

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 The subsidy was only reduced but not withdrawn.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 कृषि मंत्री यह बनाने की कृपा 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, कृषि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकारिता मंत्रालय 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

(b) the stage at which the project stands at present?

The Minister of Transport and Shipping (Dr. V. K. R. V. Rao): (a) and (b). The Project Report submitted by M/s. Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Ltd. of Japan is under examination by our technical experts. The Project Report along with the results of the technical examination will be considered by Government shortly. In the meantime acquisition of some land required for the Project has been completed and further acquisition is in progress.

An allocation of Rs. 15 crores has been made in the draft outline of the Fourth Five Year Plan for the Cochin Shipyard Project.

Relief measures in Drought hit Areas

*103. Shri C. C. Desai:
Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
Shri K. N. Tiwary:
Shri Madhu Limaye:
Shri Ram Swarup:
Shri Bansh Narain Singh:
Shri Chand Goyal:

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

(a) the relief measure taken for the drought-hit areas of Bihar, Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) the details thereof with the results achieved?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) and (b) A statement is placed on the Table of the Sabha. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-114/67].

Hindustan Shipyard, Visakhapatnam

*104. Shri Tenneti Vishwanatham: Will the Minister of Transport and Shipping be pleased to state:

(a) whether any report/reports on the administration of Hindustan Ship-

yard, Visakhapatnam, been made by the firm of Consultants, M/s. Daya Shanker and Associates, and if so, its main recommendations; and

(b) whether the report/reports will be laid on the Table?

The Minister of Transport and Shipping (Dr. V. K. R. V. Rao): (a) and (b). The reports have been received by Hindustan Shipyard Limited and are under consideration of the Board of Directors. After they have been examined by the Board of Directors and Government have taken a view of the matter, the reports together with the views of the Government will be placed on the table of the House.

Food Procurement in Orissa

*105. Shri Chintamani Panigrahi: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Orissa Government has suggested any change in the food procurement policy adopted for the State;

(b) whether the State monopoly procurement scheme is proposed to be continued in the State;

(c) if so, the target fixed for procurement in 1967-68 for Orissa; and

(d) whether the State Government have despatched any foodgrains to West Bengal or other State during 1st March, 1967 to 1st April, 1967?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). It is too early to say if monopoly procurement scheme will be continued in 1967-68. The question of fixation of target does not arise at this stage.

(d) Yes, Sir. About 13000 tonnes of rice were despatched to West Bengal through Food Corporation of India during 1st March, 1967 to 17th March, 1967, information for the