

ponding Central Government employees from time to time.

(b) and (c). In the circumstances stated above, the question of discrimination or disparity does not arise.

Scheme for Nationalisation of Sugar Industry in Tamil Nadu

*1009. SHRI BHUVARAHAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Tamil Nadu Government have sent any concrete scheme for nationalisation of sugar industry in Tamil Nadu ;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Central Government in this regard ; and

(c) the percentage of the total production of sugar in Tamil Nadu, both in private and public (co-operative sugar mills) sector ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHER SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Private sugar mills have contributed 69.1 per cent. and the co-operative sugar mills 30.9 per cent in the total sugar production of 2.69 lakh tonnes of Tamil Nadu sugar mills during 1970-71 upto 22nd June, 1971.

Price of Vanaspati

*1010. SHRI C. CHITTIBABU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a downward tendency in edible oils ; and

(b) if so, whether the controlled rates of vanaspati will also be reduced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHER SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Reduction in oil prices in any zone is reflected in an appropriate reduction either in vanaspati prices in that zone, or in the level of incorporation of soybean oil by the factories

in that zone, or both. Consequent on the recent fall in oil prices, incorporation of soybean oil has been discontinued in all zones and, in addition, vanaspati prices in the South zone were reduced by 20 paise per kg. on the 23rd June 1971.

Integrated Regional Development Corporation for Exploitation of Water and Forest Resources for Agricultural Development

*1011. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to establish an Integrated Regional Development Corporation for areas like the Western Ghats, Himalayan region, Brahmaputra, and other regions to exploit all their water and forest resources for agricultural development and allied industry ; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHER SINGH) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Accumulation of structural Steel Cuttings in Alloy Steel Plant, Durgapur

*1012. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Alloy Steel Plant, Durgapur has accumulated a huge stock of structural Steel cuttings of different sizes ;

(b) whether these cuttings are being used as melting scrap at the plant ;

(c) whether these structural cuttings are much costlier than melting scrap obtainable from the market or from other plants ; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to avoid unnecessary expenditure being incurred on this account ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) About 1500 tonnes of structural steel cuttings of different