(c) what is the position of irrigation development during the Sixth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The growth rate of irrigation during the Fifth Plan period was on an average about 2.0 million hectares a year.

(c) The target for the Sixth Five Year Plan is creation of additional irrigation potential of 13.74 million hectares.

Exise rebate for early crushing of cane vis-a-vis Sugar Production

4732. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCIN-DIA: Will the Minister of AGRI-CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether with a view to offering an incentive to boost up sugar production, Government offered a rebate in excise duty of Rs. 23.25 per quintal on free sale sugar and Rs. 15.30 per quintal on levy sugar produced during 28 October, to 30 November, 1981, over and above the quantum of sugar produced by respective mills during the corresponding period last year;

(b) if so, what was the extent of additional sugar produced this year in excess of the quantum produced during the corresponding period last year, as a result of this incentive; and

(c) what is the target of sugar production fixed for the current season in view of the enhanced production shown during the afore said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) Yes Sir, but the rebate in the case of free sale sugar is Rs. 23.55 per quintal and not Rs. 23.25.

(b) About 1.6 lakh tonnes. However, while this is the overall picture regarding production, the portion out of this that will be eligible for incentives with reference to the conditions of eligibility laid down will be known after the claims for the rebate have been preferred by the factories and they have been decided by the Government.

(c) No target has been fixed. Sugar Production is, however, expected to touch 65 to 67 lakh tonnes.

Supply of Skim Milk Powder to Greater Calcutta Milk Supply Scheme

4733. SHRI NIREN GHOSH: SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:

Will the Minister of AGRICUL-TURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the minimum monthly requirements of Skim milk powder and butter oil are 600 MT and 195 MT respectively for running the Greater Calcutta Milk Supply Scheme:

(b) if so, the quantity of Skim milk powder and butter oil supplied to the Greater Calcutta Milk Supply Scheme during the last two years;

(c) whether there was any shortfall in this period; and

(d) if so, reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN); (a) On the basis of the norms prescribed in the procedure for supply of Skim Milk powder and butter oil by the Indian Dairy Corporation to the diaries, entitlement of the Greater Calcutta Milk Supply Scheme worked out to 3456 MT Skim Milk Powder and 1152 MT butter oil during the calender year 1981. The monthly average of this works out to 288 MT skim milk powder and 96 MT butter oil. However, against this, the Indian Dairy Corporation supplied on an average 547 MT Skim milk powder and 148 MT butter oil per month.

(b) Skim milk powder and butter oil supplied to the Greater Calcutta Milk Supply Scheme during the last two years are as under:

(Figures in M.T.)

Year								Skim Milk Powder	Butter Oil
1979-8 0	••	•	•	 •	•	•	•	5906·780	156 4 · 32 9
1980-81								5104.360	1278·107

(c) No complaint was received from the State Government reagrding supply of skim milk powder and butter oil.

(d) Does not arise.

Export of rice v/s-a-vis prise rise

4734. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to export rice in the current year;

(b) if so, the expected quantity of export;

(c) whether the export drive will boost the domestic price; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to stop the possible rise in the prices of rise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) and (b). During the current year, Government propose to export about 6 lakh tonnes of rice besides basmati rice which is on the Open General Licence.

(c) and (d). Only such quantities of rice have been allowed to be exported as are not likely to endanger the public distribution system in the country or unduly push up the prices internally. Moreover, Government arranges adequate supply of foodgrains from the Central Pool for issue through public distribution system so as to keep a check on open market prices of foodgrains.

Import of Wheat

4735. SHRI R. L. BHATIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Secretary visited the USA to negotiate the deal for further purchase of wheat;

(b) if so, the quantity expected to be imported and when is the shipment like to reach India;

(c) whether the deal has been or is being made at a Government level or with private parties and what role has been played by the Indian Embassey in Washington in the matter of negotiating the deal; and

(d) whether any quality tests are conducted before shipment, if so, through which agency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) and (b). A three-member team headed by the Food Secretary visited USA towards the end of June, 1981 and finalized the deal for import of 15.15 lakh tones of wheat from USA for deliveries during 15-8-1981 to 31-1-1982.

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