

(c) whether any sites are being considered for the purpose now?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-  
TARY AFFAIRS, SPORTS AND  
WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BUTA  
SINGH): (a) No, Sir, a decision has  
been taken to instal statue of Mahatma  
Gandhi in the India Gate complex.

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

### Independent Authority for Development of Sports

\*112. SHRI R. P. YADAV:

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN  
DEV:

Will the Minister of SPORTS be  
pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has a pro-  
posal for setting up an independent  
authority for the development of sports  
in the country;

(b) if so, the pattern composition and  
other details of the proposed authority;  
and

(c) when it is likely to be constitu-  
ted?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-  
TARY AFFAIRS, SPORTS AND  
WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BUTA  
SINGH): (a) to (c) A separate Depart-  
ment of Sports has already been set  
up at the Centre to look after develop-  
ment of sports in the country. An  
autonomous Stadia Authority is also  
being set up to maintain and manage  
the newly constructed stadia in Delhi  
and to develop sports through the op-  
timum use of these facilities. The  
details are being worked out.

### Policy for distributing essential commodities through fair price shops

113. SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL:  
Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL  
SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any uniform  
policy for distributing the essential

commodities through fair price shops  
throughout the country;

(b) if so, whether the details of  
guidelines issued to the State Govern-  
ments in respect of procurement, stor-  
age, transportation, commission to the  
fair price shop dealers, taxes etc., and  
thereafter sale price of the commodi-  
ties supplied through fair price shops  
will be laid on the Table; and

(c) if not, whether there is any pro-  
posal to adopt uniform policy through-  
out the country in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF  
THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL  
SUPPLIES (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA  
AZAD): (a) to (c) In the scheme of  
public distribution of essential com-  
modities, as implemented throughout  
the country, there is uniformity in cer-  
tain aspects of the policy, while allow-  
ing for flexibility and variation in other  
aspects to take the local circumstances  
into account. Seven commodities have  
been recommended by the Central  
Government uniformly to all the States  
for public distribution. These are  
Wheat, Rice, Imported Edible Oils,  
Sugar and Kerosene, apart from Soft  
Coke and Controlled Cloth. The res-  
ponsibility for procurement, storage,  
transportation of these commodities up-  
to the State/Union Territory, is under-  
taken on behalf of the Central Govern-  
ment for each commodity by a desig-  
nated Central agency. The latter  
hands the stocks over to the State Gov-  
ernment or its nominee for supply to  
the fair-price shops and other retail  
outlets in the State for issue to the  
consumers. These commodities are  
supplied to the State Governments at  
uniform issue prices which are fixed  
from time to time by the Central Gov-  
ernment. The States are permitted to  
add to these prices, local handling and  
transportation charges etc., so as to  
arrive at the end-retail price for the  
commodity. This retail price, which in-  
cludes the retailers's commission,  
differs from State to State depending  
upon the local circumstances. In the  
case of levy sugar, however, there is  
uniform retail price of Rs. 3.75 per

kilogram at which it is issued to the consumers under the public distribution system. The quantity of each commodity issued to a consumer by the State Government differs as between the States, depending on the consumer habits and preference availability and local condition. Similarly, in addition to the seven commodities mentioned above, State Government has the option to include any other items of mass consumption in the public distribution system, if it so wishes, by arranging for their procurement on its own. This a number of States are also issuing items like soap Match-box, cycle tyres and tubes etc., through the public distribution system. In all such matters, it would neither be possible nor practicable in the interests of the consumers to adopt a uniform policy throughout the country because of the variations in the circumstances, existing in the respective States/Union Territories. Moreover, in a system like Public Distribution, which runs on coordination between the Centre and the States, a certain measure of autonomy and freedom of action to the States is most essential for the successful implementation of the system.

#### **Crash of Sugar Prices due to Heavy release of Free Sale Sugar**

\*114. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Sugar Mills Association and National Federation of Cooperative Sugar Factories have lodged a strong protest with Government for the second time for ordering an unusually large scale release of free sale sugar in the market;

(b) whether this large scale release of sugar has resulted in crash in the sugar prices in the country; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir. Indian Sugar

Mills Association and National Federation of Coop. Sugar Factories have sent representations asking for reduction in the quantity of monthly free sale sugar quotas with a view to stabilise sugar prices in open market at higher levels enabling the factories to improve their realisations from sale of free sale sugar.

(b) and (c) I was with a view to safeguard the interest of consumers particularly during festival period and also to keep the surplus availability of sugar within manageable limits that the quantum of monthly freesale quota was increased and these quota ranged from 3.00 to 3.30 lakh tonnes during the period August—December, 1982. Subsequently taking into account the market situation, the lack of seasonal demand, availability of alternative sweeteners, the quota for January and February, 1984 was reduced to 2.50 lakh tonnes and 2.00 lakh tonnes respectively. Freesale quota for March, 1983 has been further reduced to 1.50 lakh tonnes. Thus always releases have been governed by the need for keeping the price level at a reasonable level in the context of the viability of mills and consumer interest. In future months also the release of freesale quota will be regulated in a judicious manner so as to keep the prices at reasonable levels.

#### **Consignment of Shoes and Kit Bags by Japanese Firm Lost in Transit**

†115. SHRI A. K. BALAN: Will the Minister of SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a consignment of 550 pairs of training shoes and 1000 kit bags supplied by Japanese firm for the Indian team participating in the Ninth Asian Games was lost in transit from Delhi Air-port to the Asiad village; and

(b) if so the details thereof?