

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) The food grain production during 1996-97 was 198.17 million tonnes which was an all time record. A Statement giving production of foodgrains for 1996-97, State-wise, is attached.

(c) In order to increase the productivity and production of food grains, the Government is implementing various centrally sponsored, crop specific developmental schemes namely, Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice, Wheat and Coarse Cereals base cropping system areas, Accelerated Maize Development Programme, National Pulses Development Project etc.

Statement

Estimate of Production of Total foodgrains, 1996-97

State	Production (Thousand Tonnes) 1996-97 (Likely) As on 16-6-97
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	12628
Assam	3676
Bihar	13813
Gujarat	4943
Haryana	11369
Himachal Pradesh	1538
Jammu and Kashmir	1575
Karnataka	9335
Kerala	873
Madhya Pradesh	19565
Maharashtra	14548
Orissa	4786
Punjab	21566
Rajasthan	13045
Tamil Nadu	7529
Uttar Pradesh	42439
West Bengal	12885
Others	2057
All India	198170

Drug Prices Liabilities Review Committee

2090. DR. BALI RAM : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether member of the Drug Liabilities Review Committee and top bureaucrats of his Ministry are involved in scandelaus collusion:

(b) whether he has seen the cases of recovery relating to Baralgone Ketone of Hoechst, Doxycycline of US Vitamins, Ethambutol of Yash Pharma and Rifampicin of top producer;

(c) the step taken to fix responsibility and accountability in this regard ; and

(d) who is responsible for determining liability and the reasons as to why the cost experts only certify mathematical accuracy not the liability?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The DPEA liability cases of Baralgon Ketone of M/s Hoechst, Doxycycline of M/s U.S. Vitamins are presently before the Drugs Prices Liabilities Review Committee (DPLRC).

As regards DPEA liabilities in respect of bulk drug Rifampicin, in all, 11 cases based on this bulk drug have been referred to the DPLR Committee for its recommendations. The Committee has already furnished 4 Reports on the Rifampicin cases, to the Govt. In three cases, the Committee has up-held the Govt.'s claim against the parties in toto. In one case, the liability of the party under DPEA has been up-held but the quantum of payment has been reduced by recalculation.

As regards the DPEA liability case of M/s Yash Pharma, the DPLR Committee has finalised its Report ex-parte. This company has approached the Govt. for one more opportunity to represent their case. The company has also deposited 50% of the principal amount with the Govt. into the DPEA and thereafter, the company's request has been accepted.

(d) The liability of the companies are computed by the Deptt. Costs experts are part of the liability determination process. However, such computation are subject to vetting by the DPLR Committee.

Export of Single Super Phosphate to Bangladesh

2091. SHRI AJMEERA CHNDULAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Benefit meant for Indian farmers go to Bangladesh" appeared in the *Indian Express* dated May 15, 1997;

(b) if so, the main recommendations made on the export of fertilizers to Bangladesh by the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Fertilizers;

(c) whether the C & A G has also conducted test audit in which he has revealed that Railways incurred losses amounting to Rs. Four crores between January, 1994 and August, 1996,

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action taken by the Government in this regards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No recommendation on export of fertilizers to Bangladesh was made by the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Fertilizer Pricing which presented its Report in August, 1992.

(c) to (e) Ministry of Railways have informed that in two draft paras Audit has pointed out losses of Rs. 153.45 lakhs between January 1994 to February 1996 on Northern Railway and Rs. 9.74 lakhs between July 1994 to May 1996 on Eastern Railway on Export consignments of Single Super Phosphate (SSP) to Bangladesh. The Ministry of Railways have stated that normally no separate classification is prescribed for a commodity meant for export. Accordingly no separate classification for movement of SSP for export was prescribed by them and that the traffic in this commodity booked to Bangladesh was charged at the prescribed tariff. Railways have not suffered any loss on this account. This issue has also been examined by the Commercial Committee of Interchange (CCI) consisting of all the Chief Commercial Managers of Zonal Railway who have stated that no separate classification for export traffic of this commodity needs to be prescribed.

[Translation]

Agricultural Pricing Policy

2092. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the condition of farmers has been becoming worse due to wide gap between the price of industrial and agricultural products ;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to formulate any agricultural policy so as to check price rise in agricultural products, in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (c) The main objectives of the Government's price policy for agricultural produce are aimed at ensuring the remunerative prices to the growers for their produce with a view to encourage higher investment and production and to safeguard the interests of the consumers by making available supplies at reasonable prices. The price policy seeks to evolve a balanced and integrated price structure in the perspective of the overall needs of the economy. The

Government decides the price policy for major agricultural commodities after taking into account recommendations of the CACP, views of State Governments and Central Ministries. CACP while formulating its price policy recommendations *inter-alia*, takes into account the terms of trade between agriculture and non-agriculture sectors.

The Terms of Trade for agriculture sector has improved in recent years rising from 90.4 during 1993-94 to 91.2 during 1994-95 and further up to 93.9 during 1995-96. Efforts are being made to make the Terms of Trade more favourable towards agriculture.

[English]

Sexual Crime against Children

2093. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is steep increase in the number of cases of sexual crime against children in the country in general and particularly in the matropolitan cities ;

(b) whether at present there is no law in the country dealing exclusively with child abuse ;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(d) whether there has been a long pending demand by certain sections of our society that the law regarding the child sexual abuse be redefined for covering the entire range of offences committed against children ; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) Available information on the incidence of child rape during the years 1991 to 1995 and the incidence of selling & buying of girls for prostitution during the years 1994 to 1996 are given below :

S. No.	Year	Incidence of child rape
1.	1991	3729
2.	1992	3113
3.	1993	3393
4.	1994	3986
5.	1995	4067

Selling & Buying of girls for prostitution

S.No.	Year	Selling	Buying
1.	1994	34	4
2.	1995	17	19