

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE):** A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-8776/74].

**Poor quality Wheat being Supplied to Ration Card Holders in Delhi**

4685. **SHRI M. S. PURTY:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received recently a large number of complaints to the effect that wheat sold to ration card holders in Delhi through fair price shops is of poor quality and gives bad smell, and

(b) if so, the main points of the complaints and the steps taken by Government in this regard?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE):** (a) and (b). Only one anonymous complaint was received in October, 1974 by the Delhi Administration regarding one fair price shop holder at Janakpuri who was alleged to be selling inferior quantity of wheat and some complaints were also received by the Food Corporation of India regarding issue of sub-standard wheat from the fair price shops situated at North and South Avenues, New Delhi.

On investigation it was revealed that the complaint received by Food Corporation of India was due to the issue of Mexican red variety of wheat which is not preferred by consumers in Delhi.

The Delhi Administration investigated into the complaint and it was

found that the wheat stocks with the fair price shops were of fair average quality.

While issuing stocks from the FCI depots grains of only acceptable quality are issued. A jointly drawn and sealed sample is also handed over to the fair price shop owners for display in order to enable the consumers to compare the stocks issued to them with that of the sample.

**Cost of Production of Pulses, Millet, Peas and Gram and steps to increase their production**

4686 **SHRI M S PURTY:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise cost of production of pulses, millet, peas and gram per quintal according to various surveys conducted by Government;

(b) the steps taken by Government to encourage their production, and

(c) the results thereof and the future plan in this regard?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL):** (a) Under the Comprehensive Scheme for studying the Cost of cultivation of Principal Crops in the different States of the country, launched by this Ministry, State-level estimates of the cost of production have become available in respect of Bajra for the year 1970-71 for Rajasthan and Jowar for the year 1971-72 for Maharashtra. These estimates are given below:

Crop	State	Year	Cost of cultivation per hectare (Rs.)	Yield per hectare (Quintals)	Cost of production per quintals (Rs.)
Bajra	Rajasthan	1970-71	310	6.46	36.82
		1971-72	290	4.22	54.70
Jowar	Maharashtra	1971-72	471	5.73	57.05

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