Administration is cutting the rationed sugar quota for Delhi citizens; and

(b) if so, the steps Government are taking to make available more sugar for Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) Yes, Sir. The quotas of all States had to be reduced on account of the fact that only about 60% of the sugar production in 1967-68 is to be taken at a fixed price for distribution through controlled channels.

(b) Allotment of more sugar to Delhi and to other States for distribution through controlled channels will be possible only with the increase in production. Some sugar is also being released for free sale in the market.

गन्ने का दाम

*480. **श्री रघुवीर सिंह शास्त्री :**
श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री :

क्या **खाद्य तथा कृषि** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को पता है कि विभिन्न राज्यों में चीनी मिलों के मालिक गन्ने का उचित मूल्य न देकर, अपने चीनी मिलों को बन्द रख कर तथा कई अन्य तरीकों से किसानों पर अनुचित दबाव डाल रहे हैं;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि महाराष्ट्र राज्य के सहकारी समितियों के रजिस्ट्रार ने सहकारी चीनी मिलों को ऐसी हिदायतें जारी की हैं कि यदि किसान उन्हें उनके द्वारा निश्चित किये गये दामों पर गन्ना न दें; तो उनकी सदस्यता समाप्त कर दी जाये, और उनकी अंश पूंजी तथा जमा की हुई अन्य राशि को जब्त कर लिया जाये;

(ग) यदि हां, तो इसका क्या औचित्य है; और

(घ) सरकार ने इस बात के लिए क्या कार्यवाही की है कि किसानों को उचित दाम मिलें और चीनी का उत्पादन कम न होने दिया जाये ?

खाद्य, कृषि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार मंत्रालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री अन्ना साहिब शिन्दे) : (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) जी हां । सहकारी चीनी मिलों के सदस्यों के बारे में ।

(ग) उन्होंने सहकारी चीनी मिलों तथा उनके सदस्यों के दीर्घकालीन हित में निर्देश जारी किया है ।

(घ) केन्द्रीय सरकार ने केवल गन्ने का न्यूनतम मूल्य निर्धारित किया है और आशा है कि चीनी कारखाने न्यूनतम मूल्य से अधिक मूल्य देंगे । प्राप्त रिपोर्टों से पता चलता है कि गन्ने का अधिक मूल्य दिया जा रहा है ।

PROCUREMENT OF RICE

2932. SHRI K. M. KOUSHIK : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the States in which rice is being procured and States where paddy is being procured;

(b) States in which the procurement of paddy or rice is done through cooperatives;

(c) States where Government are procuring rice or paddy by purchasing in the open market; and

(d) the advantages in procuring rice or paddy through cooperatives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) There is a levy in respect of paddy and rice in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Kerala and Uttar Pradesh. Paddy is being procured through levy in Gujarat, Maharashtra, Mysore and West Bengal. In the case of Bihar, Maharashtra and West Bengal there is option of giving rice in lieu of paddy. In the States of Assam, Madras and Orissa mainly

paddy is being procured. Rice is being procured through levy in Madhya Pradesh, Haryana and Punjab.

(b) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

PROCUREMENT OF PADDY

2933. SHRI K. M. KOUSHIK : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to direct the Maharashtra Government to procure rice instead of paddy, as it is advantageous to farmers who get the residue of 'Kani' and 'Konda' thereby; and

b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (*a*) No, Sir.

(b) The methods of procurement have been left to each State Government to decide keeping in view the local conditions Moreover in Maharashtra, the cultivator has the option of giving rice in lieu of paddy.

VILLAGE TELEPHONE INSTALLATION SCHEME

2934. SHRI V. NARASIMHA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to implement the "village telephone installation scheme" in India; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) No.

(b) Owing to limitation of resources and the large number of rural stations to be catered or, is possible to expand the Tele-communication facilities only gradually. Normally, the Telephone facilities are provided only if the schemes are remunerative. However, in order to extend the Telephone facility to undeveloped areas, certain categories of stations are provided with this facility even on loss subject to an overall limit of loss not exceeding Rs. 40 lakhs for a period of five years beginning from 1st April, 1966 *i.e.*, after the end of the Third Five-Year Plan Period. The categories of stations referred to above are as follows :

(i) Remaining District and Sub-Divisional Headquarter Towns.

(ii) Tehsil and corresponding Headquarter Towns.

(iii) Sub-Tehsils.

(iv) Places with a population of 20,000 or more and at places in Urban areas with a population of 10,000 or more.

(v) 100 places in remote localities *i.e.* places beyond 40 Kms. from the nearest Telephone Exchange.

(vi) About 100 Public Call Offices to be opened at Tourist Centres, Pilgrim Centres, Agriculture and Irrigation Project sites and Townships.

Stations of lower categories *i.e.* Block Headquarters, Police Stations under the charge of a Sub-Inspector, places with a population of over 5,000 etc. are initially provided with only Telegraph facility on loss basis and this helps to develop them progressively to Telephone stations depending upon the growth of Telegraph Traffic.

CATTLE WEALTH

2935. SHRI BABURAO PATEL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the approximate number of cattle of various kinds found and bred in the country, State-wise;

(b) the approximate number out of them that die annually through famine, drought or starvation;

(c) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that a number of calves, both male and female, of both cattle and buffaloes are wilfully destroyed by starvation every year by those who deal in milk business; and

(d) if so, the action taken by Government in the matter?