

Investment of only Rs. 40 crores in one single year;

(b) how much of this benefit has come to the Government by way of taxes.

(c) whether Government would devise ways and means of using these huge profits for irrigating and electrifying rural areas of Maharashtra which have been deprived of the benefit of irrigation and power hitherto; and

(d) If not, the reasons for not formulating such a scheme and getting the State Governments cooperation in implementing it ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI D. ERING)
(a) Government have not received any information on this subject.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Production and Export of Sugar

1724. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made a rough estimate of the likely production of sugar in the 1969-70 season;

(b) how much of the estimated sugar production is likely to be exported;

(c) what is the basis on which exporters are selected by the Government; and

(d) what is the amount of subsidy that the Government intend to give to the exporters in the coming year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) The production of sugar during the season 1969-70 is expected to anything between 38 to 40 lakh tonnes.

(b) The sugar export policy for 1970 is under consideration.

(c) Since the year 1964, sales of sugar for export are finalised by the Government of India and a representative body of the sugar industry appointed as the Export Agency under the Sugar Export Promotion Act, 1958, has been handling physical export of sugar. The parties which sell our sugar abroad are selected on the basis of tenders which are opened in the presence of the parties tendering.

(d) It has not yet been decided.

Alleged Victimisation of Working Journalists and Cartoonists

1725. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATION be pleased to state :

(a) Whether Government have received any complaint about harassment of working journalists and cartoonists by Government and proprietors for their writing reports and expressing views and drawing cartoons which are not palatable to Government or the proprietors concerned;

(b) whether any investigation has been carried out into the alleged victimisation of working journalists in the 'Times of India' 'Dinaman' and other newspapers and periodicals; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to make freedom of the press big business and Government controlled a reality ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a) A few complaints have been received.

(b) No, Sir, so far as the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting is concerned. So far as Government is concerned the freedom of the Press is ensured by the Constitution.