

Tamil Nadu. The state Government have recently promoted legislation to facilitate divisions of transport undertakings having fifty or more bus permits on the 19th June, 1971.

(b) No proposal has been received from the Government of Tamil Nadu for financial assistance for the implementation of their programme of nationalisation of road transport in the State.

(c) Does not arise.

Proposal to set up a Wheat Board

*178. SHRI B. S. BHAURA :
SHRI MUHAMMED SHERIFF :
SHRI NARENDRA SINGH :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there in any proposal before Government to set up a Wheat Board;

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

(c) when it is likely to be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) A proposal to set up a Wheat Board was mooted at a recent seminar on "Wheat in Indian Diet".

(b) and (c). The proposal is yet to be examined by the Government

Upward revision of Sugarcane Price

*179. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE :
SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has rejected the demand for an upward revision of sugarcane prices and decided to continue the existing statutory minimum price for 1971-72 season;

(b) if so, the reason for not revising the price despite unanimous demand from the cane growers;

(c) whether the views of the State Governments were taken on this; and

(d) if not, the reason for the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. SHER SINGH) : (a) and (b). The Central Government have, after careful consideration of all aspects, decided to continue the basic minimum sugarcane price for 1971-72 season at Rs 7.37 per quintal linked to a recovery of 9.4 percent or less, with a premium of 6.6 paise per quintal for every increase of 0.1 percent in recovery above 9.4 percent. The reasons for this decision are as under :—

(i) Any increase in the statutory minimum sugarcane price would have pushed up the sugar prices further.

(2) Increase in the statutory minimum price of sugarcane would have repercussions on the prices of other competing crops, and thereby aggravate the inflationary trends.

(3) The sugar factories should be able to pay a higher price for sugarcane than the minimum fixed by the Government, with the higher realisation they are getting at the present level of sugar prices.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Utilisation of Grant by Board of Trustees of Visva Yuvak Kendra

*180. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN :
Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Board of Trustees of Visva Yuvak Kendra failed to utilise the land and the cash grant given by Government to this institution for the purposes for which it was intended; and