

Setting up Sugar Zones in Maharashtra to Help Backward Areas

*722. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra and also the Maharashtra Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Sangh have represented to the Central Government that for fixing the levy price of sugar the State of Maharashtra be divided into three zones according to agro-economic conditions to help setting up of sugar factories in backward areas instead of State being treated as one unit;

(b) whether the matter was referred to the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices by Government of India;

(c) if so, the findings of the Bureau in this regard and whether the proposal of the State Government has been found acceptable; and

(d) if not, in what way Government propose to help new sugar units being set up in the backward areas ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) Initially, Government of Maharashtra and the Maharashtra Rajya Sahakari Karkhana Sangh represented for dividing Maharashtra into 3 zones but later they changed it by requesting for 2 zones

(b) to (d). Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices which had been entrusted, amongst other things with the responsibility of looking at existing zoning system with a view to its reorganisation, have submitted their report in 1984. The re-zoning proposals submitted by the BICP which include some recommendations pertaining to the existing Maharashtra zones, are of a nature which could create legal, administrative and logistic difficulties in implementation. Detailed clarifications etc. on these proposals have been sought from the BICP

which would require in depth examination by the Government before a decision can be taken on these recommendations for being implemented or otherwise from 1985-86 sugar year.

Commissioning of 100 KW Medium Wave Transmitter at Mawjrong

*723. SHRI G.G. SWELL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) when the Mawjrong 100 KW medium wave transmitter on the Shillong-Cherra Road of the Khasi Hills was commissioned;

(b) the results obtained; and

(c) the shortcomings in the radio network of that border strategic region that it has filled ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL) : (a) The 100 KW MW transmitter at Shillong has been installed and tested. It has not yet been commissioned.

(b) and (c). Do not, therefore, arise.

Norms for Lending to the Cooperatives

*724. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of norms prescribed for the cooperatives in advanced and backward States;

(b) whether there are same set of norms;

(c) whether there is a demand that NABARD and Government of India may evolve different sets of norms for lending to the cooperatives functioning in the States where there is greater concentration