

**Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde):** (a) about 9.2 lakh tonnes from 1st November, 1966 to 30th April, 1967.

(b) A statement showing the prices at which the Corporation has purchased different varieties of rice from the various States is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-446/67]. The Corporation does not sell rice in retail to consumers. The retail prices are fixed by the respective State Governments and are based on the cost of rice received from all sources including internal purchase. It is difficult to isolate the retail prices of the varieties of rice purchased by the Food Corporation of India.

**Grants for Reclamation of Uncultivated Land**

**891. Shri Randhir Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to enact an Agriculture Act on U.K. pattern providing special grants per acre to farmers for reclamation of uncultivated land in order to augment food production in the country and give special incentive to farmers;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if so, from which date?

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

(b) and (c). The question of enacting an Agriculture Act on U.K. Pattern for providing special grants to the farmers for reclamation of uncultivated lands has not been examined. However, Government of India and State Governments are already providing assistance for the reclamation of Governments waste lands primarily for the resettlement of landless agricultural labourers. Under this scheme assistance is given subject to a maximum of Rs. 300 per acre which is 460 (Ai) LS—6.

borne by the Centre and the State Governments on 50.50 basis. Besides, State Governments also provide assistance for the terracing and reclamation of land where subsidy to the extent of 25—50 per cent. is provided and the remaining amount is recovered on easy terms over a number of years. Further, assistance to the farmers for land reclamation is also available from the Agricultural Refinance Corporation. Schemes to reclaim and develop about 1.3 million acres at an estimated cost of Rs. 30 crores have been sanctioned. The targets of Fourth Five Year Plan for land reclamation fixed are 2.5 million acres for the schemes other than those financed by Agricultural Refinance Corporation.

**Cattle Slaughter House**

**892. Shri Randhir Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Cattle Slaughter House, Essex Farms (Private) Ltd. by name, is being constructed with the financial help and patronage of the Central Government at 17th Mile G.T. Road near Delhi State border;

(b) whether it is a fact that Local Gram Panchayats, Block Samiti, Zila Parishad and the Sub-Divisional Administration have opposed the establishment of this slaughter house;

(c) whether it is also a fact that all political parties and social and religious organisations have strongly opposed this on the plea that it injures the religious sentiments of the local population; and

(d) if so, the steps which Government have taken to annul the establishment of this slaughter house?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde):** (a) to (d). There is no proposal with the Government