

(c) if so, what are his suggestions, if any; and

(d) whether Government would have a second look at it so that both the consumer's and the milk suppliers' interests are maintained at a reasonable level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN) : (a) The price of milk of dairies in general is a matter to be decided by the State Governments or respective authorities like public sector corporations, cooperative federations, etc. responsible for running the dairy plants.

Generally, respective authorities take into consideration the cost of various inputs like purchase price of milk, processing, transportation and distribution cost etc. in fixing the issue price of milk. In the case of Delhi Milk Scheme the issue price of milk for consumers is fixed with the prior approval of the Government.

However, no specific norms have been prescribed by Union Government for fixing the price of milk by dairies excepting the general guideline that due care may be taken to protect the interests of both the producers and consumers.

(b) and (c) Since no specific norms have been prescribed by Union Government for fixing the price of milk, the question does not arise.

(d) Government's endeavour is always to see that the interests of milk producers and that of consumers are maintained at reasonable level.

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

##### HOUSING SCHEME IN URBAN AND RURAL AREAS

\*328. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the housing schemes in different cities, towns and rural areas in various States and particularly in Karnataka are held up for want of Central Government's assistance; and

(b) if so, what efforts are being made to expedite these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

##### RICE STOCK IN TRIPURA UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION

\*331. SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that a huge quantity of rice are lying with the Food Corporation of India in Tripura which is unfit for human consumption;

(b) if so, total quantity of such rice lying there;

(c) whether Government of Tripura requested Union Government to send a team of experts to examine the rice;

(d) if so, whether Government have sent the expert team; and

(e) if not, the reason thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b) A quantity of 370 tonnes of rice out of the stocks held by the Food Corporation of India in Tripura has been found to be unfit for human consumption. The State Government had also required that a stock of 3392 tonnes of rice held by the Food Corporation of India should be re-milled and cleaned before being issued for public consumption. Food Corporation of India has agreed to allow the State Government a rebate of Rs. 12.13 per quintal towards re-milling and cleaning charges in respect of 2600 tonnes.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. A Committee of two officers of Food Corporation of India's Zonal Office, Calcutta, visited Tripura in June 1982 to verify the quality of the rice stocks. The team recommended that the balance of 792 tonnes may also be re-milled and cleaned before issue, as desired by the State Government.