment dwellers in the city and suburbs of Bombay leading to many casualties; and

(b) if so, whether the assistance will be given by the Central Government to prevent such a situation in future?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN- TARY AFFAIRS AND WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH): (a) Information is being col-

lected from the Government of Maha- rashtra.

(b) The Slum Clearance/Improvement Scheme is in the State sector and is operated by the State Governments as a part of the State Plan. Central financial assistance for State Plan schemes is given in the shape of block loan and block grant. Inter-sectoral allocation of funds within the State Plan are made by the State Governments according to priorities adopted by them, keeping in view the guidelines laid down by the Government of India and the Planning Commission. There is no allotment of funds by Government of India specifically for slum clearance/improvement.

#### **Wheat and Rice Allotted under Food for Work Programme during 1980**

184. SHRI TRIDIB CHAUDHRI: Will the Minister of RURAL RECONSTRUCTION be pleased to lay a statement on the Table of the House showing:

(a) the amount of wheat and rice despatched to various States during 1980 under the Food for Work Programme; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to reduce the scale of foodgrains assistance in the remaining months of the year or to suspend it altogether?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO): (a) and (b). A statement indicating the quantities of foodgrains allocated/released to different States/Union Territories during 1980 is enclosed. There is no proposal to either to reduce the allocation or to suspend it altogether.