

Salary of Primary School Teachers in States

1102. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state.

(a) whether salary and emoluments of a primary school teacher vary from State to State and there is a good deal of disparity in this regard;

(b) if so, what is the current position State-wise; and

(c) whether the Government are considering to evolve a uniform guideline (national minimum) on this particular issue?

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

(b) The available information is given in the statement laid on the Table of the House [Placed in Library. See No. LT-410 77]

(c) No, Sir.

Production of Foodgrains

1103. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) actual production of foodgrains during 1975-76;

(b) estimated production for the year 1976-77;

(c) total procurement and distribution through public distribution system during the years 1975-76 and 1976-77; and

(d) buffer stock of foodgrains, as at the end of 1975-76 and 1976-77?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) and (b). The total production of foodgrains during 1975-76 crop year (starting 1st July) was estimated as 121 million tonnes. The final estimate of production of foodgrains for the year 1976-77 are likely to become available after the close of the current crop year. However, unlike 1975-76, the weather conditions during the crop year 1976-77 have not been so favourable and according to available reports, the total production of foodgrains in 1976-77 may be lower than the record level of previous year.

(c) During the financial year 1975-76 and 1976-77 the total internal procurement of foodgrains was about 10.3 and 12.1 million tonnes respectively. The public distribution during these years was around 10.3 and 10.2 million tonnes respectively.

(d) The total estimated stocks (both buffer and operational) with public agencies at the end of the financial year 1975-76 and 1976-77 were 10.5 and 18 million tonnes respectively.

Purchase of Foodgrains

1104. SHRI BIJOY KUMAR MONDAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) in view of the fact that the farmers are now exempt from the levy, what facilities exist for farmers to sell their products of foodgrains at prices fixed by Government in case the private markets offer them lower rates;

(b) what quantities of wheat and other foodgrains have been purchased by Government so far in the year 1977; and

(c) steps being taken to curtail mispractices by States machineries and godown staff?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) A large number of purchase centres have been opened by the public agencies in different States for undertaking purchases of wheat, barley and grams at the support prices fixed by the Government.

(b) As on 18-6-77, a total quantity of 45.89 lakh tonnes of wheat has been purchased by the public agencies during 1977-78 Rabi marketing season. Besides, the Food Corporation of India have purchased 9961 tonnes of barley and 19854 tonnes of gram in the open market as commercial purchases.

(c) Constant vigil and supervision is being done by the officers of the State Governments, F.C.I. and other procuring agencies in the mandis/purchase centres to eliminate the malpractices. Besides, the Mandi Samitis and field level co-ordination Committees are also watching the interest of the farmers and helping in the elimination of malpractices.

Establishment of Sanskrit Vidyapeeth in Kerala

1105. SHRI P. K. KODIYAN:

SHRI RAMACHANDRAN
KADANNAPPALLI:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the question of establishing a Sanskrit Vidyapeeth in Kerala has been pending with the Government since 1974; and

(b) if so, the reason for delay in giving approval for this proposal?

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

(b) The establishment of the Vidyapeeth in Kerala was part of a comprehensive scheme for the establishment of Vidyapeethas which took time for consideration. Recently it has been decided to take up the case of Vidyapeetha in Kerala separately and the matter is being discussed with State Government.

Demand to release stocks of foodgrains to bring down prices

1106. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Federation of All India Foodgrains Dealers Association has demanded that the Government should release all surplus stocks of foodgrains in the open market to bring down prices; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) A copy of the Press Communique issued by the Federation of All India Foodgrains Dealers' Association on 21st May, 1977 has been received. Among other things, the Federation has suggested disposal of surplus stocks of pulses, gram and maize etc. by the Governmental agencies in the open market with a view to bring down their prices.

(b) Governmental agencies, making purchases on behalf of the Government of India have purchased only limited quantities of pulses and gram for meeting the requirements of the Defence Services, and there is no surplus for any sale in the open market. Regarding maize, whatever quantities are available, are meant for issue through the public distribution system and these cannot be released for sale in the open market.