

**Representation from Forest Seamen Union, Andaman and Nicobar Islands**

977. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Master, Greasers, Firemen-cum-Laskar of the Forest Department (Andaman and Nicobar) are given lesser scale of pay than their contemporaries working in Marine Department (Andaman and Nicobar) for the same work under the same Administration and if so, reasons for such discrimination; and

(b) whether Andaman and Nicobar Administration have received any representation from Forest Seamen Union and if so, action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and the same will be laid on the table of the Lok Sabha.

**Agricultural Farms in Kerala**

978. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in setting up new agricultural farms in the State of Kerala;

(b) whether the Government of Kerala have sought any financial assistance for this purpose from the Central Government; and

(c) if so, the reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) to (c). The Government of India do not have any proposal to set up new agricultural farms in the State of Kerala.

In their annual plan proposals for the year 1977-78 the Government of Kerala had made a provision of Rs. 10 lacs for getting up a new district agricultural farm in Idduki district. The Planning Commission have agreed to a provision of Rs. 380.20 lacs for crop husbandry as a whole in the State's annual plan for 1977-78. Necessary funds to set up the farm would presumably be found from within this provision by the State Government.

**Rise in price of rice in Kerala**

980. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN KADANNAPPALLI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether after the lifting of emergency there has been increase in the open market price of rice in Kerala State and consequently the off-take of rice from the ration depots has also increased; and

(b) if so, the steps taken and the policy of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) There has been an increase in the open market price of rice and off-take from the ration shops in Kerala but this is mainly attributed to the commencement of the lean months in Kerala from March 1977 onwards when the off-take generally shows an increasing trend.

(b) The allotment of rice to the Government of Kerala was stepped up from one lakh tonnes allotted for the month of March, 1977 to 1.25 lakh tonnes per month for April and May, 1977 and was further increased to 1.35 lakh tonnes for the month of June, 1977. Keeping in view the over-all availability of rice in the Central Pool, the relative needs of the other deficit States and other relevant factors, it is the policy of the Central Government to make maximum possible allotments

of rice to the Kerala Government to meet its reasonable requirements of the public distribution system.

**Promotion of Senior Domestic Science teachers to P.G.T.**

981. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Senior Domestic Science teachers of Delhi Administration Schools who attend and qualify three consecutive 'Summer Institutes' will be considered for promotion to PGT (Home Science) or they will be promoted automatically to PGT scale;

(b) whether all Senior Domestic Science Teachers who have already completed two consecutive 'Summer Institutes' will be given opportunity of attending third 'Summer Institutes' arranged by the State Institute of Education, Delhi Administration during current summer vacation; and

(c) if so, the number of teachers who have already completed two consecutive 'Summer Institutes' and who will be attending the third consecutive 'Summer Institute'?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER):

(a) According to prescribed recruitment rules, Home Science teachers who are having B.Sc. (Home Science), B.Ed., as their basic qualifications and have pursued a condensed course in Home Science through three consecutive Summer Institutes satisfactorily, are eligible to be considered for promotion on the basis of merit-cum-seniority. The question of their automatic promotion does not arise.

(b) The State Institute of Education, Delhi Administration, has not organised any Summer Institutes on the lines

of condensed course as defined in answer to Question (a) The Summer Institutes organised during the 1975-76 were intended to prepare Home Science Teachers to take up tailoring, embroidery, bakery and confectionery as Work Experience in schools under the new pattern of Education. The first Summer Institute on the lines of a condensed course is being organised only from this year. The question of providing opportunity of attending third Summer Institute, therefore, does not arise.

(c) Since the Summer Institute on the lines of condensed course is being organised for the first time this year, the question of completing two consecutive Summer Institutes does not arise.

**Senior Drawing Teachers Grade in Government Aided School**

982. SHRI YADVENDER DUTT: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether senior drawing teachers in Government Schools have been getting P.G.T. grade since 1972 but the same has been denied to the senior Drawing teachers working in Government aided schools and teaching XI class;

(b) if so, what are the reasons of this disparity; and

(c) whether a memorandum in this regard has been pending consideration before the Education Ministry since long and whether any action has been taken in the regard?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) The matter is sub judice as the writ petition filed by the drawing teachers is still pending in the Court.