

साख, ह्रास, सामुदायिक-विकास तथा सहकार मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री अन्ना-साहिब शिन्डे) : (क) इस अवधि में मध्य प्रदेश को 69,634 मीटर टन चीनी दी गयी थी ।

(ख) और (ग). अन्य राज्यों की भांति मध्य प्रदेश के चीनी के मासिक कोटे में दो बार कटौती की गयी, पहली बार यह कोटा मार्च 1967 से फरवरी 1967 के 14,625 मीटर टन से घटा कर 11,000 मीटर टन और फिर इससे घटा कर मई, 1967 से 9,192 मीटर टन कर दिया गया था । चीनी के उत्पादन में कमी के कारण चीनी की उपलब्धि सीमित हो जाने से यह कटौती अनिवार्य हो गयी थी ।

(घ) वर्तमान उपलब्धि को देखते हुए कोटे को पूर्ववत् नहीं किया जा सकता है ।

Production of Lac in Bihar

7399. **Shri Marandi:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that plenty of lac is available in the Santhal Pargana District of Bihar;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that this lac is not being utilised properly;

(c) the steps taken by Government to improve its production in that District; and

(d) whether Government propose to give incentives to the farmers to increase its production and for its better utilisation?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government of Bihar has taken the following steps:

(i) Establishment of broad-lac farms at Bajjukurwa, Mali Basantpur and Ghotari, to meet the needs of the cultivators.

(ii) Supply of Broodlac at subsidised rates to adivasi cultivators.

(iii) There are proposals in the Fourth Plan to open an additional farm at Pakaur and also to start extension work in 5 blocks of the district for educating the cultivators in the improved methods of lac cultivation.

(d) Incentives to the growers have been enumerated under item (c) above. As regards the step for better utilisation, the State Government has formed a Bihar State Co-operative Lac Marketing Federation with a view to purchase lac directly from the producers at a fair price.

Food Corporation of India

7400. **Shri Baburao Patel:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the date of inception of the Food Corporation of India and the amount spent on its establishment till the 31st March, 1967;

(b) the amount advanced to the Food Corporation of India for the purchase of foodgrains from its inception till the 31st March, 1967;

(c) the terms on which the amount is advanced and the interest thereon, if charged; and

(d) the amount repaid to the Exchequer by the Food Corporation as on the 31st March, 1967?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahb Shinde): (a) The amount spent on the establishment of the Food Corporation of India from 1-1-1965, the date of its inception, till the 31st March, 1967 on the basis of provisional figures of expenditure for 1966-67 comes to about Rs. 4.32 crores.

(b) Rs. 33 crores have been advanced by Government as loan. In addition the Corporation is also availing a cash credit facility of Rs. 10 crores from the State Bank of India.

(c) The sum of Rs. 33 crores was advanced to the Corporation in the form of interest bearing loans and a moratorium of three years was allowed for repayment of the principal. The rate of interest for the first instalment of Rs. 11 crores given during 1964-65 was fixed at 5½% per annum while for the balance amount of Rs. 22 crores the rate was fixed at 6½% per annum. The rate of interest charged by the State Bank of India on cash credit accommodation is 7½% per annum.

(d) Rs. 10 crores.

Damage to Foodgrains at Kandla Port

7401. Shri C. C. Desai: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a news-item in the *Gujarat Samachar* of Ahmedabad of the 5th July, 1967 to the effect that 2,000 tonnes of wheat have got wet and become useless because of remaining in the open due to negligence and delay on the part of the authorities in Kandla Port; and

(b) who are responsible for this loss and the action proposed to be taken to punish the guilty persons and to prevent such wastage in future?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community

Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahb Shinde): (a) Yes, Sir. This news item is not correct. The position is that on 1st July, 1967, two artificial bins had been made out of wheat bags for operational reasons viz. (i) to enable the discharge of milo from a bulk carrier and (ii) to feed the mechanical bagging and stitching plant. These bins, together with a small quantity of loose grain within such bins, comprised a total quantity of 70 tonnes of milo and 44 tonnes of wheat. As there was a sudden shower in the early hours of 2nd July, 1967, the grain in the bins was slightly affected. The entire quantity was immediately removed to the warehouses and salvaged, as a result of which 62 tonnes of milo and 42 tonnes of wheat were recovered as quite sound. Only 8 tonnes of milo and 2 tonnes of wheat were damaged, besides one tonne of wharf sweepings which were also damaged, and these would be sold as cattle feed or for starch manufacture.

(b) since the bins consisting of wheat bags had to be constructed for operational reasons, there was no negligence on the part of any of the staff. In fact, the damage was kept to the minimum on account of immediate action having been taken to remove the grain into the warehouses, together with immediate salvage.

National Highway No. 6

7403. Shri G. C. Naik:
Shri R. R. Singh Deo:
Shri D. Amat:
Shri D. N. Deb:

Will the Minister of Transport and Shipping be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Highway No. 6 (Calcutta-Bombay via Raipur) is still not an all-weather road in spite of its construction work taken up during the First Five Year Plan: