

(b) whether Government are also aware that the staple food in Rajasthan is Bajra and not Jowar; and

(c) if so, what special steps Government propose to take to enhance the allocation of Bajra in the famine areas of West Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY, DEVELOPMENT & COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) to (c). It is a fact that a large proportion of people in West Rajasthan are used to eating Bajra but they have been eating other foodgrains also. Whatever stocks of Bajra were available with the Central Government were allotted to Rajasthan in October, 1968. The Central Government is not procuring any Bajra but there is no ban on the movement of Bajra to Rajasthan from Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Mysore and Bajra is available in the open market. Substantial quantities of other foodgrains have been allotted to the State Government. During drought and scarcity the effort of Government will have to provide as much foodgrains as possible and Government cannot agree to the position that the supply should be confined to the grain that the people of the area used to.

#### Investment of Employees' Provident Fund Money

\* 1163. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA:  
SHRI YASHPAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 471 on the 2nd December, 1968 regarding investment of Provident Fund Money and state:

(a) whether the recommendations of the Board of Trustees of the Employees' Provident Fund regarding the future pattern of investment of Employees Provident Fund Money have since been examined by Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT

AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD): (a) Yes.

(b) The Board of Trustees wanted that investment of Employees' Provident Fund accumulations of both the exempted and unexempted establishments for the year 1969-70 should be improved to conform to an investment of 50% in Central Government Securities including small savings and the remaining 50% in State Government securities and other guaranteed securities. The following pattern of investment has been prescribed for both exempted and unexempted establishments for the year 1969-70:-

- (i) In Central Government Securities Not less than 50%.
- (ii) the balance in securities created and issued by State Governments, Small Savings and other securities guaranteed by the Central or State Governments.

#### Sale of Grams in West Bengal

\*1164. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Food Corporation of India have incurred losses in West Bengal on the sale of grams, gram pulses ect. in the market during the year 1967-68;

(b) if so, the estimated losses on this account; and

(c) the causes for such losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) to (c): The trading results of the Corporation are compiled on all-India basis in respect of all transactions and not on a regional basis, since by the very nature of the operations of the Corporation, purchases and sale transactions are mostly inter-regional.

#### बीड़ी कर्मचारियों की मजूरी

\*1165. श्री रामाबतार शास्त्री: क्या श्रम और पुनर्वासि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा