

March, 1969 due to prolonged closure of the mines ;

(b) if so, steps taken by Government opening of the said mine ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the workmen were not paid their legal dues and in addition to the water and electricity connections were cut off by the Management ; and

(d) whether Government are contemplating any action against the Management ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD) : (a) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House on receipt.

(b) On a dispute raised by the Colliery Mazdoor Congress and the Colliery Mazdoor Sabha over the closure of the mine, conciliation proceedings were held but the same ended in failure. The Government referred the issue of the closure of the mine for adjudication to the Industrial Tribunal, Calcutta on the 26th November, 1968. The Tribunal held that it was within the competence of the management to close down the business ; the workmen were entitled to compensation under Section 25FFF of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 and no more. It has not been possible to persuade the management to reopen the mine.

(c) and (d). On persuasion by the Assistant Labour Commissioner, however, the management has made some payments to cover the legal dues of the workers. Since the management have not fully paid the workers' legal dues, action is being pursued against the management. Claim petitions have already been filed under the Payment of Wages Act, Prosecution proposals for breach of para 9 (2) of Coal Mines Bonus Scheme, 1948 are under examination. Water and electricity connections were cut off by the management and they have not been restored till now, in spite of the efforts made by the local Assistant Labour Commissioner.

Zamindara Agriculture Cooperative Society, Dasloon, Himachal Pradesh

9774. SHRI PARTAP SINGH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount involved in embezzlement in the Zamindara Agriculture Cooperative Society, Dasloon, Himachal Pradesh ;

(b) whether the embezzlement was detected before the death of the Secretary of the Society ;

(c) if not the reasons therefor ;

(d) the names of persons involved in it ;

(e) whether any enquiry has been conducted into the affairs of this Society ; and

(f) if so, the result of the inquiry and against the persons involved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY) : (a) Rs. 18,225.62

(b) to (d). The embezzlement was detected after the death of the Secretary of the Society. The arbitrator appointed under the Punjab Cooperative Societies Act, 1961 has given an award of Rs. 10125.62 against heirs of Shri Dina Nath, Secretary of the cooperative society. For the balance of Rs. 8,100/- it was found that fixed deposit receipts involving this amount were signed by two other committee members of the society and the liquidator is taking action to hand over this part of the case to police for investigation.

(e) and (f). The earlier administrative enquiry ordered by the Government of Himachal Pradesh and conducted by the District Cooperative and Supplies Officer, Dharmsala, came to the conclusion that there was no departmental irregularity. The Government of Himachal Pradesh has now reported that the Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Himachal Pradesh, has been asked to depute an officer from the Headquarters, who had not been posted earlier in the area

where the society is located, conduct an enquiry into the affairs of the Society. The enquiry report is awaited.

Misuse of Tapes of National Leaders in Archives of All India Radio

9775. SHRI BABURAO PATEL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of tapes now left in the archives of All India Radio from original stock of 15,000 and odd tapes of Mahatma Gandhi, Pandit Nehru, Sardar Patel, etc.

(b) what happened of the theft of 300 tapes reported to the police last year ;

(c) whether it is a fact that on the 1st December, 1968 an officer of A.I.R. called on the Cultural Officer of the United States Information Service, at his residence on Little Gibb's Road, Bombay-6, and handed over to him three tins of tapes and received Rs. 15,000 in cash ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action Government have taken or propose to take in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING, AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a) The number of recored tapes of eminent persons in the Archives of All India Radio is 16,335. No recorded tapes of eminent persons have been lost from the Archives.

(b) Loss of 177, and not 300 balk tapes, was reported to the Police. In respect of two thefts resulting in the loss of 84 tapes Police has reported that no clue as to the stolen property or to the culprits could be found. Result of Police investigation in respect of the remaining tapes is awaited.

(c) Government is not aware of any such instance. However, enquiries are being made.

(d) Does not arise.

Selling of Seeds by National Seeds Corporation

9776. SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the price paid to the farmers by the National Seeds Corporation for the procurement of per quintal of high yielding varieties of paddy seeds during the last three years upto 31st March, 1969 ;

(b) the quantity and quality procured and sold to the farmers in various States and the prices per quintal at which the said collected seeds were sold to the needy growers ;

(c) the profit earned in this particular transaction by the National Seeds Corporation during the above period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) :

(a)	Year	Price paid per quintal
	1966	Rs. 56.25
	1967	Rs. 56.25
	1968 (upto Kharif 1968)	Rs. 60.00
