

(b) The discussions generally related to evolving practical proposals for tripartite cooperation in matters pertaining to shipping. The Working Group recommended that steps be taken to remove various practical difficulties in bringing about a more appropriate sharing of cargoes between the national lines of the three countries. It was agreed that in order to bring about improvement in shipping opportunities, to suggest appropriate freight rates and to deal with other operational matters connected with transportation of cargoes between the three countries, a suitable coordinating machinery would be set up at Bombay, Cairo and Rijeka with resident representatives of the Shipping Lines drawn from each partner-country

Sale of P. M's Gifts

3839. SHRI M. S. SIVASWAMY: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sale of Prime Minister's gifts was held during November, 1972 in New Delhi and proceeds donated to the Prime Minister's Women and Children's Funds; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof and amount collected in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S. NURUL HASAN): (a) and (b). A Mela was organised on 17th November, 1972 in which some Women's organisations participated. Some articles which had been presented to the Prime Minister from time to time were sold there. The sale proceeds amounting to Rs. 4,025.00 will be credited to the Women's and Children's Welfare Fund.

Educational Institution financed by Foreign Missionary Organisation

3840. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of EDUCATION

2867 (a) LS-6.

AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 7681 dated the 29th May, 1972, regarding the educational institutions financed by Foreign Missionary Organisations and state:

(a) whether the requisite information has been collected; if so, the main features thereof; and

(b) if not, when the information will be laid on the Table of the House?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI D. P. YADAV): (a) and (b). According to the information received from Delhi Administration, no Government aided or Government Institution under the control of Delhi Administration is receiving any aid from foreign missionary Organisations in Delhi. Information about independent schools not receiving grant-in-aid is being collected.

Steps taken to reach Kharif procurement targets recommended by APC

3841. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Agricultural Prices Commission has warned that Government's food stocks of 9.5 million tonnes in July, 1972 would be almost exhausted by March, 1973 and stringent measures must be adopted to the Kharif procurement targets recommended by it; and

(b) if so, the steps, if any that have been and are being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following steps have been/ are being taken to maximise procurement of Kharif cereals to achieve the targets fixed for 1972-73 season:—

- (i) the percentage of levy on rice millers/traders has been enhanced in some of the States.
- (ii) Procurement prices of paddy/rice have been enhanced in certain States as per recommendations of the A.P.C.
- (iii) Direct purchase centres have been opened and cooperative purchase agent have been appointed by the Food Corporation of India in the interior places in some of the States.
- (iv) Movement restrictions have been imposed by most of the State Governments on export of coarse grains on private account outside these States.
- (v) Some State Governments have also imposed traders' levy on coarse grains.
- (vi) Anti-smuggling activities have been intensified.
- (vii) Zone restrictions on the movement of paddy/rice have been continued.

Buffer Stock of Sugar and Sugar Policy

3842 SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a report published in the Statesman dated 2nd October, 1972 under the caption "Building up buffer stock of sugar Centre may be unable to implement strategy";

(b) if so Government's reaction thereto;

(c) the impact of Government's new sugar policy announced a few months ago;

(d) whether the Government are committed to formulate a long term policy on sugar production and distribution; if so when the said policy is expected to be announced; and

(e) whether it is a fact that sugar supply position has further deteriorated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
(PROF. SHER SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The new sugar and sugarcane policy for 1972-73 is specially aimed at augmenting sugar production gradually leading to the creation of a buffer stock. Judging from the present trends while the production may show an improvement over the previous year it may not permit of the building up of a larger carry-over. While the minimum cane price notified by the Government can only be a notional price in times of scarcity of sugar as at present sugar production will increase, as the factories are in a position to pay higher cane price under the scheme of partial control of sugar and face more effectively the competition from gur and Khand-sari manufacturers.

(d) The new sugar policy announced by the Government in Parliament on the 29th August, 1972 envisages both short term and long term measures for increasing the production of sugarcane and sugar.

(e) Though the carry-over is less this year, the production is expected to be more as compared to last year; there may not, therefore, be any further deterioration in the overall position.