Demoiltion of Quarters Located in Kendriya Vidyalaya, Gole Market, New Delhi

- 778. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether two/three years back C.P.W.D. declared unsafe five quarters located in Kendriya Vidyalaya, Gole Market, New Delhi and recommended their demolition;
- (b) whether these quarters have been demolished; and
- (c) if not, the reasons for not demolishing them and recently incurring huge expenditure on the repairs of one of these quarters?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RE-SOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAJMANGAL PANDE): (a) to (c). No, Sir. However some quarters were demolished or are to be demolished for other reasons, viz construction of the school building development of playing fields etc. An amount of Rs. 34,678 was sanctioned for repair of one quarter.

[Translation]

Food Storage Under Private Sector

- 779. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Government propose to allow the storage of food grains in the private sector so as to remove the irregularities prevailing in Government food storage system and for providing flour at concessional rate to the poor under the Public Distribution System:

- (b) whether the Government have received any representation/suggestion in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the follow-up action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDER SINGH): (a) No restriction has been placed by the Government on the creation of storage capacity in the private sector. However, the utilisation of such capacity by the concerned agencies such as Food Corporation of India would depend upon their requirements vis-a-vis the capacity already available with them.

- (b) No, Sir.
- (c) Does not arise.

[English]

Jute Modernisation Fund Scheme

- 780. SHRI KUSUMA KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:
- (a) The steps being taken by the Government to revive the jute economy in the country, particularly in Eastern Region;
- (b) whether the Government have undertaken an indepth study of factors responsible for slow progress of Jute Modernisation Fund Scheme (JMFS);
 - (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Government have taken a number of steps to revive the jute economy in the country. Some of these steps are:—

(i) Setting up of Jute Modernisation

Fund with a corpus of Rs. 150 crores.

- (ii) Setting up of Special Jute Development Fund with a corpus of Rs. 100 crores.
- (iii) Reserving foodgrains, sugar, urea and cement for compulsory packaging in jute bags.
- (iv) Allowing import of specified items of jute machinery at concessional duty.
- (v) Exempting levy of excise duty on diversified jute products.
- (vi) Granting cash compensatory support (CCS) on export of jute goods.
- (vii) Providing assistance for internal and external marketing of diversified jute products.
- (viii) Allowing flexibility to utilise all fibres by jute mills.
 - (ix) Sharing of losses on export of jute goods against Global tenders.
- (b) and (c). Government have constituted a Committee to monitor the progress of Jute Modernisation Fund Scheme. The Committee meets periodically and suggests necessary measures for expeditious

utilisation of the funds available under this Scheme. Within the framework of this scheme it is upto the mill managements to take steps to undertake modernisation as this is a desirable objective in the long term viability of their mills.

[Translation]

Supply of Essential Commodities to Maharashtra

781. PROF. MAHADEO SHIWANKAR: SHRI VASANT SATHE:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESS-ING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantity of different essential commodities demanded and supplied to Maharashtra during 1990-91, month-wise; and
- (b) the steps taken to ensure adequate supply of these items to the State?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDER SINGH): (a) Four statements (I to IV) are given below.

(b) Allocation of PDS items to the State Governments/U.T. Administrations including Maharashtra, are made on the basis of total availability of items in Central stock, relative needs of States/UTs, open market availability of such items etc.