

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to conduct negotiations in the matter; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b). There was no case of self-immolation.

(c) and (d). The Vice-Chairman and the Commissioner, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan held discussions with the various employees associations including the members of the Joint Action Committee on the demands submitted by Joint Action Committee. The representatives of associations were informed of the action taken/position and policy of the Sangathan on the demands.

[*Translation*]

#### **Drip Irrigation**

3956. SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central grant for drip irrigation is being provided at present only to farmers having four hectares of cultivable land;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to provide such grant to those farmers also who have more than four hectares of cultivable land; and

(c) the time by which such benefits are likely to be provided to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Question does not arise.

[*English*]

#### **Guwahati-Lumding Line**

3957. SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received memoranda for maintaining M.G. line from Guwahati to Lumding to facilitate passenger and goods trains to run directly to Barak Valley and Tripura, Mizoram, Manipur and Upper Assam;

(b) whether the M.G. line is still in existence in the North Frontier Railways along with the B.G. line; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to retain M.G. line along with the B.G. line from Guwahati to Lumding in the interest of vast population of North East India?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

#### **Sugar Mills**

3958. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sugar mills closed down at present in the country;

(b) the reasons for their closure; and

(c) the remedial steps taken to revive these mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and b). 35 sugar mills did not commence crushing till 15.4.94 during the current 1993-94 season. Out of these, 9 sugar mills are lying chronically closed for last many years due to various reasons including financial problems, non-availability of sugar cane etc. The other sugar mills remained closed due to non-availability of sugar cane.

(c) It is the responsibility of the sugar factory to commence crushing in the season. However, Government on its part have been announcing its sugar policy each year aimed at improving the economic viability of the sugar factories.

[English]

#### **Committee on Quality Control Orders**

3959. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:  
SHRI TARA SINGH:  
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Committee was constituted to advise the Bureau of Indian Standards on enforcement of Quality Control orders;

(b) if so, its broad features and the

composition thereof;

(c) the details of the recommendations made by the Committee; and

(d) the concrete steps now BIS proposes to take to make availability of quality products in the markets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c). The Bureau of Indian Standards, in its last meeting held on 24.3.94 decided to set up a Committee to advise the Bureau on ways and means for dealing with violations of Quality Control Orders as also misuse of ISI mark by unauthorised persons. The Committee has been constituted only recently and nominations from the concerned organizations represented on the Committee are being obtained. Since the Committee is yet to have its first meeting, no recommendations of the Committee are available at present.

(d) BIS has developed standards for large number of products. It is also operating the Certification marks Scheme under which goods are certified for conformance to standards. Various measures including consumer awareness drive have been taken to improve the enforcement of this Scheme. The State Governments have also been requested to ensure strict enforcement of Quality Control Orders.

#### **Purchase of Posters by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan**

3960. SHRI ASTBHUJA PRASAD SHUKLA:  
SHRI RAMPAL SINGH: