

take stringent measures including coercive steps against defaulting sugar mills to enforce timely payment by sugar factories of cane price arrears to cane growers.

(c) In Uttar Pradesh, recovery certificates have been issued on the basis of position of cane price dues as on 15-4-1971. Eight sugar factories have been placed under receivership. Collectors have announced auction of six sugar factories. The owner of one sugar mill was put under revenue lock up for holding up payment of cane price dues. In Bihar legal steps viz. criminal and certificate proceedings have been started against the defaulting mills which do not make payment on the demand of the cane growers. Tamil Nadu Government have reported that they are making every effort to persuade the sugar factories to clear off the arrears early, but the progress was slow due to low off-take of levy sugar. With the removal of controls over price and distribution of sugar the position is likely to improve.

#### Rise in Price of Sugar in Open Market

1223. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the price of sugar in the open market registered increase in the month of April, 1971 :

(b) if so, the reasons for the same ; and

(c) the steps taken to bring down the price ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHER SINGH) : (a) There was some increase in the price of sugar in the open market during April 1971.

(b) The increase in price was mainly the effect of increase in price of levy sugar allowed by the Allahabad High Court, in their interim orders, to sugar factories

in Uttar Pradesh which challenged in that Court the price of levy sugar fixed by Government.

(c) Control on price, distribution and movement of sugar have been removed with effect from 25th May, 1971 and a larger quantity of 4.5 lakh tonnes of sugar has been released for sale from 29th May, 1971.

#### Implementation of Electricity Wage Board Recommendations in Uttar Pradesh

1224. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the recommendations of the wage Board for Electricity workers have been implemented in Uttar Pradesh ; and

(b) if not, the reasons for the same ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA) : (a) An order enforcing the recommendations of the Central Wage Board for Electricity Undertakings was issued by the Government of Uttar Pradesh under section 3 of the U. P. Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, on the 11th February, 1971.

(b) After issue of the above order, certain difficulties were pointed out by employers of major electricity undertakings such as the U. P. State Electricity Board, M/s Martin Burn Ltd, etc. These are being considered by the State Government.

#### Streamlining the working of Community Development Projects

1225. SHRI R. S. PANDEY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether community blocks set up in the country under the Community Development programme are proving to be very expensive as lot of expenditure is being in-