

The Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation (Dr. Karan Singh): (a) and (b). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-431/67].

Rabi Crop Production

- *167. Shri Abdul Ghani Dar:
 Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:
 Shri Madhu Limaye:
 Shri S. M. Banerjee:
 Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia:
 Shri George Fernandes:
 Dr. Karan Singh:
 Shrimati Nirlep Kaur:
 Shri Sidheshwar Prasad:
 Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:
 Shri Parthasarathy:
 Shri R. K. Birla:
 Shri D. N. Patodia:
 Shri D. C. Sharma:
 Shri S. E. Damani:
 Shri V. Krishnamoorthi:
 Dr. Ramen Sen:
 Shri Dhireswar Kalita:
 Shri Jyotirmoy Basu:
 Shri Yashpal Singh:
 Shri S. C. Samanta:
 Shri R. Barua:
 Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:
 Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:
 Shri Heerji Bhal:
 Shri K. Pradhani:
 Shri Swell:
 Shri Barrow:
 Shri Kotal Birua:
 Shri Kikar Singh:

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

(a) whether Government have received any reports from the State Governments regarding the recent rabi crop production;

(b) if so, the details of the reports, State-wise, in respect of the different varieties of Rabi Crop;

(c) whether the harvest has been below the normal level of production;

(d) the food requirements of each State during the current year;

(e) whether the Central Government have issued any instructions to the surplus States to help the deficit States in food supplies; and

(f) if so, what is the response of the surplus States?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) Only qualitative reports have been received so far; firm estimates based on actual area enumeration and crop-cutting surveys are expected to become available after the close of the current Agricultural Year i.e. in July, 1967.

(b) and (c). According to tentative indications, production of wheat is expected to be higher than last year, while production of gram is likely to be considerably less than last year. Production of barley is expected to be about the same level as last year. Production of rabi crops is expected to be above normal in Haryana, Punjab, and U.P., nearly normal in Rajasthan, Gujarat and Maharashtra and below normal in Bihar and Madhya Pradesh. Production of gram is likely to be below normal in almost all the major rabi growing States.

(d) Requirements of foodgrains in a State depend upon a number of factors including the level of production and prices of these grains, availability and prices of other food, purchasing power of the people, consumer's preference, pattern of consumption, growth of population, pace of urbanisation, etc. Information on a number of these items is not readily available. As such, it is not possible to indicate precisely the requirements of foodgrains of different States for the current year.

(e) and (f). Surplus foodgrains available with the surplus States are obtained from them either for the Central Pool or allotted by the Central Government to deficit States for direct movement on State to State basis. Periodical meetings

are held with the surplus States and they are urged to make available to the Centre as much foodgrains as they can spare even by making some sacrifice. Some of the surplus States made specific offers for supply to the Central Pool during the current year at the Chief Ministers meeting held on 8th and 9th April, 1967.

Release of Impounded Vessels by Pakistan

*168. Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:
Shri Hem Barua:
Shri Hukam Chand Kachwal:
Shri Jagannath Rao Joshi:
Shri Ram Singh Ayarwal:

Will the Minister of Transport and Shipping be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Pakistan Government still holds 178 Indian vessels impounded by them during the last Indo-Pak. conflict; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to get them released?

The Minister of Transport and Shipping (Dr. V. K. R. V. Rao): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Efforts are being made through diplomatic channels to secure the release of these vessels.

Famine Conditions in Gujarat

*169. Shri Virendrakumar Shah:
Shri Hukam Chand Kachwal:
Shri Onkar Singh:
Shri Ram Singh Ayarwal:
Shri Jagannath Rao Joshi:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that famine conditions exist in Gujarat State;

(b) the amount which Government have sanctioned for scarcity operations in the State;

(c) the monthly requirements and the allocation of foodgrains to Gujarat State; and

(d) the other steps taken by Government to help the Gujarat Government?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) Scarcity conditions exist in a number of villages in Gujarat State.

(b) The Government of India have so far sanctioned Rs. 3.03 crores towards expenditure on relief operations. A sum of Rs. 1.457 crores has also been given for purchase of agricultural inputs like fertilizers etc.

(c) The Gujarat Government had estimated the monthly requirements of imported wheat and milo at 1,25,000 tonnes. In view of limited availability and increased demands from other drought affected States such as Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, 65,000 tonnes of wheat and milo are being allotted to Gujarat.

(d) The State Government have so far been allotted 3,000 tonnes of gift wheat for free distribution to the old and infirm affected by the current drought. The question of allotment of some quantities of milk powder is under consideration.

पी० एल० 480 के अन्तर्गत अनाज पर व्यय

*170. डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया :
श्री मधु लिंगेय :
श्री राम तेवक यादव :
श्री रवि राय :

क्या साथ तथा कृषि यंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) 1968 में पी० एल० 480 कार्यक्रम के अन्तर्गत अनाज पर कितना व्यय हुआ और जनता को अनाज बेच कर कितनी राशि बच्युन हुई ;