

for effective procurement of 1972-73 Kharif Crops and 1973-74 Rabi Crops for setting up procurement centres and direct purchase centres from the producers of foodgrains, particularly in Bihar, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Assam and other States; and

(b) if so, the number of new recruits appointed and the reasons for not recruiting the full quota of employees for the purpose of making procurement drive a success, with particular reference to Orissa, Bihar, Assam and West Bengal?

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

(a) For procurement of Kharif Crops 1972-73 and Rabi Crops 1973-74, the Food Corporation of India had sanctioned 2533 and 5770 additional posts respectively in different States including Bihar, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal and Assam.

(b) The total number of new recruits appointed during the Kharif season 1972-73 and the Rabi season 1973-74 was 157 and 1785 respectively throughout the country where the Corporation was called upon to undertake procurement. Out of these posts, the number of recruits appointed in the States of Orissa, Bihar, Assam and West Bengal was 82.

While sanctioning the additional posts will be operated upon only to the extent warranted by the workload at the time of procurement.

Promotion of Employees Working in F.C.I. Calcutta

4419. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether about 650 posts out of the target of 2,000 posts were filled up by the Food Corporation of India Eastern Zone Office, Calcutta on the basis of promotion of existing employees on the zonal seniority basis during the month of June, 1973;

(b) whether these promoted employees of the F.C.I. were given assignments in different States for the purpose of setting up procurement machineries and other ancillary jobs there;

(c) whether such promotions have been suddenly cancelled, although posts remain sanctioned by Head Office of F.C.I. and the salaries of the promotees withheld leaving them stranded in different States; and

(d) if so, the reasons for such sudden reversal of the F.C.I. policy?

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

(a), (b) & (d). Based on projected work load, including resultant vacancies consequent on promotions, 735 posts were sanctioned earlier. However, on the basis of actual work load, the recruitment was only for 232 posts. The Zonal Manager (East) of the F.C.I., under duress from the Employees Association was made to issue orders for filling 529 posts in the third week of June 1973. These orders issued by the Zonal Manager (East) F.C.I. under duress had to be cancelled by the Headquarters of the Corporation soon after. Revised promotion orders, where necessary, have been issued by the Zonal Manager (East), F.C.I., on the basis of sanctioned posts which he is authorised to operate.

Procurement Centres and Direct Purchase centres set up by F.C.I. for procurement of Rabi Crop

4420. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of procurement centres and direct purchase centres that were set up by the Food Corporation of India in different States for procurement of Rabi Crops;

(b) whether these Centres are being wound up and if so, the reasons therefor; and