

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) No, Sir. The subsidy was only reduced but not withdrawn.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e). The Central Government revised its issue prices of coarse rice from 15th December, 1966. At that time the Government of Kerala requested that the revision should not apply to Kerala and should be deferred. They further requested that the Central Government should give a grant to Kerala Government to enable them to continue to issue coarse rice on the basis of old pre-revised prices. The Kerala Government was informed that the revision in prices applied to all States and not to Kerala only and that it would not be possible to postpone giving effect to the increase in case of Kerala only. The Kerala Government was also advised that if they considered it inadvisable to increase the issue price to the consumers, they might consider bearing the cost of additional subsidy out of their own funds, and that they might take up the case with the Government of India for a suitable advance towards the end of the financial year if it was found that they were unable to pay the cost out of their own funds.

भुजमरी के कारण मृत्यु

*190. श्री अर्जुन सिंह भदौरिया :
श्री सी० सी० देसाई :
श्री रा० बरदा :

क्या जास तथा छुपि मंत्री यह बनाने की हवा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या 1966-67 में अब तक देश में भूख से कुल कितने व्यक्ति भुजमरी के कारण मरे हैं; और

(ख) वर्ष 1966-67 में उत्तर प्रदेश के मध्य भाग में भूख से कितने व्यक्ति मरे हैं ?

जास, छुपि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकारिता विभाग में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री अन्नसाहब शिंदे) : (क) कोई नहीं।

(ख) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता।

National Co-operative Bank

*191. Shri Yashpal Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2563 on the 29th November, 1966 and state:

(a) whether the proposal to set up a National Co-operative Bank has since been examined by Government;

(b) if so, the decision taken in the matter, and

(c) if not, when a decision is likely to be taken?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) Yes Sir;

(b) The question was examined in consultation with the All India State Cooperative Banks' Federation. The setting up of a National Cooperative Bank as a business institution is not considered necessary.

(c) Does not arise.

Cochin Shipyard

*192. Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri A. K. Gopalan:
Shri Umanath:
Shri C. K. Chakrapani:
Shri P. P. Eshoo:
Shri K. M. Abraham:
Shri V. Vishwanatha Menon:
Shri Vasudevan Nair:
Shri P. C. Adichan:

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

(a) the progress made in the setting up of Cochin Shipyard; and