

complaints in regard to the staleness of the bread produced by Modern Bakeries have been received.

(b) The Modern Bakeries are marketing only fresh bread, the shelf life of which is a minimum of 72 hours. Possibly, there might have been some delay in the sale at the retail level. Government is investigating the causes which led to these complaints.

(c) The distribution system has been tightened up and provision has been made to withdraw the stocks if any bread remains mould beyond the shelf life. Strict quality control and supervision over the distribution system is also exercised to prevent stale bread being marketed.

Increase in Deaths due to Cancer

*22. SHRI DINESH JOARDER :
SHRI C. CHITTIBABU :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the increasing number of deaths due to cancer in India ;

(b) whether Government have studied the reasons for the sudden increase of this disease ; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to eradicate the disease ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI UMA SHANKAR DIKSHIT) : (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [*Placed in Library. See No LT. 952/71.*]

Requirement and Imports of Foodgrains under PL-480

*23. SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH :
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government stand by its decision to stop PL-480 imports by the end of 1971 ;

(b) if not, the reasons thereof and the quantity of foodgrains proposed to be imported ; and

(c) our total requirements of foodgrains their availability internally ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE) : (a) Yes Sir, in so far as imports of foodgrains under PL-480 are concerned.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) It is too early to give precise estimates of production for 1971-72. But the foodgrain production in 1971-72 is expected to be of the order of 112 million tonnes which is estimated to be sufficient to meet our requirements.

Assessment of Food situation and target for Food Production in 1972

*24. SHRI R.S. PANDEY :
SHRI NAGESHWARA RAO :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made an assessment of the present food situation in the country, and, if so the details thereof ;

(b) whether Government has finalised targets of production and import of foodgrains in 1972 and if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) what steps have been taken to increase production of foodgrains during the next year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE) : (a) The food situation in the country at present is quite satisfactory. The production of foodgrains has been consistently good for the past 4 years. Foodgrains are at present easily available in the market and large reserve stocks of foodgrains are available with the Government.

(b) The target of production of foodgrains fixed for the year 1971-72 is 112 million tonnes. The decision to stop all concessional

imports of foodgrains after 1971 stands. However, import programme for commercial imports for 1972 has not yet been finalised.

(c) The steps taken to increase production of foodgrains include cultivation of high-yielding varieties, increasing the area under multiple cropping, adequate and timely supply of inputs and better water management, use of recommended doses of fertilizers, organised measures to control pests and plant diseases and assurance of incentive prices to the producers.

Financial Crisis faced by Calcutta Colleges

*25 SHRI MOHAMMAD ISMAIL : Will the Minister Of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the severe financial crisis being faced by the Calcutta Colleges, as reported in the *Hindustan Standard* dated 10th September, 1971 ;

(b) if so, the broad features thereof ; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this connection ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (PROF D. P. YADAVA) (a) : Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the press report in the *Hindustan Standard* dated September 10, 1971 the features are ; (i) most of the Calcutta colleges were facing a serious financial crisis as admission to the first year class had been postponed indefinitely on account of delay in the announcement of the Higher Secondary Examination results, (ii) inquiries in two of the big colleges in the city had revealed that they were not in a position to pay even salaries to their employees during October, 1971; and (iii) at the suggestion of the Principals, the Vice-Chancellor, Calcutta University had agreed to request the State Government for long term loans to the Colleges to meet their immediate needs.

(c) The results of the Higher Secondary Examination have since been announced and

the admissions to the first class have been completed in so far as Higher Secondary students are concerned. As regards the financial difficulties of the colleges, the State Government has appointed a Committee to go into the financial administrative and other aspects of non-Government affiliated colleges. The work of the Committee is in progress.

Attacks by Unsocial Elements on Doctors of Rajasthan Unit for Refugees of Bangla Desh

*26. SHRI BISHWANATH JHUNJHUNWALA : SHRI N. K. SANGHI

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to attacks by the unsocial elements on the doctors of the Rajasthan unit of the 400 bed hospital that was functioning at Islampur for the benefit of the refugees of Bangla Desh, the Rajasthan Government was inclined to withdraw the Unit ;

(b) if so, the reasons for the failure on the part of Government to provide adequate personal security to the doctors engaged in humanitarian work; and

(c) whether the medical unit has since been withdrawn and if so, the reaction of Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI UMA SHANKAR DIKSHIT) : (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

In connection with the medical relief work for the refugees from East Bengal, the Government of Rajasthan offered a fully equipped 400-bed hospital with personnel. The offer was accepted and the hospital was sent to Islampur in West Dinajpur District of West Bengal. The hospital started functioning in the first week of June, 1971 and functioned satisfactorily for about six weeks.

On 24th July, 1971, a representative of the Government of Rajasthan informed the Directorate General of Health Services that they