

(c) The report is under examination.

[*Translation*]

Procurement of foodgrains

975. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state the total quantity of paddy procured through Government and co-operative agencies during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SARWAR HUSSAIN): A quantity of 49.23 lakh tonnes of paddy had been procured during the current kharif marketing season 1990-91 upto 28-12-1990 by the Government/Cooperative procuring agencies.

[*English*]

Price of cotton

976. SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARDHANAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian cotton is cheaper than the cotton of other countries; and

(b) the details of Government policy regarding export of cotton?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The price of cotton in the international market varies from variety to variety and from country to country. However, international prices of cotton have been higher than domestic prices.

(b) The Government policy on cotton exports is guided by the twin objectives of ensuring remunerative prices of the growers

and making available adequate quantity at reasonable prices to the domestic textile industry. The export quotas are released keeping in view available exportable surplus and the price situation. The export of cotton is also subject to minimum export price.

National Commission on Population

977. SHRI Y.S. RAJASEKHARREDDY: Will THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are considering any proposal to set up a National Commission on Population; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. SHAKEELUR REHMAN): (a) and (b). The revised strategy for population control in the context of Eighth Plan is under formulation. One of the suggestions being considered is the constitution of a National Population Commission, details of which are yet to be finalised.

Allocation of Paper to States

978. SHRI D. AMAT:
SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:
SHRI SHEO SHARAN VERMA:
SHRI RAJAMOHAN REDDY:

Will the THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the allocation of paper to the different States, State-wise during the last three years and how much has been actually supplied to each State; and

(b) the reasons for not supplying enough paper to Rajasthan to enable it to supply text books and exercise books for the cause of education?