

SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDER SINGH): (a) and (b). There is no proposal from the Government to set up vegetable oil units in Punjab. As a matter of policy, applications received from any entrepreneur/organisation irrespective of the sectoral status, are examined on merits of grant of letters of intent/ industrial licences having regard to parameters like availability of raw-materials, need for removing regional imbalances, locational policy etc.

(c) No such proposal has recently been received from the cooperative sector.

(d) Does not arise.

Appointment of Teachers and Non-Teaching Staff on Ad Hoc Basis in Kendriya Vidyalayas

703. SHRI AMRATLAL VALLABHDAS TARWALA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan appoints teaching and non-teaching staff on ad hoc basis and discharges them before they have put in 180 days' service;

(b) whether staff so discharged is re-employed after a break of one or more days without following the prescribed procedure or a new set of staff is recruited for another period lasting less than 180 days; and

(c) if so, the reasons for following this procedure?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAJMANGAL PANDE): (a) to (c). As per the provisions of the Education Code for Kendriya Vidyalayas, ad-hoc appointments are made against vacant posts for a period not exceeding six months or till the regular in-

cumbent joins whichever is earlier. However, there is no bar to such candidates being selected again for appointment in Kendriya Vidyalayas on ad-hoc basis.

[*Translation*]

Disparity In Distribution of Food Items in Rural and Urban Areas

704. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is disparity between the quantity of items supplied through public distribution system in the rural and urban areas; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to remove this disparity?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDER SINGH): (a) and (b). The commodities to be supplied through Public Distribution System are allocated by the Central Government to the State Governments, U. T. Administrations. Internal distribution of these commodities within the States/IUTs, including the scale of ration, is decided by the State Government/ UT. Administration concerned taking into account various factors such as total availability, inter-se requirements of rural and urban areas in the districts etc.

[*English*]

Blindness in Children

705. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:
SHRI M.V. CHANDRA SHEKARA MURTHY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state: