

Short Filling of Paddy Bags during Procurement

5226. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that some officials of FCI had accepted 60-65 kg. filling paddy per bag as against 70 kg. as instructed by FCI in the recent kharif procurement in Punjab ;

(b) if so, the action taken against the officials concerned ;

(c) whether Government have arranged to undertake surprise checks of the actual weight of paddy bags in different districts of Punjab ;

(d) whether any complaints have been received from rice shellers of Punjab against FCI ; and

(e) if so, details thereof and action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b). It has been reported by Food Corporation of India that 65 kg. filling of paddy has to be undertaken in a few centres of Faridkot District as 70 kg. filling was found difficult. However, no packing below 65 kg. was undertaken.

(c) Senior officers from the Headquarters and Zonal Office of Food Corporation of India visited Punjab at the time of procurement and surprise checks were conducted to check weightment paddy.

(d) and (e). Complaints were received from rice millers of Punjab about shortage of weight in bags in some centres and against the terms and conditions of custom milling of Corporation's paddy on State Government pattern of standard deduction. The

millers have now been given the option to lift paddy on the actual issue weight.

Non-Depositing of PF Amount by the employers in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

5227. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases of default of deposit of employers' share by the Bengal employers detected by the Provident Fund Commissioner, West Bengal, in the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, give details separately for Government departments and private companies ; and

(b) the number of Provident Fund prosecution cases initiated in Andaman and Nicobar Islands, for private companies and Governments departments, separately, together with names and the amount involved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) : (a) The following Public Sector units in the Union Territory have defaulted in payment of employers' share of provident fund contributions :

Amount of arrears

1. M/s Harbour Master Rs. 43,780/- (Marine).
2. M/s. Harbour Master Rs. 50,153/- (Transport)

No private company is in default in payment of provident fund contributions as on date.

(b) A prosecution case has been filed against M/s. Albion Plywood Ltd., a private company, for default in payment of provident fund contributions amounting to Rs. 1.33 lakhs for the period from August, 1972 to June, 1975. The company has since paid the outstanding dues in full. No prosecution case has