

खाद्यान्नों के विश्व-मूल्य बताने वाला एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा जाता है ।

(ख) केन्द्रीय भण्डार से दिये जाने वाले खाद्यान्नों के मूल्य बताने वाला एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा जाता है। [पुस्तकालय में रखा गया। देखिये संख्या LT-1176/67]

(ग) चालू मौसम में अब तक लगभग 36 लाख मीटरी टन खाद्यान्नों की अधिप्राप्ति की गई है, और अधिप्राप्ति खाद्यान्नों की उपलब्धि और अधिप्राप्ति करने के लिये राज्य सरकारों द्वारा किए गए प्रयत्नों पर निर्भर करेगी ।

(घ) अधिप्राप्त खाद्यान्नों का वितरण एक निरन्तर चलने वाला काम है ।

Import of Foodgrains after the closure of the Suez Canal

*1366. Shri P. Viswambharan:
Shri Mangalathumadom:
Shri P. C. Adichan:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the alternate steps Government have taken to tide over the difficulties in the import of foodgrains consequent on the closure of the Suez Canal;

(b) whether Government have purchased additional foodgrains from Eastern Countries after the Suez closure and if so, the quantities of wheat and rice thus purchased with details of countries from which the purchases were made; and

(c) whether these additional foodgrains have started arriving at the Indian ports?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Co-operation (Shri Annasaheb Shinde):
(a) The immediate impact of the closure of the Suez Canal with effect from the 6th June, 1967 has been on the food vessels which were on the

high seas on that date and were to come to Indian ports via the Suez Canal. The delay involved in the arrival of these vessels consequent on their re-routing via the Cape of Good Hope has affected the availabilities of foodgrains during the second half of the month of June and the first half of the month of July. There was no possibility of meeting these shortfalls from any source during this period because of the time factor. The closure of the Suez Canal has also adversely affected the availability of tankers for foodgrains and in order to meet any deficiencies in supplies of imported grains during the months of July and August, commercial purchases of foodgrains have been made from Australia. Possibilities of diversion of foodgrain vessels from Australia to other places have also been explored but without any definite results so far.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Shortage of Rice

*1367. Shri Eswara Reddy: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of shortage of rice in the country; and

(b) the steps which have been taken by Government to make the country self-sufficient in the matter of rice production?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Co-operation (Shri Annasaheb Shinde):

(a) In the absence of any scientific and comprehensive survey on the consumption of foodgrains in India it is not possible to indicate the requirements and shortage of even all foodgrains taken together. The demand for one foodgrain competes against that of another to a certain extent. It is, therefore much more difficult to assess the extent of shortage of any particular foodgrain separately.