

suggestions received have been considered at meetings held within the Ministry as well as with the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. The State Government of Gujarat and the Federation of the Indian Chambers of Commerce have been also brought into the picture. Clarifications are being obtained on certain important points and it is hoped that a final decision on the subject will be taken soon.

Jamuna Hydel Scheme

- *82. { Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Bhakt Darshan:
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether work on the second phase of Jamuna Hydel Scheme has started;

(b) if not, the reason for this delay; and

(c) decision of the Government regarding starting work on first phase?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Project report for the second phase of the scheme has so far not been received for clearance by the Planning Commission.

(c) The initial works on Stage I are in hand.

Rise in Prices of Foodgrains

- *83. { Shri Tangamani:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri D. C. Sharma:

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

(a) whether prices of foodgrains in some of the States rose as a result of severe damage to crops due to the recent floods;

(b) if so, which are those States and

(c) to what extent the prices rose?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) to (c). Although there had been some damage to the kharif crops due to floods this year in the States of Orissa, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh and also due to drought in Andhra Pradesh and Mysore, the prices of foodgrains, on the whole, are satisfactory. The all-India index number of wholesale prices of rice has come down from 115.3 in August to 106.8 which is the lowest as compared to the figures for the corresponding periods of the last three years. The index number of wholesale prices of wheat which stood at 97.5 in February, 1960, started declining and after a slight rise in July, it has come down to 90.2 in the first week of November. The prices of coarse grains have been showing mixed trends.

Supply of Sugar to Orissa

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

(a) whether the Orissa Government have asked for 4,000 tons of sugar for meeting the needs of the flood affected people in that State; and

(b) if so, the quantity supplied so far?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Establishment of Central Mechanised Units in States

- *85. { Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:
Shri Rajendra Singh:
Shri Kodyan:
Shri Subiman Ghose:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme for establishment of a Central Mechanised unit in each State to ensure maximum efficiency and utilisation of the construction equipment available at the

irrigation and power projects within its territory has been finalised; and

(b) if so, the details of the scheme?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) At a meeting of State Ministers held at Bangalore on 10th September, 1960, which was presided over by the Union Minister of Irrigation and Power, a recommendation was made that a Central Mechanical Unit should be set up in each State to ensure proper utilisation of machinery and for the improvement of operating and maintenance Standards.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House giving the main features of the scheme. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 22].

Sugar

Shri Rajendra Singh:
Shri P. G. Deb:
Shri Ram Krihan Gupta:
Shri S. A. Mehdi:
Shri Hem Barua:
Pandit D. N. Tiwari:
Shri Rajeshwar Patel:
Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:
Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:
Shri Vidaya Charan Shukla:
Shri Sarju Pandey:
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
Shri Wodeyar:
*86 { Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Rami Reddy:
Shri Achar:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:
Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri Yadav Narayan Jadhav:
Shri Narayanankutty Menon:
Kumari M. Vedakumari:
Shri Damani:
Shri Osman Ali Khan:
Shri P. B. Patel:
Shri Khushwaqt Bai:
Shri Supakar:

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

(a) whether any decision has been taken to decontrol sugar;

(b) whether there is a proposal to export sugar to U.S.A. and other countries;

(c) whether it is a fact before sugar can be exported to U.S.A., India is required to become a member of the International Sugar Council;

(d) if so, what steps have been taken by Government of India in this regard;

(e) the quantity of sugar, if any, exported so far during the current year, country-wise; and

(f) the amount of foreign exchange earned?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The matter is under consideration.

(e) and (f). No sugar has so far been actually shipped, but out of the export quota of 50,000 tons released on 17-9-1960, 10,575 metric tons have been sold upto 7th November. Out of this 7450 metric tons is for the Federation of Malayan States and 3125 metric tons for Middle East countries. Shipments will commence in the second half of November. On this quantity, the foreign exchange earnings are estimated at Rs. 46 lakhs.

All India National Cleanliness Day

*87. { Shri Shree Narayan Das:
Shri Radha Raman:

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the manner in and the extent to which All India National Cleanliness Day on the 2nd October, 1960 was observed in the country;

(b) the nature of participation of the general public, throughout the country; and

(c) what important aspects of the observance attracted the greatest response?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) to (c). A statement giving the requisite information is