

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1112/76.]

Assessment of Demand for Foodgrains

764. **SHRI ARJUN SEITHI:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state-

(a) whether it is possible for Government to assess the effective demand for foodgrains in the country on the basis of minimum per capita consumption of foodgrains and the projected growth in population so as to enable the Government to plan food production particularly that of foodgrains on realistic basis; and

(b) the steps taken in the matter?

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

(b) Information on the minimum per capita requirement of foodgrains for providing a balanced diet has been collected from the National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad. This is being taken into account in estimating the total requirements of foodgrains. It may, however be mentioned that a balanced diet provides for, apart from foodgrains, a number of other food items, namely, vegetables, fruits, milk and milk-products, meat, fish, eggs etc. Since the per capita availability of food items other than foodgrains falls short of nutritional requirements and also in many cases their prices rise at levels which are too high for a vast majority of the people, it would be necessary to provide for higher intake of foodgrains to a level even higher than that prescribed in a balanced nutri-

tional diet. With this in view the Government have been trying to secure as higher a rate of growth as possible in foodgrain production with the available financial resources and subject to constraints with regard to availability of irrigation, fertilisers and other inputs.

Request to increase allotment of Foodgrains to Kerala during lean months

765. **SHRI N. SREEKANTAN NAIR:**

SHRI C. H. MOHAMMED KOYA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government propose to increase allotment of foodgrains to the State of Kerala during the lean months of June to September;

(b) whether any request from the State Government to the above effect has been received; and

(c) if so, action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) to (c). A request was received from the Kerala Government on 20th April 1976, for increased allotment of 80,000 tonnes of rice and 20,000 tonnes of wheat per month from May '76 to October '76. A request was also received from the Minister for Food and Civil Supplies Kerala Government, by the Union Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation on 9th July 1976 for increasing the allotment of rice from the Central pool to Kerala to 95,000 tonnes for the months of July, August and September. The allocations of foodgrains to Kerala have been increased for the months of June to August, 1976, as under:--

(In '000 tonnes)

Month 1976	Allotment		
	Rice	Wheat	Total
June	75 0	35 0	110 0
July	80 0	35 0	115 0
August	85 0	36 0	121 0

For September 1976 also, the allotment of foodgrains is proposed to be maintained at the level of allotments made for August, 1976

Buffer stock of Foodgrains held by Kerala

766 SHRI N. SREEKANTAN NAIR:

SHRI C. H. MOHAMMED
KOYA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state

(a) whether the monthly allocation of rice and wheat to the State of Kerala from the Central Pool is insufficient to meet the rationing system in Kerala,

(b) whether any buffer stock is held by the State Government; and

(c) if so, the break-up of quantum of foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHAB P SHINDE) (a) Keeping in view the overall availability of rice in the Central Pool, relative needs of other deficit States, market availability, the need for building up an adequate buffer stocks and other relevant factors, maximum possible allotments of wheat and rice are being made to Kerala Government to meet its reasonable requirements of the public distribution systems. In addition, the State Governments procure certain quantities of rice locally which are also available for public distribution in the

State. With the allotment of wheat and rice made from the Central Pool and with the locally available procured stocks, the issue of wheat and rice through the Fair Price Shop is maintained by the Kerala Government at 160 grams per adult and half of this quantity for non-adults per day.

(b) and (c). Normally, the buffer stocks of foodgrains are held by the Central Government. The State Government, however are building up some stocks of rice, through the agency of the Kerala Civil Supplies Corporation, to supplement the stocks allotted to them from the Central Pool. This is being done, from out of the levy free stocks of rice allotted to them by the Central Government from the surplus States and from out of the Nepal rice purchased by the Food Corporation of India and allotted to them by the Central Government. The stock of rice held by the Kerala State Civil Supplies Corporation on behalf of the Kerala Government is reported to be 12,191 tonnes

Recommendations of UGC Committee on Calcutta University

767 DR. RAVEN SEN, Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee appointed by University Grants Commission have made certain recommendations regarding Calcutta University