

(c) Import of raw material viz., raw wool and woollen/synthetic rags is under O.G.L. Woollen mills are eligible to seek assistance from Textile Modernisation Fund to make them economic viable. They can also avail of various financial Assistance/facilities offered by the Financial Institutions.

Recruitment of Teachers in MCD

1627. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question Number 6916 dated April 30, 1990 and state:

(a) whether the information is regard to the new teachers appointed during the last three years in schools run by Delhi Municipal Corporation has been collected; and

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIRAJMANGAL PANDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the schools under Municipal Corporation of Delhi, 3067 Assistant Teachers were appointed during the last 3 years, out of which 662 belonged to SC/St categories. There was a backlog of 46 teachers because some of the SC/ST teachers did not join duty after offers of appointment were given to them. The backlog vacancies for SC/ST have been notified by the M.C.D. to the Staff Selection Commission for recruitment.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Teaching of Urdu as third Language in Lieu of Sanskrit in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

1629. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andaman and Nicobar Administration has ordered teaching of Urdu Language in place of Sanskrit as a Third language;

(b) if so, the reasons of discontinuing teaching of Sanskrit; and

(c) whether students are forced to learn Urdu and to discontinue Sanskrit and if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIRAJMANGAL PANDE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Distress Sale of Foodgrains

1630. SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA:
SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government operations in foodgrains, aim at stabilising market prices by making purchases from farmers through procurement and to protect them against post harvest decline in the prices;

(b) if so, how is that poor farmers are often subjected to distress sale; and

(c) the remedial measures being taken

by the Government to avoid distress sale of foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDER SINGH): (a) and (b). Procurement of foodgrains (wheat, paddy and coarse grain) is made by Food Corporation of India in collaboration with State Governments/their procuring agencies under price support operations to ensure that the farmers do not have to sell their produce below the support prices. All quantities of foodgrains conforming to the prescribed quality specifications (Fair Average Quality) voluntarily offered by farmers for sale at support price at the purchase centres operated by F.C.I. and State procuring agencies are purchased. However, the farmers are free to sell their produce at prices higher than the support price in the open market. It is the endeavour of the F.C.I., as also the State Government agencies that price support operations are so conducted that no farmer is compelled to sell F.A.Q. foodgrains at less than support price.

(c) The following steps are taken to prevent distress sale:—

- (i) The State Government notifies the areas and location of the purchase centres according to the need of price support operations;
- (ii) Wide publicity is given through Radio T.V., Press and distribution of pamphlets, etc. to make the farmers aware about the purchase centre being operated and about the specifications at which FCI/State agencies will be procuring the stocks. They are also advised to bring to stocks properly cleaned to the purchase centres to avoid rejection;
- (iii) TRIFED has been undertaking

procurement operations in tribal areas as an agent of the Food Corporation of India;

- (iv) Besides monitoring of procurement operations by Food Corporation of India and State Government officers, the market committees of the State Governments also keep a watch on the operations.

Supply of Palm-Oil in Madras City

1631. **SHRI ANBARASU ERA:** Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the short supply of palm-oil in Madras city;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to increase the supply of palm-oil to the consumers in Madras city?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDER SINGH): (a) to (c). On account of non-availability of adequate stock of imported edible oil, no allocation of imported oils for supply through the Public Distribution System was made to States/U.Ts. during the month of December, 1990 and January, 1991. This has resulted in non-availability of palmolein in States/ U.Ts including Madras city. However, the allocation of palmolein has been resumed since February, 1991. Internal distribution of palmolein allocated by the Central Government is the responsibility of the State Government/U.T. Administration concerned.

[*Translation*]

Opening of Colleges in Outer Delhi

1632. **SHRI TARIF SINGH:** Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state: