

Wage Revision

5931. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the FCI had approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the wage revision for FCI employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether his Ministry have refused to accept that MOU and has suggested some cuts and amendments to that proposal;

(d) the details thereof;

(e) whether the Unions of workers have decided to accept the stand of his Ministry; and

(f) if so, the steps taken to save the situation?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The MOU covers the wage proposals for category III & IV employees on IDA pattern for the period from 1.2.1992 to 31.12.1996, costing around Rs. 315 crores for the entire period of settlement.

(c) The Ministry has approved the MOU with certain minor amendments.

(d) The amendments made by the Government relate to certain allowances and perks.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) The Unions of workers of FCI have already signed on 6.5.1997 a Memorandum of Settlement in respect of undisputed items of the wage revision proposal with the management.

[Translation]

Cost of Production of Sugar

5932. SHRI NITISH KUMAR :
SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether on account of slight variation of sugar prices in international market Indian sugar goes out of the competition;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether due to present levying of tax on sugar, its price has increased in the country;

(d) if so, the estimated percentage of taxes and raw material in the cost of production of sugar; and

(e) the measures to be taken by the Government to bring down the prices of sugar in the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) The export of sugar depends upon a host of factors including international sugar prices.

(c) and (d) There is no increase in the taxes on sugar presently. Components of all-India average ex-factory price per quintal of levy sugar for 1996-97 are Cane cost Rs. 597.42, Conversion cost Rs. 275.83 and Return Rs. 128.02 totalling Rs. 1000.77. The post factory taxes are (i) Central excise duty on levy sugar Rs. 38 per quintal, on levy free sugar Rs. 71 per quintal and (ii) Sugar cess Rs. 14 per quintal (export exempted).

(e) Government keeps check on prices of sugar by judicious releases every month.

[English]

Foodgrains Stock in Madhya Pradesh

5933. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the present foodgrains stock in the godowns of Food Corporation of India in Madhya Pradesh as compared to the stocks of last two years; and

(b) the target fixed for stocking foodgrains in the current year?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) The stock position of wheat and rice in the godowns of the Food Corporation of India in Madhya Pradesh as on 1.4.1997 as compared to 1.4.1996 and 1.4.1995 are as under :

(In lakh tonnes)

As on	Wheat	Rice	Total
1.4.97(P)	0.46	6.06	6.52
1.4.96(P)	1.65	8.42	10.07
1.4.95(P)	2.60	10.79	13.39

(P) - Provisional.

(b) No targets are fixed for stocking foodgrains. However, efforts are made to store stocks equal to two months allocation for a State/Union Territory.

[Translation]

Sugar Production

5934. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA :
SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated production of sugar during the year 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97;

(b) the quantum of levy sugar received by the Government out of the said production during each of the said years; and

(c) the reasons for receiving less than 40 per cent of the production of sugar as levy sugar during the said years?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) Provisional (P) production of sugar during the sugar seasons 1994-95, 1995-96 and estimated (E) production of 1996-97 as also the quantum of levy sugar out of the said production during each of the said seasons are given below :

(in lakh tonnes)

Season	Production	Levy portion
1994-95	146.43	48.32
1995-96	164.29(P)	44.56
1996-97	140.00(E)	46.20

(c) The reason for receiving less than 40% of the production of sugar as levy sugar during the aforementioned season has been diversion of levy sugar to freesale sugar on account of incentives for early/late crushing as also incentives to new and expansion factories by way of release of freesale sugar @ more than 60% of their production.

Supply of Poisonous Flour by Super Bazar

5935. SHRI MANOJ KUMAR SINHA : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether poisonous flour has been supplied by some branches of Super Bazar recently;

(b) if so, the name of branches at which such incidents took place; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) According to the information furnished by Super Bazar, Delhi no poisonous atta has been supplied by their branches recently.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Use of Ex-Servicemen in checking Law and Order

5936. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have issued directions to the State Governments to use the Ex-Servicemen in checking the law and order and also meeting the threat being posed by the extremists;

(b) if so, the number of ex-servicemen recruited in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) whether any general policy in this regard is being followed; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Central Government has not issued any directions to state government to use Ex-servicemen in checking law and order. However, it is understood that the Andhra Pradesh Government has decided to recruit Ex-servicemen for anti-naxalite operations in the state.

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Modernisation of Police

5937. SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have granted Rs. 5 crore to the Andhra Pradesh State for modernisation of the police Department in the State;