

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALAP NATH RAI) : (a) and (b) The proposal for grant of Letter of Intent/Industrial Licence for effecting substantial expansion in the existing sugar factory at Meerut upto 2500 TCD was considered by the Ministry of Food and it was decided to recommend grant of a Letter of Intent in favour of U.P. State Sugar Corporation Ltd., Unit Meerut, for establishing a re-structured/new unit at a new location in its area of operation, away from the city limits, with a capacity of 2500 TCD by closing down the existing sugar factory at Meerut. Thereafter, the views of the State Government in regard to the new location as well as the closing down of the existing unit at Meerut were asked for. No reply has so far been received.

The proposal for grant of Letter of Intent/Industrial Licence to Shahganj Sugar Mills for effecting substantial expansion upto 2500 TCD was also considered by the Ministry of Food. The views of this Ministry have already been communicated to the Department of Industrial Development for taking a final decision in the matter.

DISTRICT MILK UNION IN KARNATAKA

2459. SHRI CHANDRA PRABHURS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has sought any financial assistance from the Union Government for setting up of District Milk Union in the State ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

LOSS IN FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA

2460. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADOE : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the losses incurred by the Food Corporation of India on handling of Rice and Wheat during each of the last three years ;

(b) whether an indepth study has been made to find out the main reason for the losses ;

(c) the steps taken to prevent/minimise the losses; and

(d) the action taken against erring officials responsible for the losses ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) The transit and storage losses incurred by FCI during the period from 1989-90 to 1991-92 are indicated in *Statement I*. Losses incurred during 1992-93 are yet to be determined.

(b) The shortages generally occur on account of driage, metabolic changes, insect, mould or fungal attack, bird and rodent trouble especially when stored in CAP storage, multiple handling, different mode of weighment at the time of receipt and despatch, movement in open wagons and due to transhipment of wagons.

(c) FCI has taken various measures to prevent/minimise the losses. Some of the important measures taken in this regard are :—

- (i) Strict enforcement of quality specifications relating to moisture during procurement of foodgrains ;
- (ii) Reduction in the quantum of foodgrains filled in each bag ;
- (iii) Installation of weighbridges in depots having capacity of 5000 tonnes or more ;
- (iv) Minimising the use of open wagons;
- (v) Augmentation of covered storage tightening of security at depots, intensifying surprise checks, ensuring regular stock verification etc.
- (vi) Augmentation of covered storage capacity ;
- (vii) Encouraging machine stitching of bags.
- (viii) Installation of inmotion wagon weighbridges at Sahnewal, Panipat, Naraina and Dhankuni.

(ix) Installation of Electronic weigh-bridges at many places.

(xi) Regular inspection of depots by SRM.

(x) Induction of CISF at vulnerable depots.

(d) Details of the action taken are indicated in *Statement II*.

Statement I

| STORAGE LOSS : | W H E A T | | | R I C E | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|----------|--|------------------|-------|---|
| | Quantity (Gain) | Value | %age of loss to Sales+ transfer out (Qty.) | Quantity of loss | Value | %age of loss to Sales+ transfer out (Qty) |
| 1989-90 | (-) 0.26 | (-) 7.47 | (-) 0.15 | 0.70 | 23.21 | 0.42 |
| 1990-91 | (-) 0.24 | (-) 6.90 | (-) 0.12 | 1.03 | 37.90 | 0.58 |
| 1991-92 | (-) 0.09 | (-) 2.87 | (-) 0.04 | 1.57 | 63.40 | 0.72 |

TRANSIT LOSS :

| Year | W H E A T | | | R I C E | | |
|-------------------|--------------|-------|----------------------------|--------------|-------|--------------------------------|
| | Qty. of loss | Value | %age of loss to Qty. moved | Qty. of loss | Value | %age of loss to quantity moved |
| 1989-90 | 1.15 | 26.58 | 1.17 | 1.22 | 40.87 | 1.39 |
| 1990-91 | 1.71 | 45.71 | 1.56 | 1.71 | 63.72 | 1.80 |
| 1991-92 | 1.99 | 59.25 | 1.84 | 2.12 | 87.10 | 1.94 |

Statement II

The category-wise details of cases against employees of the Corporation during the last 3 years is given as under :—

| CATEGORY | C A S E S | | |
|---|-----------|------|---------------------|
| | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 (Upto June) |
| 1. Acceptance of illegal gratification/possession of disproportionate assets. | 63 | 57 | 46 |
| 2. Misappropriation of Foodgrains | 210 | 211 | 215 |
| 3. Defaultation of accounts misappropriation | 45 | 61 | 64 |
| 4. Shortages/losses | 181 | 206 | 164 |
| 5. Misappropriation of dead stocks/construction of godowns. | 49 | 45 | 84 |
| 6. Purchase of sub-standard stocks | 199 | 236 | 133 |
| 7. Award of Handling and Transport Contract | 33 | 34 | 36 |
| 8. Admn. lapses/Misc. | 74 | 88 | 72 |
| 9. Transit Storage losses. | 6 | 4 | 6 |
| | 860 | 942 | 820 |

Nature of penalties imposed on the delinquent officials during the last 3 years is as under :—

| Nature of Penalty Imposed | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 (Upto June) |
|---|------|------|---------------------|
| (i) Dismissal/Removal/Compulsorily Retired | 12 | 14 | 5 |
| (ii) Reduction in Rank | 23 | 18 | 13 |
| (iii) Reduction in Time Scale of Pay | 45 | 41 | 24 |
| (iv) Withholding of increment/Recovery from Pay | 173 | 166 | 258 |
| (v) With holding Promotion | 20 | 3 | — |
| (vi) Censure | 87 | 69 | 110 |
| | 360 | 311 | 410 |

DAMAGE OF RICE IN PUNJAB

2461. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether huge quantities of wheat and rice procured by the Food Corporation of India have been damaged by floods in various districts of Punjab as reported in the Economic Times dated July 26, 1993 ;

(b) if so, whether any assessment has been made of the actual losses so suffered by the Food Corporation of India as a result of floods and other calamities :

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the concrete steps taken by the Government to accommodate these stocks with the storage facilities available in Punjab ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) Yes, Sir. Due to unprecedented rains and floods from the 11th to 19th July, 1993 in Punjab, wheat and rice stocks stored in some storage complexes of Ropar, Patiala, Ludhiana, Sangrur, Amritsar, Kapurthala and Ferozepur

Revenue Districts got affected. The details are given in *Statement*.

(b) and (c) The actual loss suffered due to floods will be known after the segregation, salvaging and disposal operations of damaged stocks are completed. It cannot be precisely quantified for the present unless all operations are completed.

(d) The following steps were taken to accommodate the stocks with storage facilities available in Punjab and other regions :—

(i) Expedited movement of stocks to consuming areas to clear the centres where stocks were stored temporarily.

(ii) The sound stocks were segregated from the flood affected stocks and moved to safer places for further aeration, preservation and storage.

(iii) The affected stocks are being salvaged by segregation, drying, aeration etc., to arrest further deterioration.

(iv) Movement of foodgrains from one place to another is done in covered wagons as far as possible. Whenever stocks are moved in open wagons the same are covered properly with tarpaulins to avoid damages in transit.