

There have been no cases in Gujarat, Andhra, Jammu and Kashmir, Bihar, Kerala, Mysore, Nagaland and Orissa States.

(c) Assam	8
Madras	29
Rajasthan	1
West Bengal	1

(d) Rs. 24,595.29.

(e) Instructions have been issued for keeping strict supervision and exercising proper vigilance as also carrying out close examination of money orders received for payment. In doubtful cases, payment of money orders is to be made after verifying genuineness telegraphically from the office of issue.

Area Under Sugarcane Cultivation

759. SHRI RANE: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total area under sugarcane cultivation throughout India in the current year and how it compares with the years of 1965-66, 1966-67 and 1967-68; and

(b) the target of sugar production for the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) It is too early to form an estimate of area under sugarcane crop during 1968-69 season. The area under sugarcane during the last three years was as under:—

Year	Estimated Area ('000 hectares)
1967-68	2,050
1966-67	2,328.8
1966-65	2,779.7

(b) No target for production of sugar during the current year (1967-68) has been fixed. The total production for this year is estimated to be 22.5 lakh tonnes.

Procurement of Foodgrains

760. SHRI RANE: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaints from farmers that they are not given full prices of their foodgrains by Officers of the Food Corporation of India and their agents;

(b) if so, from which States; and

(c) the steps which Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) and (b). A few reports have been received from Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh that farmers are not given full prices of their foodgrains by the officers of F.C.I. and their agents.

(c) The F.C.I. and the concerned State Governments have been asked to ensure that the farmers get the procurement prices and particularly look into specific cases of complaints.

Agricultural Prices Commission

761. SHRI G. S. MISHRA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the basic criteria followed by Government to appoint members of the Agricultural Prices Commission; and

(b) the reasons for not giving the representation to the farmers interest in this Commission?