

**Issues Discussed at Chief Ministers' Conference Held at New Delhi**

\*262 SHRI BISHWA NATH JHUNJHUNWALA Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether at the Chief Ministers' Conference held in New Delhi in April, 1971, the difficulties about the transportation of foodgrains from the producing States to the receiving States were discussed, and

(b) if so, the issues discussed and the steps taken to resolve the transport difficulties particularly after harvesting?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P SHINDE) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Surplus States expressed concern over the difficulties faced by them in movement of grain procured. A statement indicating the steps taken for speeding up transportation of foodgrains is laid on the table of the Sabha

*Statement*

The following steps have been taken to speed up the transportation of foodgrains -

- (i) Movement to West Bengal and Assam is being maximised to the extent possible
- (ii) In order to give additional outlet for despatches from Punjab and Haryana, a contingency plan was formulated for transporting wheat all the way from Punjab and Haryana to the 3 Southern States. This contingency plan is already in operation from May 1971.
- (iii) Additional storage accommodation is being obtained in Gujarat and Maharashtra States so that despatches to these two States could be increased.

(iv) Arrangements are being made to obtain additional storage accommodation in Rajasthan so that wheat from Punjab and Haryana can be accommodated in addition to heavy internal procurement

(v) Despatches of wheat by road from various mandis of Haryana to Delhi is being increased by obtaining additional storage accommodation in and around Delhi

The position is being constantly reviewed

**Estimate of Inland Fisheries Potential**

\*263 SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) the estimated potential of inland fisheries in India and

(b) whether it is fully being utilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P SHINDE) (a) The potential of inland fisheries in India has been estimated to be about 4 million tonnes annually. The estimate of potential of 4 million tonnes has been worked out with reference to the entire cultivable water area in the country, including areas requiring reclamation for fish culture, and on the assumption that technological advances in fish culture methods will be extensively applied so as to secure substantially higher yields than are being obtained at present

(b) No, Sir

The production of fish from inland water areas in 1970 was 0.7 million tonnes

**Check on rise in price of Foodgrains, Oil and other Edibles**

\*264 SHRI S C SAMANTA Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state