

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Statement

Allocation of foodgrains from the Central Pool for October and November, 1974, to the Govts., of Gujarat, Rajasthan and Orissa.

(In thousand tones)

State :	Allotment		
	October, 1974	November, 1974	
Gujarat .	Rice	2.0	2.0
	Wheat	42.0	47.0
	Coarse-grains	33.0	33.0
Rajasthan .	Wheat	12.0	17.0
	Coarsegrains	18.3	18.3
Orissa .	Rice	3.3	—
	Wheat	20.0	25.0

Starvation deaths on Cooch Behar Railway Station, West Bengal

*9. SHRI SAROJ MUKHERJEE:

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

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the starvation deaths of sixteen persons on the railway station of Cooch Behar in West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (Shri Annasaheb P. Sinde). (a) The Government of West Bengal have reported that some destitutes took shelter on the platform of the New Cooch Behar railway station after the recent floods in that area and that a few persons among them died on account of diseases and malnutrition.

(b) The State Health Department deputed 23 Doctors, 63 Sanitary Inspectors, the State Nutrition Officer, an Epidemiologist and a Special Epidemiological investigation team from the Cholera Research Centre to Cooch Behar. The situation is reported to be under control. The State Government have also organized test works and the distribution of gratuitous relief on an adequate scale in this area.

Starvation deaths in Golokganj (Assam)

*10. SHRI NOORUL HUDA:

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

(a) whether Government are aware that hundreds of people had collapsed in the streets of Golokganj in Assam recently because of starvation; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) The State Government to whom this matter was referred, have stated that there have been no starvation deaths in Golokganj Camp.

(b) Does not arise.

Working of Indian Institute of Technology, Madras

*11. **SHRI S. N. MISRA:** Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have inquired into the working of Indian Institute of Technology, Madras during the last three years;

(b) if so, the nature of irregularities which have come to the notice of the Government for that period; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to remove the drawbacks of the Institute?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S. NURUL HASAN): (a) The President of India, in his capacity as the Visitor of the Indian Institutes of Technology, appointed in March 1970, a Reviewing Committee to review the work and progress of IIT, Madras. The Committee submitted its report in August, 1971.

(b) No irregularities relating to this period were reported.

(c) The Reviewing Committee made recommendations for the development and improvement of the Institute. The Council of Institutes of Technology considered together the recommendations of the Reviewing Committees of all the five IITs. A plan of action approved by the Council was communicated in September, 1974 to all the five Institutes.

Starvation deaths in States

*12. **SHRI SAMAR GUHA:**
SHRI P. M. MEHTA:

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

(a) whether cases of innumerable starvation deaths have been reported from West Bengal, Assam, Orissa and other States of the country;

(b) whether the office-bearers and M.L.As. of the Ruling Party made statements to this effect;

(c) if so, facts about starvation deaths in West Bengal and other parts of the Eastern India; and

(d) steps taken by the Government to meet food crisis in these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) No report of any Starvation deaths have been received from any State Government.

(b) Some Press reports of statements purported to have been made by certain M.L.As. and office-bearers of the ruling party have come to the notice of Government.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Allotments of foodgrains to these States from the Central pool have been increased. In addition, the States have been permitted to import levy free wheat from surplus States on trade account. With the complete removal of restrictions on the movement of coarse grains, there has been a free flow of coarse grains from surplus States to deficit States. State Governments concerned have also opened test relief works and undertaken the distribution of gratuitous relief in the affected areas.