

Prices of Kharif Crops in Market

7320. SHRI RUDRASEN CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been continuous fall in market prices of recent Kharif crops during the last three months;

(b) if so, the extent of fall in the per quintal prices of paddy, Jowar, Bajra, Maize and Ragi respectively during this period;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the total estimated financial loss to farmers on this account?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):

(a) As compared to January, 1990 the prices of Jowar and Ragi have declined during the last three months, while those for Pady, Bajra and Maize have shown a rising trend.

(b) The wholesale prices of Jowar at selected centres have fallen in the range of Rs 5 to Rs. 60 per quintal during this period. However at some centres prices have also risen in the range of Rs. 20 per quintal. The decline in Ragi prices ranged from Rs. 5 to Rs. 45 per quintal.

(c) The prices of Jowar and Ragi have fallen due to higher Kharif production, better arrivals and prospects of better Rabi crops.

(d) The Government have organised price support operations to ensure that the farmers obtain procurement/minimum support prices fixed by the Government. The procurement/minimum support prices being remunerative prices, the fall in open market prices does not necessarily lead to losses to farmers. By and large the prices have re-

mained much above the procurement/minimum support prices of Fair average quality of the produce.

[English]

Indian High Commissioner in U.K.

7321. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:
SHRI UTTAM RATHOD:
SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian High Commissioner in London has had to suffer indignity on his visit to a Gurudwara in London, as widely reported in the Press;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the matter was taken up with the U.K. Government to bring to book the culprits who indulged in that kind of hooliganism and violence; and

(d) what steps have been taken to ensure that such incidents do not recur and the whole Indian High Commission receives full protection security?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) and (b). The High Commissioner visited the Guru Singh Sabha Gurudwara, Havelock Rock, Southall on 25th March, 1990. Of the large audience present, a very small group tried to raise slogans and jostle the visitors.

(c) and (d). Particulars of the incident have been conveyed to the British authorities. Necessary measures to assure the security of the High Commissioner and all other members of the High Commission are in force.