

(b) A statement showing the names of the members of the Committee and the functions assigned to it is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1623/78]. To ensure a reasonably broad-based yet compact-body, the Committee has been constituted with Members of Parliament and eminent persons from the field of Law, Social welfare, education, employment and health.

Shortages in wheat imported from United States

817. SHRI PRADYUMNA BAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have since examined the cases of shortages in wheat imported from the United States;

(b) whether there is any proposal to have a thorough inquiry of the matter by the Central Bureau of Investigation;

(c) whether the Government is of the view that such short landings which resulted in the loss of crores of rupees of public money could not have taken place without the connivance of top officials of the Food Corporation of India; and

(d) the action taken so far against the officers responsible for this loss and to sue the American firms who cheated India in this way?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH): (a) to (d). Consequent upon the indictment of some US grain firms for indulging in malpractices involving short-weighment and mis-grading of grains to defraud foreign buyers, including India, the Government of India had filed claims against some major US grain exporting firms for supplying foodgrains deficient in weight and quality during the years 1961-75. The whole matter is sub-judice. A negotiated out-of-court settlement with the concerned firms is not ruled out.

There is no proposal under consideration to have the matter investigated by the Central Bureau of Investigation as the facts of the case do not suggest that the shortlanding of food-grains at the Indian Ports was due to negligence or connivance on the Part of the officials of the Food Corporation of India.

महानगरों में आवास की समस्या

818. डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडेव : क्या निर्माण और आवास तथा पुनर्वास और पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) महानगरों में आवास की समस्या को हल करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है अथवा क्या योजना बनाई जा रही है ;

(ख) बम्बई, दिल्ली और कलकत्ते में इस समय कितने रिहायशी मकानों की आवश्यकता है अथवा इन महानगरों में ऐसे कितने लोग हैं जिनके पास मकान नहीं है; और

(ग) इस समस्या को हल करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा दीर्घबिधि और तात्कालिक क्या उपाय किये जा रहे हैं ?

निर्माण और आवास तथा पुनर्वास और पुनर्वास मंत्री (श्री सिकन्दर बस्त) :

(क) महानगरीय क्षेत्रों तथा अन्य क्षेत्रों में प्रश्नाधीन वर्गों की आवास समस्या का समाधान करने के लिए इस मन्त्रालय में निम्नलिखित सामाजिक आवास योजनाएं बनाई हैं जो अब राज्य क्षेत्र में कार्यान्वित की जा रही हैं :—

1. औद्योगिक कर्मचारियों तथा समाज के आर्थिक दृष्टि से कमजोर वर्गों के लिए सहायता प्राप्त आवास योजना ।
2. निम्न आय वर्ग आवास योजना ।