

(b) if so, how the prices have behaved as a result thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasaheb Shinde): (a) Market arrivals of important foodgrains during the three months ended February 1967 in the selected markets of the country were generally lower than those in the corresponding period of the previous season.

(b) During the same period, prices of these grains have been generally higher than last year.

Demands of I.A.C. Employees

*108. Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:
Shri Atal Behari Vajpayee:

Will the Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a charter of demands was given recently by the I.A.C. employees;

(b) if so, their main demands; and

(c) the steps taken to fulfil them?

The Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation (Dr. Karan Singh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main demands relate to revision of pay scales and allowances, and terms and conditions of service.

(c) After negotiation, settlements have been reached with the Air Corporations Employees Union, Indian Aircraft Technicians Association, All India Aircraft Engineers Association, and the Indian Flight Engineers Association.

Negotiations with the remaining 3 Unions are in progress.

Polling Figures in General Elections

59. Shri Sradhakar Supakar: Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state:

(a) the total votes secured by each of the recognised parties for the Lok Sabha seats in the last General Elec-

tions in each of the State and Union Territories; and

(b) how do the votes cast for each party compare on percentage basis with the votes cast in 1962 General Elections?

The Minister of Law (Shri Govinda Menon): (a) and (b). The information required is being compiled by the Election Commission.

Training Centres in Community and National Extension Service

60. Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:
Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:
Shri K. Pradhani:
Shri Hirji:

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

(a) the number of training centres for the officials and non-officials set up in the country at present in the Community and National Extension Service; and

(b) the expenditure involved in maintaining these centres during the year 1965-66?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasaheb Shinde): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-115/67].

Exploratory Tubewells in Orissa

61. Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:
Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:
Shri K. Pradhani:
Shri Hirji:

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

(a) the number of exploratory tubewells sunk in Orissa till the end of December, 1966; and

(b) the number, out of them, found satisfactory?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri

Annasahib Shinde): (a) and (b). In the course of groundwater exploration in Orissa, the Exploratory Tubewells Organisation drilled 33 exploratory bores till 31st December, 1966, of which only 20 yielded satisfactory discharge of water.

Deep-Sea Fishing Schemes in Orissa

62. **Shri K. Pradhani:**
Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:
Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:
Shri Hirji:

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

(a) whether any financial assistance has been given or proposed to be given to Orissa for Deep-Sea Fishing Schemes during 1966-67; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (**Shri Annasahib Shinde**): (a) and (b). An allocation of Rs 10.32 lakhs in the form of loan (Rs. 2.22 lakhs) and grant (Rs. 8.10 lakhs) has been made for Central Assistance for 1966-67 for fisheries schemes including Deep Sea Fishing in Orissa. Out of a total outlay by the State of Rs. 60 lakhs originally proposed for fisheries, about Rs 29 lakhs was earmarked for deep sea fishing. The main features of the Deep Sea Fishing Scheme are the introduction of powered boats for trawling and gill-netting and allied facilities of storage and marketing. The actual quantum of assistance depends on the expenditure incurred during the year on fisheries schemes. The figures of expenditure for the year 1966-67 are not yet available.

Output of Coconut

63. **Shri K. Pradhani:**
Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:
Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:
Shri Hirji:

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

(a) the annual output of coconut at present;

(b) the value and quantity of coconut imported annually at present; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to attain self-sufficiency in the supply of coconut?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (**Shri Annasahib Shinde**): (a) 4806 million nuts as in 1964-65, the latest year for which estimates are available.

(b) No coconut is imported at present. However, during 1965-66 the quantity of copra imported was 48,722 tonnes valued at Rs. 6.26 crores. During the period January to November, 1966, the value of copra imported was 3.47 crores.

(c) Comprehensive measures have been envisaged during the Fourth Five Year Plan to increase the annual production and the target has been fixed at 5071 million nuts at the end of the Fourth Plan. The development programmes include short-term as well as long-term measures. The short-term measures consist of laying out of demonstration plots, distribution of fertilisers, provision or irrigation facilities, intensive cultivation in large blocks on the lines of package programme, etc. The long-term measures include distribution of seedlings and expansion of area under coconut to a certain extent.

In order to accelerate the tempo of research and to quicken the achievement of results which will be of practical value to the coconut growers, an All-India Coordinated Research Project on coconut has been prepared by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and due emphasis will be laid under it on the control of coconut diseases like root-wilt and leaf-rot.

Release of Sugar Factories

64. **Shri K. N. Pandey:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to release those sugar