

**Foodstock with N. E. States**

167. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the North Eastern States have sufficient stocks of foodgrains;

(b) whether the supply of essential commodities to the region is reviewed regularly to ensure sufficient stock to meet their public distribution system;

(c) whether attempt has also been made to build up comfortable stocks in the region; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) As on 1-8-1981, the stock of foodgrains with the Food Corporation of India in the North Eastern States (including Assam) was of the order of 79,100 tonnes, including 30,600 tonnes of wheat and 48,500 tonnes of rice. Compared to monthly allotments of foodgrains to North Eastern States, the existing stocks are considered low. With a view to replenishing the same, it has been decided between the Food Corporation of India and the Railways to load 155 BG wagons per day (about 1.07 lakh tonnes of foodgrains per month) to North Eastern States from the North Zone. Necessary steps are being taken by the Food Corporation of India to implement the decision.

(b) The position in regard to movement/supply of foodgrains to various States including North Eastern States is reviewed by the Government (Department of Food) periodically along with the representatives of the Food Corporation of India Railways and the State Government and remedial action is taken, as and when necessary. Difficulty if any, in movement/supply of levy

sugar is also discussed at these periodical meetings, as and when pointed out by the State Representatives, for taking necessary remedial measures. Special efforts are also being made to ensure smooth supply of edible oils to North Eastern States.

(c) and (d). As indicated against paras (a) and (b) above.

**Buffer Stock of Essential Commodities**

168. SHRI CHRISTOPHER EKKA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to maintain a buffer stock of essential commodities in the warehouses and cold storages of each State;

(b) if so, when this proposal is going to be implemented; and

(c) the details about the programmes made so far in the implementation of the above proposal?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI BRAJA MOHAN MOHANTY): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Irrigation Projects of Sundergarh to be taken up during Sixth Plan period**

169. SHRI CHRISTOPHER EKKA: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has a proposal for taking up the construction work of some medium and major irrigation projects of Orissa during the Plan period;

(b) which medium and major irrigation projects of Sundergarh district of Orissa have been identified to be taken up during the above plan period;