

(SHRI SHER SINGH) : (a) and (b). The telex service provided in the entire country is on a fully automatic basis. Every telex subscriber can get access to any other telex subscriber under the control of his own dial. This position holds for telex service between Delhi and Madras too. Any subscriber connected to Delhi or its directed centre exchange at Lucknow, Kanpur, Jaipur, etc., can directly dial any other telex subscriber connected to Madras telex or any of its district centre exchanges like Vijaywada, Bangalore, Ernakulam, etc. As the service provided already is a direct service, the question of providing additional through telex service between Delhi and Madras does not arise.

Procurement, Storage and Movement of Rabi Foodgrains

5959. SHRI BENI SHANKAR
SHARMA :
SHRI D.C. SHARMA :

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

(a) the arrangements made by the Food Corporation of India for procurement, storage and movement of foodgrains in the coming rabi season ;

(b) the details thereof ; and

(c) the targets fixed for the purpose, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) and (b). Arrangements are being made by the Food Corporation of India for procurement of 3.2 million tonnes of Rabi grains in the coming rabi season. Out of this 1.1 million tonnes will have to be moved out of the States where procurement will be undertaken during the peak season May-July, 1969. The Corporation has established a close liaison with the Railways to ensure quick movement. In addition to the existing storage capacity additional construction of a capacity of 9 lakh tonnes is in progress. Temporary storage structures are also being put up by Food Corporation of India and Central Warehousing Corporation which will provide

transit storage for a period of 3 to 4 months. Additional storage accommodation is also being hired wherever available.

(c) No fixed targets for purchase by Food Corporation of India have been laid down tentatively the Food Corporation expects to purchase the following quantities of wheat in the different States in the coming Rabi Season :

State	(Figures in '000 tonnes)
	Expected purchases
Bihar	50
Haryana	200
Madhya Pradesh	150
Punjab	2000
Rajasthan	70
Uttar Pradesh	700
West Bengal.	25

Effect of Recent Showers on Crops in Delhi

5960. SHRI BENI SHANKAR
SHARMA :
SHRI D.C. SHARMA :

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

(a) whether showers in the middle of March, 1969 have badly affected the crops in and around Delhi ;

(b) if so, the estimated loss ;

(c) whether the showers have helped new varieties of wheat and had been good for fodder and vegetables ; and

(d) if so, to what extent ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The question does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir. The few showers that were received were beneficial for the new varieties of wheat crop as also for fodder and vegetable crops.