

industrial accident at Bhopal in December, 1984. Central Government had written to all State Governments and Union Territory Administration including Government of Orissa requesting them to streamline procedures, strengthen factory Inspectorates and to enforce the provisions of that Act more effectively, so that number of accidents are brought down.

(c) and (d). Information is not available with the Government of India in the Ministry of Labour.

New Maize Variety Developed by Haryana Agricultural University

847. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Haryana Agricultural University has developed a new maize variety :

(b) if so, the name of the new variety and the number of days it takes to mature;

(c) its per hectare average yields; and

(d) the steps taken to popularise such variety in other maize growing States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) : (a) Haryana Agricultural University has not so far developed and released any maize variety for commercial cultivation.

(b) to (d). Question do not arise.

Data on short weights and measurements

848. SHRI CHINTA MOHAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that reliable data on vastness and seriousness of problem of short weights and measurements is not easily and readily available for want of accurate data;

(b) whether any such studies have been undertaken by Consumer Research and Education Organisations in the country and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have any plans to fully involve such voluntary agencies in implementation of schemes for consumer protection and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No reliable and comprehensive studies have been undertaken by Consumer Research and Education Organisations in the country.

(c) The Government operates a scheme "Measures for Consumer Protection" under which grant-in-aid is provided to voluntary consumer organisations for implementing schemes relating to consumer education through seminars, workshop, exhibition, etc. research and investigation into consumer problems and other such activities which may be helpful in promoting a strong consumer protection movement in the country.

Uniform Wages in Industry

849. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal to ensure uniform wages in an industry in different States;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) : (a) to (c). The general question of uniformity in wages was discussed at the 31st Session of the Labour Ministers' Conference held in July, 1980. It was agreed at the Conference that while absolute uniformity is not possible, there should not be too wide a disparity in wages prescribed by neighbouring States as it might lead to flight of industry from one State to another. Accordingly, the Conference emphasised that while fixing/revising minimum wages under the Minimum wages Act, due regard may be given to the impact that the prescribed wages might have on the industry in other States, specially the neighbouring ones.

The question was again recently discussed at the 35th Session of the Labour Ministers'