

(a) whether in the Science Congress this year more stress has been laid on farm and food fronts; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to study the papers put forth in the Science Congress and to implement the recommendations made therein ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNSAHIB SHINDE) : (a) The reports received by us indicate that a considerable amount of discussion took place at the Indian Science Congress Session at Bombay on problems of farm and food production.

(b) The papers presented and the recommendations made at the Science Congress are being studied by the Government. Steps are proposed to be taken to implement those of the recommendations which are considered useful and practical depending upon the availability of resources.

राशन में दी जाने वाली चीनी की कीमत में वृद्धि

\*1448. श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का विचार राशन में दी जाने वाली चीनी की कीमत बढ़ाने का है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो किस तिथि से कीमत बढ़ाई जायेगी और कितनी वृद्धि की जायेगी और उससे उपभोक्ताओं पर क्या प्रभाव पड़ेगा ?

खाद्य, कृषि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा सह-कारिता मन्त्रालय में राज्यमंत्री (श्री अन्नासाहिब शिन्डे) : (क) और (ख) . विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में चीनी कारखानों के वास्तविक कार्यकरण के परिणामों की दृष्टि में चालू पिराई मौसम की समाप्ति पर हमेशा की तरह लेवी-चीनी के

मौजूदा मूल्यों की समीक्षा की जाएगी। संशोधित मूल्य निर्धारित हो जाने के केवल बाद ही उपभोक्ताओं पर इस मूल्य संशोधन का प्रभाव ज्ञात होगा।

#### Import of Fertilizers

\*1450. SHRI SITARAM KESRI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a considerable increase in the import of fertilizers during the year 1968-69 as compared to previous year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Government have taken or propose to take to reduce the import of the fertilizers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) : Do not arise.

Strike of P. and T. Employees in September, 1968

\*1451. SHRI BHAGABAN DAS : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the break in service ordered by the D. G. P & T for the employees in P & T Directorate who could not attend office in time on the 19th September, 1968, the day of token strike, is in complete consonance with the policy laid down by the Ministry of Home Affairs in regard to such employees of the Government of India; and

(b) if not, the reasons for the discriminatory treatment accorded to the late-comers in the P & T Directorate only ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING, AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SATYA NARAYAN SINHA) : (a) and (b). Ministry of Home