

8. "For fair and free polling". Rs. 1,50,000

Quantity of Sugar for Free Sale

132 SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of sugar allowed for free sale due to the recent policy decision of Government ; and

(b) In actual quantity, how much the 10 percent means ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHIB P SHINDE) :

(a) A quantity of 7.80 lakh tonnes has been released for free sale during the current sugar year 1970-71 i.e. from October 1970 to March/April 1971 so far.

(b) If the ratio of levy free sale sugar had been 70:30 instead of 60:40, free sale releases in the same period i.e. October 1970 to March/April 1971 would have been about 6.5 lakh tonnes.

A. I. R. Earnings from Commercial Advertisements

133. SHRI R. R. SINGH DLO : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the details of All India Radio earnings during the current year from commercial advertisements ;

(b) whether there are plans to widen advertising service ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) the additional revenue expected thereby ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI NANDINI SATPATHY) : (a) The gross income during the calendar year 1970 was Rs. 2,65,32,192 (which included Rs. 7.87,395 for sponsored programmes). The net revenue after

deducting commission to Agencies was estimated at Rs. 2,27,38,610.

(b) and (c). The Commercial service was extended during the year to Chandigarh-Jullundur, Kanpur-Allahabad-Lucknow, Ahmedabad-Rajkot and Bangalore-Dharwar. The service was also started from Hyderabad-Vijayawada on 21-3-71. Proposal for further extension of the service to twelve more centres is under consideration. The economic and commercial viability of these centres on the basis of their market potentialities has to be determined before finalising the proposal.

(d) It is not possible at present to state precisely the additional revenue from the proposed new centres but it is estimated that on the basis of the gross income now received, each of the new centres is likely to bring in a gross revenue of about Rs 15 lakhs per year.

Shortage of Edible Oils

134. SHRI R. R. SINGH DLO : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been serious shortage of edible oils in several parts of the country recently , and

(b) the efforts made by Government to meet the requirements of edible oils which have caused serious hardship to numerous people ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHIB P. SHINDE) :

(a) No, Sir. There have been no such reports of serious shortage of edible oils although edible oils situation has been somewhat tight for sometime due to the gap between internal production and increasing requirements.

(b) Efforts are being made to reduce the gap between internal production and demand of edible oils by undertaking programme of research and development to raise the production of edible oilseeds and oils, encouraging the production of non-traditional oilseeds like soyabean and sunflower, uti-