

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to discontinue this practice?

The Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation (Dr. Karan Singh): (a) Delays to Indian Airlines Corporation's scheduled services occur mainly due to the following reasons:—

(i) Connecting Services (consequential)

(ii) Engineering.

(iii) Bad weather.

(iv) Traffic/Catering

(v) Operations.

Whenever delays to services are anticipated, necessary announcements are made by Indian Airlines Corporation for the information of the passengers

(b) No, Sir Indian Airlines Corporation's flights are not delayed for VIPs and the Ministers

(c) Docs not arise.

Production of Sugar

*258. Shri Ram Sewak Yadav: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quantity of sugar produced this year so far is more or less than that produced in the corresponding period last year,

(b) the amount of decrease, if any, and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there is great fluctuation in the production of sugar every year; and

(d) if so, the measures proposed to be taken to stabilise the yearly quantum of production?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) and (b). The production of sugar during the current season 1966-67 is 19.16 lakh

tonnes upto 22nd March as against 25.81 lakh tonnes upto the corresponding date last year thus showing a decrease of 6.45 lakh tonnes. The shortfall is due to lesser production of sugarcane because of lack of rainfall and drought conditions which prevailed during the sowing season and the period of growth. Diversion of sugarcane from sugar production to production of gur and khandasari, prices of which had gone up very high also resulted in inadequate supplies of sugarcane to the sugar mills.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Production of sugar in any year depends upon the production of sugarcane and the relative prices of gur and khandasari etc. The solution lies in increasing sugarcane production to meet the requirements of producers of sugar, gur and khandasari. Sugarcane Development Schemes are in progress to achieve this objective

Quota of Sugar for Orissa

410. Shri Dhuleshwar Mecna:
Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:
Shri Khagapathi Pradhani:
Shri Heerji Bhal:

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

(a) the quota of sugar allotted to Orissa State from December, 1966 to February, 1967 month-wise; and

(b) the demand for sugar from Orissa during these months?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) 0,200 tonnes per month.

(b) No request for additional allotment was received from the Orissa Government during the period in question.

Imports of Rice during 1966-67

411. Shri Dhuleshwar Mecna:
Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:
Shri Khagapathi Pradhani:
Shri Heerji Bhal:

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