REDUCTION OF RATION IN STATES

2118. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of the States and statutory rationing areas where rations had to be reduced after the 1st June, 1967:
- (b) the quantum of reduction Statewise/rationing area-wise; and
 - (c) when the cuts will be restored?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD. AGRI-CULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVE-LOPMENT AND COOPERATION **ANNASAHIB** (SHRI SHINDE): (a) Of the statutorily rationed areas, only in Greater Calcutta, Asansol group of towns and Siliguri the ation had to be reduced after 1-6-1967. The quantum of issue in the informally rationed areas in the different States varies normally not only from State to State but also from area to area and from time to time, depending upon the assessment of the State Government of the quantity of foodgrains available for distribution within the State and the needs of the different areas. Central Government do not generally interfere in the distribution of foodgrains in any State and do not have up-to-date information about the quantum of issue in the areas not covered by statutory rationing.

- (b) 100 grams per adult per week in Greater Calcutta, Asansol group of towns and Siliguri.
- (c) As soon as stock position improves.

IMPORT OF FOODGRAINS

2119. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE : SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA : SHRI MOHAN SWARUP :

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

- (a) whether the Government have formulated their import programme for foodgrains during the next year;
- (b) whether Government have opened negotiations with U.S.A. and other countries for these imports;

- (c) the prices quoted for various types of foodgrains;
- (d) the conditions in regard to the transport of foodgrains in American ships and other payments of freight etc., and
- (e) the proposed total foreign exchange and the rupee outlay on these imports during the course of the next year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRI-CULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE):

- (a) Yes, Sir.
 - (b) Yes, Sir.
- (c) and (d). The stage for ascertaining these details has not yet been reached.
- (e) Final proposals have not been formulated so far.

PRODUCTION OF GRAM

2120. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE : SHRI YAJNA DATT SHAR-MA : SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE : SHRI SHARDA NAND : SHRI N. S. SHARMA :

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

- (a) the production and estimated production of gram for each State for the years 1966-67 and 1967-68;
- (b) the States that are likely to be deficit in gram production;
- (c) the measures proposed to meet this deficit; and
- (d) whether restrictions on movements are proposed to be abolished?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRI-CULTURE. COMMUNITY DEVE-COOPERATION AND LOPMENT ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (SHRI (a) A statement giving State-wise production of gram during 1966-67 is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1767/67].