

(b) if so, the reasons they have advanced for doing so; and

(c) the reaction of the Centre with regard to that proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASHEB P. SHINDE):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of Uttar Pradesh considered that it was necessary to restrict the movement of wheat and wheat products in order to increase their availability and to control their open market prices within the State and also to reduce the pressure on the public distribution system.

(c) The U.P. Government was requested not to impose any restrictions as it was contrary to the notional policy adopted in consultation with the Chief Ministers of the States.

#### The Institute of Population Studies in Bombay

959. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the harassment of the staff of the Institute of Population Studies in Bombay still continue; and

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any steps to protect the interests of the members of the staff and if so, the main features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI KONDAJJI BASAPPA): (a) and (b). Government are not aware of any harassment of the staff of the Institute of Population Studies in Bombay. However, whenever any representations are made by the staff these are looked into and appropriate action taken.

3441 LS—7.

#### Capsizing of Steamer 'Robini' near Malwan in Maharashtra

960. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Steamer 'Rohini' capsized near the port Malwan in Maharashtra due to the obstacle of rocks, which could not be avoided as the normal desirable route was full of mud;

(b) if so, the steps taken to avoid such accidents; and

(c) the amount of compensation paid to the passengers who lost their luggage/baggage in the accident and the rate of compensation?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) to (c). It is true that the Steamer 'Rohini' capsized near the port Malwan in Maharashtra. The cause thereof is under investigation. Other information required is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

#### Modernisation of Sugar Mills

961. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sugar mills with an age beyond forty years;

(b) whether failure to modernise these mills has affected the sugar production; and

(c) whether Government propose to modernise these sugar mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. SHER SINGH): (a) 29.

(b) and (c). The Government of India have already appointed a Sugar Industry Enquiry Commission, among other things to identify, the inade-