

[Translation]

Purchase of buildings by Khadi and Village Industries Commission

3718. SHRI ARVIND NETAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Khadi and Village Industries Commission propose to purchase some buildings etc. for Khadi Bhawan, New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Khadi & Village Industries Commission has a proposal to purchase one building at Lajpat Nagar at an approximate cost of Rs. 50 lakhs.

(c) This is only at a proposal stage.

[English]

Wages of Employees of CWC Vis-a-Vis FCI

3719. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the wages of the workers of Central Warehousing Corporation are less as compared to those of Food Corporation of India doing similar work; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and whether the Government propose to give equal wages for equal work in both the corporations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) The work in Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) is, in certain respects, similar to that of Food Corporation of India (FCI). In certain other areas, however, the nature of work in the two Corporations cannot be re-

garded as similar. The wages payable to Group 'C' and Group 'D' Employees in FCI and CWC are determined by the respective settlements arrived at between the managements and employees' representations.

[Translation]

Profits in Production of Sugar

3720. DR. G. L. KANAUIA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the net profit in the production of sugar is decreasing year after year due to the policies and lacunae in the Government's management and marketing whereas the purchase price of sugarcane is comparatively much less than its per quintal cost; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the concrete steps being taken by the Government for improving these policies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Government of India only fixes the statutory minimum price of sugarcane based on the report on sugarcane submitted by Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices. However, in actual practice, the sugar factories pay much higher cane price as advised by the various State Governments. The net profit in the production of sugar depends not only on the policies of the Govt. but also on the cost of production which varies from zone to zone and even from factory to factory within a zone, depending upon the cane prices paid by the sugar factories in the State, recovery of sugar from sugarcane, duration of season, size, age and condition of the plant and machinery, technical and managerial efficiency, etc. As such it is not possible to infer that the net profit in the production of sugar is decreasing year after year.

(b) Does not arise.