

(b); The estimated mango production figures as provided by States for the years 1989-90, 1990-91 are 8504.49, 8663.82 and 8752.13 thousand metric tonnes, respectively.

(c) Government of India is implementing a Central Sector Scheme on integrated development of tropical and arid zone fruits under which assistance for establishment of nurseries is provided for producing grafted plants of exportable varieties of mango. Input assistance is also provided for improving production and productivity of mango under this programme. These programs shall be enhanced in the remaining period of VIII plan period.

Availability of Rice at PDS

300. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYA SADUL: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is choice for consumers to get different variety of rice through Fair Price shops:

(b) if not the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to make available various varieties of rice through Fair Price Shops?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED)(a) to (c) By and large, fine and superfine variety of rice is made available to the State Government/UT Administrations for distribution through Public Distribution System (PDS). The quantum of procurement of common rice for the Central Pool is not significant due to less production in the State Contributing to Central Pool. Common Variety of rice is also made available to a limited extent to the States for distribution through PDS.

Sale of Sugar by Sugar Mills

301. DR. VASANT NIWRUTTE PAWAR: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large quantity sugar is available with the Cooperative Sugar Mills;

(b) whether the Government propose to allow these sugar mills to sell their sugar in open market after complying with Government requirement of levy sugar; and

(c) if not, the manner in which the Government propose to help sugar millers to avoid loss by way of unsold sugar stocks incurring heavy interest and other incidental expenses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) (a) Stocks of sugar with Co-operative Sugar Mills were 35.27 lakh tonnes (Provisional) on 30-6-93.

(b) and (c) Under the present policy of partial control a specified percentage of total production of each sugar factory is procured as levy sugar at notified prices for distribution through the Public Distribution System at a uniform retail issue price throughout the country. The balance production is released as resale sugar through the mechanism of monthly releases. Sugar is produced during 5 to 7 months in the season, whereas requirement of sugar in the country is to be met throughout the year. Accordingly, releases are being regulated and made each month from all sugar mills on a proportionate basis taking into account the production upto a particular date prior to the release.

Electric Locomotives

302. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARARAO VADDE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the cost of a 5000 HP electric locomotive manufactured in Chittaranjan Locomotive

Works;

(b) the technology that is being adopted in the manufacture of these locomotives;

(c) whether this technology has been fully absorbed; and

(d) the number of 5000 HP electric locomotives purchased by Indian Railways during each of the last three years and the amount spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) Rs. 3.46 Crores as estimated in 1992-93.

(b) "ON LOAD TAP CHANGER" technology of 1960 vintage.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Number of 5000 HP locos manufactured by Indian Railways at Chittaranjan Locomotive Works were as under:

1991-92	-	One
1992-93	-	Five
Total	-	Six
Amount spent	-	Rs. 19.40 Crores

[Translation]

Disruption of Trains

303. SHRI BRAHMANAND MANDAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of trains disrupted due to the failure of Singrauli-Kanpur power transmission line and the loss suffered by the railways as a result thereof;

(b) the time taken to regularise those train services; and

(c) the alternative steps proposed to be taken to meet the situation in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA) (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

[English]

Revenue Through Freight Chagre

304. DR. ASIM BALA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total revenue earned by the Government from freight traffic during the last year;

(b) whether the hike in railway freight rates has improved the revenue earning; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA) (a) Earning from freight traffic during 1992-93 was Rs. 10903.04 crores (PROVISIONALLY).

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The freight earnings increased by approximately 7.5%.

[Translation]

Contribution of Foodgrains by States in Central Pool

305. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of each foodgrain stocked by the Government during 1993-94;

(b) the details of the contribution of