

rural compost production by the end of the Second Plan (1960-61), achievement by the end of the Third Plan (1965-66) was 119.58 million tonnes. Target for the Fourth Plan has been fixed at 165.90 million tonnes of rural compost production by the end of 1970-71. Anticipated achievement for the year 1966-67 is 133.42 million tonnes and the target for the year 1967-68 is 141.88 million tonnes.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Development of Kumarakom as a Tourist Centre**

**887. Shri K. M. Abraham:** Will the Minister of **Tourism and Civil Aviation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from Kumarakom, Kottayam requesting that Kumarakom may be developed as a tourist centre; and

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

**The Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation (Dr. Karan Singh):** (a) A suggestion has been received to develop Kumarakom as a tourist centre.

(b) In view of the limited resource position it is proposed to provide tourist facilities at Periyar Wild Life Sanctuary, Vaikom and at Kottayam. As such there is no proposal to develop Kumarakom which is situated at a distance of 50 miles from Periyar and 7 miles from Kottayam.

#### **Increase in Calcutta Port Charges**

**888. Shri Indrajit Gupta:** Will the Minister of **Transport and Shipping** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the recent increase in Calcutta port charges will fall more heavily on imports than on exports; and

(b) if so, to what extent this is likely to put up internal manufacturing costs and commodity prices?

**The Minister of Transport and Shipping (Dr. V. K. R. V. Rao):** (a) and

(b). The recent increases in Calcutta Port charges on commodities have been imposed entirely on imports and, in doing so, the Port Commissioners have taken into account the cost of the services performed by them and what the different items of traffic can bear. Port charges are only one of the many factors which influence manufacturing costs or the sale price of different commodities. They do not constitute a significant element in the cost structure of most commodities. So far as foodgrains, salt and petroleum are concerned, the increases in Port charges work out respectively to Rs. 2.07, 1.50 and 3.55 per tonne.

#### **Price of Rice in States**

**889. Shri Rane:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the prices of rice in Fair Price Shops in States other than Madras; and

(b) how they compare with the price of rice at one rupee per measure in Madras?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde):** (a) A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-445/67].

(b) They are all higher except in Jammu and Kashmir, where they are lower.

#### **Rice Procurement by Food Corporation of India**

**890. Shri K. Suryanarayana:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of rice of various varieties procured by the Food Corporation of India from the various States; and

(b) the prices paid to the suppliers and prices fixed for the consumers for the different varieties?

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