

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) An important programme for increasing rice production in the country relates to cultivation of high yielding varieties of paddy. The target of coverage for 1970-71 is 12.5 million acres and that for 1968-69, 8.5 million acres. Increases in rice production are also expected to result from the general programmes of development e.g. multiple cropping, minor irrigation, land development, organised provision of inputs like fertilizers and pesticides, etc. Research in the development of improved and disease-resistant varieties is also being carried out by I.C.A.R. and the rice-research institute under it and some of the Universities.

(b) and (c). But for the drop in production during the two draught years of 1965-66 and 1966-67, there has been a steady increase in rice-production. This will be evident from the fact that as against the production of 25.1 million tonnes (adjusted) in 1949-50, the production in 1964-65 was 39 million tonnes. The figure for 1967-68 will be known after the all-India Final Estimates are available but a good production is expected.

(d) and (e). In the absence of any scientific and comprehensive survey on consumption and in view of the fact that the requirements of rice are also elastic to some extent depending on the availability of rice and other substitute food stuffs, their comparative prices, levels of income, population growth and extent of urbanisation, etc., it is not possible to indicate any precise quantitative estimates of rice requirements or shortfall in any given year.

REFUGEES FROM BURMA SETTLED IN ORISSA

2241. SHRI SRADHAKAR SUPAKAR : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of refugees from Burma settled in Orissa at present; and

(b) the total help given so far for the rehabilitation of these refugees ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN): (a) About 1,655 persons of Indian origin have gone to Orissa.

(b)	Loans :	Rs. 18,66,440.00
	*Grants in aid:	Rs. 1,27,392.00
		<u>Rs. 19,93,832.00</u>

*Includes expenditure incurred on relief measures also.

EXPORT OF FOODGRAINS

**2242. SHRI SITARAM KESRI :
SHRI R. BARUA :**

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

(a) whether foodgrains of any type are being exported at present; and

(b) if so, the quantity thereof and the countries to which exports are being made at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) The only foodgrains which is being exported at present is superior basmati rice.

(b) The annual export of superior basmati rice so far has been between 2,000 to 5,000 tonnes and the main markets for basmati rice are the countries bordering the Persian Gulf and the Arabian Sea such as Iraq, Kuwait, Bahrein, Muscat, Aden, Saudi Arabia, Tanzania, etc. and also the U.K. and Singapore.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN RURAL AREAS

**2243. SHRI SITARAM KESRI :
SHRI JAGESHWAR YADAV:**

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether any survey has been