

they are auctioning the mills. We have been urging on the State Governments to take harsh and coercive steps.

SHRI R. S. PANDEY : Taking into consideration the poor performance of the sugar industry in UP with regard to the recovery of arrears and payment, may I know whether the government will nationalise the entire industry ?

SHRI SHER SINGH : In reply to the calling attention motion the other day I have informed the house that we have received a memorandum from the U.P. Government. U.P. Government is taken some action and that will be known shortly.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Sir, let us have a short discussion on this.

MR. SPEAKER : I will propose it to the Business Advisory Committee. I will look into it.

Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research at Washington

*847. **SHRI RAM SHEKHAR PRASAD SINGH** : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India has been appointed as one of the Members of the new Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research set up in Washington;

(b) if so, the functions of this Group; and

(c) who are the other members of the Consultative Group ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) to (c). In April FAO had proposed to set up a Consultative Group in Washington on International Agriculture Research with the objective of attracting full financial support to strengthen such Research

in developing countries. India has been nominated as a Member of the Technical Advisory Committee which has been set up to support the Consultative Group. The Committee is located at FAO Headquarters in Rome and is composed of independent scientists from developed and developing countries in disciplines related to agriculture research development. As regards the Consultative Group some of the members are main aid donor countries of the FAO, Ford, Rockefeller and Canadian International Foundations and the Regional Development Banks.

श्री रामशेखर प्रसाद सिंह : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस संस्था के सदस्य के रूप में भारत की ओर से कौन से कार्यक्रम बनाये गये हैं और क्या इस संस्था की कोई बैठक हुई है या नहीं ।

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : I could not follow the question.

SHRI RAMSHEKHAR PRASAD SINGH : While being a member of this group, what programme has been prepared by India, and has any meeting of this group taken place; if so, what is the progress ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : Actually, membership is not there. From a number of countries leading scientists are invited. It is a sort of a panel or study group. From India Dr. Swaminathan has been invited to join this panel. They look into the broad research activities going on in all countries and how to exchange experience with each other.

Supply of Rice to North Bengal to Feed the Evacuees from Bangla Desh

*848. **SHRI M. SATYANARAYAN RAO** :

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of West Bengal has urged the centre to rush at least

six special train load of rice to North Bengal to feed the evacuees from Bangla Desh.

(b) If so, the steps taken to speed up the supply of foodgrains to North Bengal; and

(c) The total amount of food-grains supplied for the evacuees so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
(SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE):

(a) Yes, sir.

(b) The West Bengal Government have only recently asked for the supply of 30,000 tonnes of rice per month to meet the normal and the additional requirements in North Bengal. Steps have been taken to speed up the movement of this quantity of rice from Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Punjab. Sufficient stock of wheat already exists in the depots in North Bengal and further stocks are also being moved.

(c) West Bengal being a deficit State, supplies are made by Government of India to West Bengal Government both against their normal requirements as also for the refugees from Bangla Desh. The total quantity of foodgrains supplied to Bangla Desh evacuees upto 19-6-71 was 29,768 tonnes of rice and 580 tonnes of wheat.

SHRI M. SATYANARAYAN RAO :
I would like to know from the Minister, in view of the unprecedented influx of evacuees from Bangla Desh, whether our country is self-sufficient in foodgrains not only to feed our people but also the evacuees coming from Bangla Desh; if not, what steps Government propose to take in this regard.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE :
I would repeat that the problem of feeding the refugees from Bangla Desh is the responsibility, as I said earlier, of the international community but despite that

our food position is so comfortable that we are taking adequate care to see that these refugees, these unfortunate people, who have come are properly fed.

SHRI M. SATYANARAYAN RAO :
I would like to know the names of States which are surplus in foodgrains and which are in a position to supply rice to West Bengal; in particular I want to know whether Andhra Pradesh is a surplus State, if so, whether it has been approached by this Government for the supply of rice.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE :
Do you want me to answer this question Sir ?

MR. SPEAKER : Of course, it is a very indirect question. Why do you not get rice from Andhra Pradesh also ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE :
As I have already said in the main part of my reply, from the point of view of convenience we supply rice from Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Punjab to West Bengal. From Andhra, though it is a surplus State, it is convenient to supply rice to Kerala because that is nearer. So, it is planned on rational basis and, naturally, movements are planned from surplus States to deficit States on the basis of some broad considerations.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI :
I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether any specific proposal was made by West Bengal Government to the Central Government regarding the immediate supply of foodgrains because it is a fact that whenever foodgrains are supplied from the Government of India to those places, it takes time either due to delay or due to other things, and evacuees face a tremendous problem in the rationing shops. I would like to know categorically whether, apart from the normal require-

ments of West Bengal, because of the recent influx of evacuees into West Bengal, the requirement of foodgrains can be completely managed by the Government of India.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : Sir, as far as allotment is concerned there is no difficulty. I would like to repeat we have very satisfactory stock in West Bengal—almost half a million ton of wheat and rice is stocked at present in West Bengal and we are meeting all the requirements as per the demand of West Bengal. There is certain difficulty with regard to movement of wagons which is beyond the control of my Ministry but we are taking adequate care and planning for more quantity than required.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : I would like to know whether the food that were supplied particularly for refugees is supplied directly to refugee camps or through the West Bengal Government? Also whether on account of loading and unloading of wagons there is certain difficulty?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : We naturally allot to the West Bengal Government and through West Bengal Government these food grains are distributed. As the hon. Member has rightly pointed out there are some difficulties in unloading because of labour problems.

Supply of Tents for Refugees from Bangla Desh

*849. **SHRI S.M. BANERJEE :** Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken to expedite supply of tents for the refugees from Bangla Desh; and

(b) whether bulk of orders have been placed with Ordnance Clothing Factories or private contractors?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA) : (a) With a view to providing shelter to the refugees from East Bengal, arrangements have been made for supply of 6,000 tents from existing surplus stock and bulk orders in the form of operational indents for the supply of 82026 Tents/Shouldaries and 24,000 tarpaulins have been placed by the Government of India on the Director General of Supplies and Disposals, New Delhi Appeal has also been made to the U. N. and Foreign Agencies to provide shelter materials for the refugees.

(b) Orders for supply of tents have been placed by Director General, Supply & Disposal on private indigenous manufacturers

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : There are four Ordnance Clothing Factories under the Director General of Ordnance Factories and the bulk of the order has been placed with the private contractors who will never manufacture good articles. That has been our experience during Chinese and Pakistani aggression. I would like to know the reason why Director General, Supplies and Disposal placed most of the bulk order with the private people? Whether any investigation will be made as to why this thing has been done?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : All orders are placed through the Central Purchase Organisation—D. G. S. & D.—and they must have found from their own experience that ordnance factories are not in a position to take such big orders because it seems the Ordnance factories could not meet their own demands.