(c) if so, the reasons for delay in the supply of T. V. sets of Members of Parliament by the concerned dealer and the steps taken to expedite their delivery?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING, AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJARAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) TV sets have yet to be supplied to 59 M.Ps.; out of them 13 M.Ps. are understood to have deposited money with the dealer.
- (c) Non-availability of spare parts required for repair of these sets. This Ministry is assisting the dealer in import of these spare parts. The dealer bas assured the Ministry that sets will be supplied by him to the M.Ps. as soon as they are repaired after receipt of spare parts.

Free Southern Zone for rice

4125. SHRI LOBO PRABHU: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICUL-TURE be pleased to state whether Government propose to establish immediately a free Southern Zone for rice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB The question of zonal SHINDE): No. Sir. restrictions on movement of rice will as usual be considered in the ensuing Chief Ministers Conference to be held by the end of September, 1970. The existing pattern of rice zones will be reviewed by Government thereafter.

Free Zone for Wheat

4126. SHRI LOBO PRABHU: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICUL-TURE be pleased to state the reasons for not extending the free zone for wheat to the whole country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): The movement of wheat and wheat produc's at present is un-restricted

throughout the country except the statutorily rationed areas. Free import of wheat in these areas cannot be permitted so long as statutory rationing is in force in those areas, as statutory rationing implies cordoning off these areas.

Buffer stock of Foodgrains

- 4127. SHRI LOBO PRABHU: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICUL-TURE be pleased to state:
- (a) the present buffer stock of food-grains;
- (b) at what monthly cost it is stored; and
- (c) the reasons for not selling the stocks rented in private warehouses and what would be the monthly saving in rent thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) At the end of July, 1970, the total physical stocks of foodrains with the Goveruments (Central as well as States) amounted to 5.3 million tonnes. Of this about 3 million tonnes may be treated as buffer stocks.

- (b) In the holding of the stocks, there is no physical demarcation between what constitutes buffer stocks and what constitutes operational stock. Therefore, it is not possible to indicate the monthly cost of storing the buffer stocks.
- (c) Till such time as Government have constructed sufficient godown capacity to meet the full requirements, it is necessary to utilize some private godowns. It would be unwise to sell away stocks merely to save some rent on private godowns.

उत्तर प्रदेश में डाक-घर तथा उप-डाकघर ग्रौर उनकी इमारतों के लिए किराये का भुगतान

- 4128. श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : क्या सूचना तथा प्रसारण श्रीर संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :
 - (क) उत्तर प्रदेश के नगरों ग्रीर गांवों