

(c) steps taken/proposed to be taken to protect the interests of potato growers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE & IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has seen this report.

(b) The Government is seized of the problems of marketing of potato following a bumper crop of potato this year.

(c) The following steps have been taken to protect the interest of potato growers in Uttar Pradesh :—

- (i) N. A. F. E. D. has entered the market for the purchase of potato both for domestic market and export. They have already purchased about 1800 bags in Farrukhabad District and this had a salutary effect on the market.
- (ii) A quantity of 500 tonnes of potato has been exported to Mauritius.
- (iii) The State Government of Uttar Pradesh has been requested to set up a Potato Dehydration Plant at Farukhabad.
- (iv) The State Government has also been requested to take necessary steps for the construction of additional cold storages.

श्री इण्डिया हुनर क्लिब लि०, हुसैनपुर
द्वारा गन्ना उत्पादकों को बकाया राशि
का भुगतान न करना

* 729. श्री बबू लियथे : क्या कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या समस्तीपुर जिलान्तर्गत (बिहार) न्यू इण्डिया हुनर क्लिब लि०, हुसैनपुर द्वारा वर्ष 1972-73 में गन्ने की कीमत में एक रुपये प्रति क्विंटल की दर से की गई वृद्धि के कारण साठ हजार रुपये की बकाया राशि गन्ना उत्पादकों को भुगतान न करने और मिल बेट पर गन्ना कम तौलने के बारे में सरकार को कोई अध्ययन प्राप्त हुआ है; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इस बारे में सरकार क्या कार्यवाही कर रही है ?

कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्रालय में राज्य बंधु
(श्री कान्हादाब खाँ) : (क) जी हाँ।

(ख) क्योंकि 1972-73 के दौरान फौजरी द्वारा दिए गए मूल्य केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा गन्ने के निर्धारित किए गए सांख्यिक न्यूनतम मूल्य से काफी अधिक हैं, इसलिए फौजरी के विरुद्ध कोई कानूनी कार्यवाही नहीं की जा सकती है। तथापि, राज्य सरकार इस मामले के बारे में फौजरी के साथ बातचीत कर रही है। फौजरी द्वारा कम गन्ना तौलने के चार मुकदमों न्यायालय में चल रहे हैं।

Execution of major and medium irrigation projects

*730. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH GILL :

SHRI SAT PAL KAPUR :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the execution of major and medium irrigation projects proposed in the draft Fifth Plan will cost 50 per cent more than the original estimates; and

(b) if so, whether the share of the burden will be passed on to the States also where such projects are to be executed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH) : (a) The Draft Fifth Five Year Plan envisages an outlay of Rs. 2401 crores in the Major/Medium irrigation sector to create an additional potential of 6.2 million ha. It has now been assessed that in order to achieve the target laid down, the Fifth Plan outlay will have to be increased to Rs. 3750 crores due to increase in project costs as a result of price escalation.

(b) Irrigation is a State subject and irrigation schemes are planned, investigated and executed by the State Governments within the frame work of their developmental plans. The cost of all irrigation projects would, therefore, be borne, by the State Governments themselves.