

[*Translation*]

Price of Sugar

6533. SHRI RAMDAS SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a sharp increase in the prices of sugar in the open market recently;

(b) if so, the extent of increase in the prices in all the States particularly in Bihar during last month:

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the measures adopted by Government to check this increase?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA):

(a) to (d). The sugar prices in the open market have increased recently due to speculative tendencies. The Government has therefore released additional 50,000 tonnes of indigenous free sale sugar for April making the total free-sale release at 6.00 lakh tonnes against 4.50 in April, 89. Besides quantity of 6.50 lakh tonnes free-sale sugar has been released for May, 90 as against 5.00 lakh tonnes in May, 89. As a result the prices have already declined.

[*English*]

Boiled Rice to Kerala

6534. SHRIRAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government propose to increase the supply of boiled rice to Kerala; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA):

(a) and (b) The Food Corporation of India endeavours to meet the variety wise preference of rice of the State Governments to the extent possible depending upon the availability of stocks.

Extension of ESI Facilities to Beedi Workers

6535. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under consideration of the Government to extend the ESI scheme to the beedi workers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN):

(a) and (b) The ESI Scheme is already applicable to beedi manufacturing establishments run with power and employing 10 or more persons or run without power and employing 20 or more persons and located in the areas where the ESI Scheme has been implemented.

(c) Does not arise.

**Price of Flats Under Hudco Scheme.
1979**

6536. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether New Pattern HUDCO Scheme was launched in 1979; and

(b) if so, the details thereof with prices fixed for flats in each category and prices actually charged?