

(b) the number of Community Development Blocks where no Primary Centres have been established and number of Community Development Blocks with Primary Health Centres where no doctors have been provided, State-wise ; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI UMA SHANKAR DIKSHIT) : (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—3375/72]

Conditions of Rice Seized at Bitragunta Station during 1971

*203 **SHRI DASARATHA DEB :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that about 24,000 bags of rice, seized at Bitragunta Railway Station (Andhra) last year is rotting in the godown ; and

(b) whether that rice still remains fit for human consumption ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) and (b). 18,299 bags of rice seized by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh on 15.7.71 are lying at Bitragunta. The State Government have reported that the bulk of the lots are well within the limits of consumable condition needing only winnowing and cleaning.

Steps to Increase Food Production due to Shortfall during 1971-72

*204. **SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH : DR. MAHIPATRAY MEHTA :**

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the steps taken by Government to improve the production of foodgrains which declined in 1971-72 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : Firm estimates of foodgrains production in 1971-72 are not yet available. Government have, however, taken various measures to increase the production of foodgrains in the country. These include (i) extension of area under the high-yielding varieties programme, (ii) bringing additional area under multiple cropping

programme, (iii) starting of Central sector scheme of minikit programme of rice, (iv) launching of Centrally sponsored scheme for quick multiplication of seeds and demonstrations of newly evolved varieties of pulses, (v) intensive development of irrigation particularly ground water resources, (vi) adequate and timely supply of inputs like seeds, fertilisers and credit and (vii) surveillance of pests and diseases and well organised plant protection measures. In addition, a massive rabi production programme is contemplated for the ensuing rabi season.

Rice lying with Millers of Krishna and West Godavari District of Andhra Pradesh

*205. **SHRI NAVAL KISHORE SHARMA : SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD VERMA :**

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether about 18000 tons of boiled rice is lying with the millers at Krishna and West Godavari District of Andhra Pradesh ,

(b) if so, whether the rice is about to be destroyed and the millers and other concerned individuals are being put to loss ; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government of India to put a check on adulteration of this rice with superior quality rice in the country, in case this rice is removed from there ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The relevant provisions of law relating to the marketing of rice as fit for human consumption will also apply to these stocks of rice.

Pay Scale of Binders working in National Museum, Archaeological Department, National Archives and Government of India Press

*206. **SHRI G. K. CHANDRAPAN :** Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the pay scale of Binders working in the (i) National Museum (ii) Archaeological Department (iii) National Archives and (iv) Government of India Press New Delhi ; and