

tors, under the management is deposited with the miscellaneous account of the Bokaro Steel Plant and not with its trustees by the Bokaro Steel Plant;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action being taken by Government to ensure the security of the provident fund of contract labour and the timely payment thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of Lok Sabha in due course.

Foodgrain to Orissa for Rural Employment Programmes

8893. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of wheat to be allotted to support the rural employment programmes of the Government of Orissa during 1986-87 under the Central assistance plan;

(b) the number of mandays of additional employment such Central assistance will generate under the National Rural Employment Programme and the Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme;

(c) whether some special quota will be made available to the tribal areas if so, details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (S. BUTA SINGH) : (a) and (b). Allocation of foodgrains under National Rural Employment Programme and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme for the present have been made to different States/UTs. for the 1st half year of the year 1986-87. The share of Orissa comes to 22020 MTs. of Wheat (11010 MTs. under NREP and 11010 MTs. under RLEGP). In

addition an equal quantity of rice i.e. 22020 MTs. has been allocated to Orissa under these Programmes. The additional employment likely to be generated against these foodgrain would be 44.88 lakhs mandays.

(c) and (d). No special quota of foodgrains is earmarked for tribal areas under NREP/RLEGP. While under NREP allocation of resources to the districts from the State is made on the basis of a fixed formula under which 50 per cent weightage is given to number of agricultural labourers, marginal workers and marginal farmers and 50 per cent weightage is given to the incidence of poverty. Under RLEGP projects are taken up in areas which are backward and have predominant population of unemployed labourers, areas which are identified as low wage pockets and the areas which have concealed bonded labours.

Closure of Hindi news agencies

8894. SHRI KRISHNA SINGH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether based on the report of the Committee headed by Mr. R. N. Goenka, Government have taken a final decision to wind up the two Hindi news agencies; and

(b) if so, the alternative arrangements made to feed the Hindi, Urdu and other language papers with news ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL) : (a) and (b). The Government did not take any decision to wind up the two Hindi news agencies. In fact, it is in no position to do so as in pursuance of its deep commitment to the freedom of the press, it would not like to interfere with the internal functioning of the newspapers and news agencies. However, in view of the fact that these two agencies. However, in view of the fact that these two agencies had become almost defunct and had reached a point of no return, the Government sought the help and cooperation of the leading editors and owners of language newspapers for ensuring satisfactory service to the language news-

papers. As a result of these deliberations, a committee under the Chairmanship of Shri R. N. Goenka came to be appointed by them which after examining the matter in detail, came to the conclusion that it should be possible for the existing English news agencies, namely United News of India and Press Trust of India to provide requisite service in the Indian languages by strengthening their existing infrastructure suitably. The Government agrees with this view.

[Translation]

Registration of organisations under Trade Unions Act

8895. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the existing number of organisations registered under the Trade Union Act and the number of organisations which came into being during the last three years and also those which have been disbanded under the law during the period together with reasons together;

(b) whether Government propose to amend the present Trade Union Act with a view to putting check on emergence of undesirable unions; and

(c) if so, by what time ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Information is being collected.

(b) and (c). Some Amendments to the Trade Unions Act, 1926, are under consideration.

[English]

FAO's help to India to promote exports of agricultural goods

8896. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Food and Agriculture Organisation has agreed to help India to

improve exports of agricultural products; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b). Currently, there are no such specific and district agricultural product export projects of Food and Agriculture Organization. However, there are projects like Mushroom cultivation, Training in Quality Control and Pre-shipment Inspection which may have indirect impact on expanding agricultural exports.

Contribution to National Cooperative Development Marketing Fund

8897. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to ask the Reserve Bank of India for contributing out of its annual profits for 1985-86 to National Cooperative Development and Marketing Fund to be maintained by National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) on the lines of RBI's contribution to National Rural Credit (Long Term Operations Fund) and National Rural Credit (Stabilisation Fund) maintained by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development and National Industrial Credit (Long Term Operation Fund) maintained by the Industries Development Bank of India with a view to give momentum to cooperative marketing sector through the agency of NCDC;

(b) if not, whether Government are considering any other measures to step up the operations of NCDC which are at a lower level as compared to NABARD and IDBI; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take in regard thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) The NCDC's resources