

(b) to (d). As the matter is pending before the High Court, the Government does not consider it proper to refer this case to the C.B.I. or Vigilance commission.

Buffer Stock of Foodgrains

433. SHRI J.B. SINGH:
SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA:
SHRI SHARDA NAND:
SHRI D.N. PATODIA:
SHRI HIMATSINGKA:
SHRI P.C. ADICHAN:
SHRI S.K. TAPURIAH:
SHRI M. SUDARSANAM:
SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI:
SHRI SARJOO PANDEY:
SHRI VASUDEVAN NAIR:
DR. RANEN SEN:
SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH:
SHRI VALMIKI CHOUDHARY:
SHRI S.R. DAMANI:
SHRI SRADHAKAR SUPAKAR:
SHRI SHRI GOPAL SABOO:
SHRI SITA RAM KESRI:
SHRI HARDAYAL DEVGUN:
SHRI RAGHUVIR SINGH SHASTRI:

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

(a) the prospects of food production this year;

(b) whether Government would be able to achieve the buffer stock target;

(c) if not, what will be the shortfall; and

(d) the steps to be taken to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) Despite the damage caused by drought and floods in several States, the overall prospects of food production in 1968-69 are good.

(b) Government expects to be able to achieve the target by the end of the crop year.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

Profit by Sugar Mills

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

(a) whether the Government have collected information about the profits earned by private and cooperative sector sugar mills after the new sugar policy was announced for 1967-68 season;

(b) the likely trend of profit this year;

(c) the prices actually paid to the sugarcane growers this year; and

(d) the prevailing open market prices in different areas of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) No, Sir. The sugar produced in 1967-68 was allotted up-to December, 1968. The accounts years of the factories, in a large number of cases, do not coincide with the crushing year. The sales of the 1967-68 season sugar will appear in the returns of two years which may include income from other sources. A very elaborate enquiry will be necessary to determine the profits made after partial decontrol.

(b) The profit this year will depend on various factors viz., the recovery obtained by sugar factories, the duration of the season and the prices of sugar in the open market. These can be known only after the year closes.

(c) A statement, showing the prices of sugarcane being paid by sugar factories during the year 1968-69, is attached.

(d) A statement, showing the prevailing whole-sale prices of sugar in different consuming centres of India, is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-49/69].

Growing of Giant Tomatoes in Assam

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

(a) whether the Government of India are aware that a progressive farmer named Shri Anandeswar Berua of Bahali village in Assam had succeeded in growing giant tomatoes each weighing two kilos; and

(b) whether there are any proposals to propagate this new technique of growing tomatoes in other parts of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNA-SAHIB SHINDE): (a) and (b). The information is being collected from the State Government and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha as soon as it is received.

Refugees in Assam

436. SHRI BISWANARAIN SHASTRI:
SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that hundreds of refugees have been pouring into Assam every month;

(b) if so, the number of such refugees who come to Assam during the last six months of 1968; and

(c) whether Government are aware that influx of refugees has created a problem in Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD): (a) and (b). During the year 1968, on an average 394 migrants entered Assam from East Pakistan every month. During the six months ending on the 29th December, 1968, 2098 migrants came to Assam from East Pakistan.

(c) The Government of Assam undertook to rehabilitate 12,000 families of new migrants *i.e.* those who came over to Assam from 1.1.1964 onwards. The process is nearly completed. Arrangements have been made for the rehabilitation, outside Assam, of families who are in relief camps opened in Assam and who are in excess of the quota of 12,000. Some of these families are showing their reluctance to move outside Assam. Efforts are being made to persuade them to go to sites of rehabilitation prepared for them outside Assam. As regards persons who have been entering Assam in recent months, the Government of Assam were advised during discussions

which took place in the month of May last year, when Shri D. R. Chavan, the then Deputy Minister, Rehabilitation, visited Assam in this connection, to send these persons, after necessary screening, direct to the relief camp at Mana near Raipur in Madhya Pradesh, which is managed by the Government of India. All refugees who enter Assam and who are in excess of the quota of 12,000 families will, according to present plans, be resettled outside Assam.

Financial Assistance to Scheduled Castes/Tribes for Development of their Agricultural Lands

437. SHRI GADILINGANA GOWD:
Will the Minister of FOOD & AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme for giving financial assistance and other concessions to the Scheduled Castes/Tribes for the development of their agricultural lands;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the State-wise allocation during the Fourth Five-Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNA SAHIB SHINDE): (a) to (c). There is no scheme for financial assistance to scheduled castes/Tribes for development of agricultural lands in the Central sector. There are separate schemes for soil conservation, minor irrigation, construction of field channels, supply of fertilizers, etc. All these schemes, however, fall in the State sector programmes. Revised proposals have not yet been received from the State Governments after the finalization of their Fourth Five-Year Plans by the Planning Commission. Allocation in respect of these schemes in the State Sector are not yet available.

A proposal is under consideration of the Government of India to provide necessary facilities to that category of small farmers, who are not viable and economic to-day, but who can easily become credit worthy after certain improvements are made to their land. The proposal envi-