

Allotment of Foodgrains to Kerala

*90. **Shri A. Sreedharan:**
Shri F. C. Adichean:
Shri Vasudevian Nair:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government of Kerala have requested the Government of India for additional allotment of foodgrains,

(b) if so, the additional quantity asked for, and

(c) the reaction of the Central Government thereto?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) There is no fixed quota or allotment of foodgrains to Kerala monthly. The quantity needed to meet the needs of the informal rationing in Kerala are met through issues from Food Corporation depots. What the Kerala Government have been asking for are not really additional allotments but for movement of sufficient quantities into Kerala to meet the needs of the informal rationing system there.

(b) and (c) Do not arise

Paradeep Port as a Fishing Harbour

*91 **Shri Chiniamani Panigrahi:**
 Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have decided to develop Paradeep Port in Orissa as a fishing harbour,

(b) if so, the details of the scheme,

(c) the amount estimated for this and

(d) whether the project is to be worked out in co-ordination with the State Government?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) No, Sir

(b) to (d) Do not arise

Sugarcane Production

*92. **Shri A. K. Gopalan:**
Shri Umanath:
Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:
Shri Dhuleshwar Moena:
Shri Bhogendra Jha:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware that the sugarcane production has declined during this year,

(b) if so, the extent of this decline and whether it is due to the low sugarcane price fixed by Government,

(c) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the recent statement of the President of the Indian Sugar Mills Association that unless the sugarcane grower was offered an economic price, there would be an acute shortage of sugar and imports might become inevitable, and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to increase the sugarcane production?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde) (a) and (b) Estimates of sugarcane production during 1966-67 are not yet available but reports indicate decline in area under sugarcane due to drought conditions which prevailed during the periods of sowing and growth. It appears that the production of sugarcane would be less this year.

(c) Yes, Sir

(d) Information about cane sowings for the next year is not yet available. Government will however take all steps necessary to raise production of sugarcane.