

(b) Because of a combination of factors, such as, delay in delivery following interim stay orders obtained by some factories on writ petitions challenging the levy sugar prices determined in November, 1973 by the Government, delays in movement of sugar from the factories in surplus States to West Bengal caused by loco strike and operational difficulties shortage of diesel for road transport, etc., there was a shortfall in availability of levy sugar in West Bengal during certain periods of November and December, 1973.

Subsequently, with improvement in movement/supply arrangements, the arrears of sugar due to the card-holders have since been supplied.

Request from West Bengal for more rice and wheat for supply in modified ration area

1789. SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of West Bengal repeatedly asked for more rice and wheat for supply in modified ration area; and

(b) if so, the supply made in the last three months of the year 1973?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) and (b). The Government of West Bengal have been asking for the increased allocations of rice and wheat to meet the requirements both for statutory and modified ration areas. Keeping in view the overall availability of foodgrains in the Central pool, the needs of other deficit States, the local market availability in the kharif season and other relevant factors, the following quantities of rice and wheat were supplied to the State

Government during the months of October to December, 1973—

(In '000 tonnes)		
	Rice	Wheat
October . . .	21.3	115.1
November . . .	26.3	107.4
December . . .	33.6	90.9

The Government of West Bengal was also allotted 35 thousand tonnes of coarse grains to supplement the rice and wheat supplies for these three months.

Halting of D.T.C. Buses at proper Bus Stops

1790. SHRI RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the drivers of DTC do not stop buses at the proper stops and thus cause great inconvenience to the public; and

(b) if so, the remedial steps taken by Government?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). There have been complaints from the travelling public in Delhi that the operational staff of Delhi Transport Corporation do not either stop the buses at proper bus stands or park the buses improperly and behave rudely with the public. In order to check such action/behaviour, the Corporation has posted about 180 members of its traffic supervisory staff on important bus stands in the city operational areas with effect from the 5th December, 1973. The reports made by this staff against the concerned conductors/drivers of D.T.C. are looked into by a Special Officer, who has been specially earmarked for this work and action