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It is proposed to set up a Statutory Coordinating Board at the Central level for planning, monitoring and development of the region and action in this regard is in progress in consultation with the concerned State Governments and Delhi Administration.

Auction of commercial plots by DDA

1378. DR. KRUPASINDHU LFOI: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether auctioning of commercial plots by DDA has led to a steep rise in land prices besides a general rise in the prices of essential goods and services, if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken to reduce profiteering by DDA and in paying appropriate compensation to the poor landowners?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS, SPORTS AND WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The D.D.A. has denied that it indulges in profiteering. Compensation is paid to the land owners whose land has been acquired, as per the provisions 'of the Land Acquisition Act. 1894.

Crisis of the Sugar Industry

1379. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether concern has been expressed over the Government's failure to regulate the over production of sugar and the cane growers have been punished for record production;

(b) whether Government have failed to provide for a buffer stock, exports or other financial support; (c) whether it has been alleged that the Centre and the State Governments in cooperation with the sugar industry have rather preferred to ignore this crisis of plenty; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto with steps proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD) (a) and (b). In 1981-82, 84.38 lakh tonnes of sugar was produced. The production during 1982-83 is expected to be lower at 75 to 80 lakh tonnes. The statutory minimum cane price which was Rs. 13/- per quintal linked to 8.5 per cent recovery during 1981-82 has not been increased for the year 1982-83. The cane growers got prices much higher than the statutory minimum during 1981-82 and during the current year they are getting as good or almost as good prices in most of the States.

A buffer stock of 5 lakh tonnes of sugar has already been created from out of the production of the 1981-82 season. An export quota in effect of 7 lakh tonnes raw value (6.5 lakh tonnes white crystal sugar) has been obtained for the calendar year 1983. Adequate financial assistance by way of higher bank credit limits and a reduction in bank margins has also been provided to the industry.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise

ICAR Projects

1380. SHRI B. D. SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to replies to Lok Sabha Question No. 1211 of 11 October, 1982 and Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 727 on 12th October, 1982 regarding ICAR Projects and state:

(a) the reasons why Finance Ministry has supported continously high annual budget sanctions during Fifth and Sixth Plans for Poultry Research Project when actual expenditure has been much lower;

(b) whether the Finance Minisry has concurred with Sixth Plan sanctions despite financially unsatisfactory performance of ICAR. Poultry Project where year-wise anticipated receipts fell short of estimated expenditure on feeds.

(c) has Finance Ministry also concurred with Sixth plan sanctions of projects on goats, sheep and cattle despite lower annual plan expenditure actually than corresponding budget sanction; and

(d) what corrective steps are being taken and when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) In case of Animal Breeding Projects, it takes some time for the new centres to recruit the staff, purchase the equipment and construct the necessary animal houses, which delays the utilisation of allocated funds. The annual expenditure has shown an increase as will be reflected from it being 30.55 lakhs in 1974-75, the first year of the 5th plan and being 82.49 lakhs in 1981-82.

(b) The performance of a Breeding Research Project cannot be judged on the basis of expenditure on feed and revenue receipts. The poultry breeding research project is not a commercial breeding operation and its units have to maintain a much larger population of breeding males till such time information on their genetic merit through performance of their collateral female relatives in case of layers and male and female progeny in case of broilers become available.

Similarly, some of the females are retained for longer than will be done commercially to record full year production. The receipts are through sale of extra eggs and most of experimental birds slaughtered rather than through the sale of chicks which is the major activity of the commercial

breeding farms. The satisfactory performance of the project can be judged from the report of the high level appraisal team appointed by the ICAR which has since submitted its report and has expressed satisfaction on its The Central Varietal Reprogress. lease Committee has recommended the release of the two strain crosses, one for layer and the other for broiler in 1982 for commercial exploitation. Two more strain crosses have been recommended by the annual workshop of the project which will be examined for release by the Central Poultry Varietal Release Committee for commercial exploitation.

(c) No, Sir. The Finance Ministry approved the 6th plan project on goats, sheep and cattle after considering the technical progress of the projects in addition to the progress of fund utilisation.

(d) The performance is constantly reviewed and various corrective measures are taken by the Government whenever found necessary.

ISMA's Concern at Declining Rate of Sugar Production

1381. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the Indian Sugar Mills Association (ISMA). the production of the sugar is declining in the country since November, 1982;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by the Government in this regard to keep the production of the sugar in a proper way;

(c) whether Government have directed different ways and means to the sugar factories in the country in regard to the production of the sugar; and

(d) if so, reaction of the sugar factories and Government thereto?