

(b) if so, the reaction of Pakistan Government thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA) : (a) The Pakistan High Commissioner in New Delhi was given a note which inter-alia stated that the Government of India reserve the right to claim from the Government of Pakistan full satisfaction in respect of additional financial and other burdens that the Government of India have had to shoulder for affording relief to these Pakistani nationals.

(b) The Government of Pakistan have rejected the demand as being totally unacceptable.

Mortgaging of Assets to Financial Institutions under the Mineral Concessions Rules, 1960

1763. SHRI INDER J. MALHOTRA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the time taken for granting the permission under the Mineral Concessions Rules 1960 for mortgaging assets to Financial Institutions ;

(b) the number of cases which have come for intervention of Central Government and the time taken to dispose of such cases ;

(c) whether the statutory period of one year for disposal of the applications is sufficient for State Governments to dispose of the applications ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) This is not known, since it is the State Governments who are to grant the permission. If it is not disposed of within 12 months, the applicant is at liberty to file a revision petition to the Government of India under rule 54 of the Mineral Concession Rules, 1960.

(b) During the last three years nine cases were received by the Central Govern-

ment, of which four cases were disposed of within a period of one month, two cases within two months and the remaining three cases were disposed of within a period of about five to seven months.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise, in view of (c) above.

आर एस-09 खराब ट्रैक्टरों के प्रयोग से मध्य प्रदेश के किसानों को हुई हानि

1764. श्री गंगा चरण शीकित : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या आर एस-09 ट्रैक्टर, जो जर्मन लोकतन्त्रात्मक गणराज्य द्वारा सप्लाई किये गये थे, मध्य प्रदेश में भी कृषि कार्यों के लिए उपयोग में लाये गये हैं और क्या इसके परिणाम स्वरूप किसानों को हानि हुई है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार का इन किसानों को मुआवजा देने का विचार है ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अण्णा साहिब पी० शिन्डे) : (क) आर० एस०-09 ट्रैक्टर मध्य प्रदेश कृषि उद्योग निगम की नियमित नहीं किये गये थे और न ही राज्य में कृषकों को बांटे गये थे ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं होता ।

Problems Facing Cane Growers and Workers of Sugar Industry in South India

1765. SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH :
SHRI T. S. LAKSHMANAN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the steps being taken by Government to mitigate the hardships of the cane-growers and the workers of South India Sugar Mills ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHER SINGH) : As far as sugarcane growers are concerned, Government is fixing minimum price of sugarcane payable by sugar

factories. As regards payment of sugarcane price, large arrears of payment have been reported by the factories. The State Governments concerned have been asked to take stringent measures including coercive steps to ensure early payment of arrears of sugarcane price by the factories. In addition, the following further steps have been taken :

- (1) Authorities concerned have been requested to arrange increased bank advances to sugar factories to enable them to pay arrears of cane price.
- (2) Releases of sugar for sale are now being made in proportion to stocks instead of in proportion to production in order to reduce the disparity in stocks of sugar with factories.
- (3) Restrictions on price, distribution and movement of sugar have been removed with effect from the 25th May 1971.

As far as the sugar factory workers are concerned, the main hardship relates to the implementation of the recommendations of the Second Central Wage Board. The recommendations of this Board have been accepted by the Central Government and the State Governments are looking after their implementation.

Procurement Target in Foodgrains by Food Corporation of India

1766. SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India has set up any target for food procurement in the current rabi season ;

(b) if so, the statistics thereof, State-wise ; and

(c) the prices at which each of the food items are being procured, and how these prices differ from those of the past three years, separately for each food item year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) and (b). The Food Corporation of India is purchasing wheat as a price support measure in the States. There is no target of procurement as such as the Government is committed to purchase all quantities of wheat falling within the prescribed specification. The Corporation have, however estimated that they will purchase 40.25 lakh tonnes of wheat during 1971-72 marketing season in the country. No specific targets are fixed for the purchase of other rabi grains which are purchased against demand.

(c) The Food Corporation is purchasing wheat (except indigenous red) of fair average quality at Rs 76/- per quintal during the current season. Other Rabi grains are purchased by the Corporation at prevailing market prices, as part of their commercial purchases. The statement showing the prices, for the last three years is attached,

Statement

Prices at which the Food Corporation of India procured wheat etc. during the last three years

Item	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71
1	2	3	4
Wheat*	Rs. 76/- (Superior Rs. 81/-)	Rs. 76/-	Rs. 76/-
Barley	Rs. 48.60 to Rs. 55/-	Rs. 57.81 to Rs. 59.13	Rs. 60 to Rs. 63.94
Arhar Whole	Rs. 78.64 to Rs. 89.34	No purchase was made	No purchase was made

*Except red indigenous variety.