

support price of soyabean to encourage the agriculturists to increase production of soya-bean in Rajasthan and the steps taken therefor?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHB P. SHINDE) :** (a) to (c). Soyabean cultivation is being introduced in Rajasthan for the first time this year. The State Government has fixed the target of 545 acres for this crop. This target is expected to be achieved since necessary seed has been distributed at all the centres.

Fixation of purchase price for Soyabean in respect of 1971-72 crop is under consideration of the Government of India. All relevant factors will be taken into account while fixing this price.

**U S. State Department official's visit to Delhi Re : Bangla Desh Refugee Problem**

\*1163. **SHRI BISHWANATH JHUNJHUNWALA :** Will the Minister of **LABOUR AND REHABILITATION** be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Senior Officer of the US State Department visited Delhi in June to acquaint himself with the Bangla Desh refugee problem;

(b) if so, whether the State Department Official's visit has made any difference in the inflow of American aid to Displaced Persons; and

(c) if so, to what extent ?

**THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) :** (a) Yes, Sir. Mr. F. L. Kellogg, Special Assistant to the U. S. Secretary of State for Refugee and Migration Affairs paid a visit to India from 23rd June to 26th June.

(b) On June 25, while Mr. Kellogg was visiting the refugee camps near Calcutta, a Press Release was issued by the American Embassy in Delhi that the United States Government decided to provide an additional \$70 million (Rs. 52.50 crores) to assist India in coping with the problems created by influx of refugees from East Bengal. However, the announcement of this additional assistance has no connection with Mr. Kellogg's visit.

(c) Does not arise.

**Reopening of Birla Concerns in West Bengal**

\*1164. **SHRI M. M. HASHIM :** Will the Minister of **LABOUR AND REHABILITATION** be pleased to state :

(a) whether representatives of some Unions and Associations of workers in West Bengal have urged the Government to secure early reopening of those offices and factories of Birlas which are under closure since February, 1970;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the names of such offices and factories ?

**THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) :** (a) Yes.

(b) According to the information made available by the Government of West Bengal, there have been a series of discussions at different levels but these have so far been inconclusive. The State authorities are, however, continuing efforts to secure reopening of the closed units.

(c) Complete information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House after it is received.