

under FCI and the number of mills running into losses;

(d) the number of FCI rice mills located in Maharashtra; and

(e) steps taken by Government to improve the performance of those mills which have been running in losses?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b). The Management of the Food Corporations of India have decided to close operations in its Modern Rice Mills and disposed of rice mills in the Eastern Zone on account of economic non-viability.

(c) The food Corporation of India have 25 Modern Rice Mills. These are economically and operationally non-viable units.

(d) F.C.I. do not have any rice mill in the State of Maharashtra.

(e) Several steps including adequate stocking of paddy, requests to State Governments for regular supply of power, installation of stand-by diesel generators, deployment of qualified supervisory staff, installation of husk fired furnaces etc. have been taken to improve their working.

Pooling of Tenders for White Washing etc.

*382. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether in the CPWD, Delhi pooling of tenders for white-washing and painting was under investigation ;

(b) if so, whether the matter has been investigated and if so, the result thereof ; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure non-pooling of tenders in future ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. No specific lapse was noticed in this regard.

(c) Rules and instructions on the subject provide for adequate precautions against pooling of tenders.

Sale of Non-edible and Edible Oils Allocated to Manipur

*383. SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that huge quantities of non-edible and edible oils allocated to Manipur are sold away before reaching Manipur by the agents ;

(b) whether Government have received any complaints in this regard ; and

(c) if so, the action taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b). The Central Government have not received any complaint in this regard.

(c) Does not arise.

Maintenance of Environmental Balance

*384. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken a note of the fact that in industrialized urban areas the number of green belts is diminishing ; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take in order to maintain the environmental balance ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. These trends have come to the notice of the Govt. To counter these tendencies and to ensure environmental balance further development of these towns is sought to be regulated in a planned way. This aims at preservation of environmental balance including green belt, ecology and aesthetics of the urban areas. In regard to setting up of new industries with polluting potential, industrial licences are being issued only after they are cleared from environmental angle by the competent State authorities & subject to prescribed terms & conditions to meet the standards of preservations of ecological and environmental requirements.

Quota of Rice for Karnataka

*385. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the monthly quota of rice fixed for Karnataka State ;

(b) the quantity asked for by Karnataka Government ; and

(c) whether Government propose to consider the request of Karnataka Government and release the required quantity of rice to implement the cheap rice scheme for poor by the Karnataka Government.

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) to (c). Against its demand for allotment of 50,000 tonnes of rice from the Central Pool, the monthly allocation of rice to Karnataka was increased from 25,000 tonnes in May, 1985, to 30,000 tonnes in June, 1985 and 32,000 tonnes per month in July, 1985, and August, 1985. This has further been raised to 35,000 tonnes for

September, 1985. A special one-time allocation of 20,000 tonnes of rice was also made to Karnataka in July, 1985, in addition to the monthly allocations. The allocations from the Central Pool, which are made to various states, including Karnataka, on a month to month basis, are only supplemental to open market availability.

Pilot Project for Intensive Rice Cultivation in Orissa

*386. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) how many Blocks in Orissa have been taken as a Pilot Project for intensive rice cultivation in the year 1983-84, and what are the names of those blocks and what amount has been sanctioned for each Block and for how many years ;

(b) what amount has been spent in each block out of the sanctioned amount in the year 1983-84 ; and

(c) if the entire amount has not been spent, what action is going to be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (S. BUTA SINGH) : (a) In all Seven Blocks were selected for Rice Pilot Project in Orissa during 1984-85 and not in 1983-84. These are Salipur, Pipili, Simulia, Bhanjnagar, Belguntha, Attabira and Bheden. An amount of Rs. 9.43 lakh per block was sanctioned for the year 1984-85.

(b) An amount of Rs. 56.71 lakh was spent against the sanctioned amount of Rs. 66.01 lakh in these blocks. Block-wise expenditure incurred during 1984-85