

Distribution of Foodgrains in Drought-Hit Areas

*1060 Shri D N Patodia ·
Shri R Barua .

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether there have been increasing complaints about the discriminatory distribution of foodgrains in the drought-hit areas,

(b) if so, whether any kind of supervision has been devised by the Central Government to streamline the distribution pattern there and

(c) whether any special directions have been issued by the Central Government to State Governments concerned in this regard?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Co-operation (Shri Anna saheb Shinde) (a) The Government, of the scarcity affected States of Bihar Gujarat Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal were addressed in the matter. The Governments of Bihar Gujarat, Rajasthan Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal have stated that no specific complaints regarding discriminatory distribution of foodgrains have been received. A reply from Madhya Pradesh is awaited.

(b) and (c) The distribution of foodgrains is entirely the responsibility of the State Governments and no supervision is exercised by the Central Government. However any defects in the public distribution system coming to the notice of the Central Government are brought to the notice of the State Governments.

Traffic on Ganga and Brahmaputra

*1061 Shri Eswara Reddy. Will the Minister of Transport and Shipping be pleased to state

(a) whether the Transport Research Directorate has made any study of the potential of riverine traffic on the Ganga and Brahmaputra,

(b) if so, the findings of the study,

(c) whether Inland Water Transport Directorate has any scheme to handle

the projected Inland Water Transport Traffic, and

(d) whether the scheme would cover the full utilisation of Push Tugs and barges (and not barrages as appearing in the Question) of the Ganga Brahmaputra Water Transport Board.

The Minister of Transport and Shipping (Dr V K R V Rao) (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House [Placed in Library. See No LT 978/67].

Sugar Industry in UP

*1062 Shri Marandi
Shri Kameshwar Singh

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that in Uttar Pradesh sugarcane areas are likely to be brought under foodgrains production from the kharif season,

(b) if so the reasons therefor and the total land to be so brought under cultivation

(c) whether it is also a fact that the experts have pointed out that this will greatly affect the sugar production in Uttar Pradesh and

(d) if so, the steps being taken in this regard?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Co-operation (Shri Anna-sahib Shinde): (a) and (b) The information is not available with us.

(c) No such report from any expert has been received so far.

(d) Does not arise.

Allocation of Fertiliser to Madras

*1063 Shri S Kandappan. Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the fertiliser allocated to Madras for 1967-68 is only half of what the State Government have asked for;