

the Society has been representing this case to the Food Corporation of India authorities for the last nine months;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereon;

(c) whether manual labourers working at Food Corporation of India godowns at Darbhanga, Jaynagar and other places in Bihar and elsewhere in the country have also been agitating on these lines;

(d) if so, whether it is proposed to make it incumbent on the Food Corporation of India not to violate Minimum Wages Act in any State; and

(e) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO): (a) and (b). A representation from Shillong Manual Labourers' Cooperative Society Ltd., was received by the Food Corporation of India in November, 1979. They had sent the representation to their Regional office at Shillong for a factual report. The Regional office has reported that the contract for handling of foodgrains was awarded to this society about 1½ years back for a period of two years. The Government of Meghalaya have not revised the statutory minimum wage fixed by them since then. The terms of the contract entered into between the Food Corporation and the society do not provide for any increase in the contract rate during the period of the contract.

(c) The required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(d) and (e). As in most of the depots the labourers are being engaged by the handling contractors of the F.C.I. and not directly by the Corporation, the wages to such labourers are paid by the contractors and not by the F.C.I.

Drinking Water Supply Units -

4882. SHRI B. K. NAIR: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state the number of villages in which drinking water supply units were installed during the past four months, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI P. C. SETHI): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Automatic Telephone Exchange at Vatika (Jaipur), Rajasthan

4883. SHRI MEHMOOD HASSAN KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an automatic telephone exchange has been set up at Vatika (Jaipur), Rajasthan Circle in contravention of the rules;

(b) the amount of monthly loss being suffered by the Department by this automatic telephone exchange; and

(c) whether an enquiry is being conducted against the guilty officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KARTIK ORAON): (a) No Sir. A 25-line small automatic exchange with 14 telephone connections is working at Vatika. Normally, such exchanges can be opened with a minimum registered demand for 10 telephone connections, provided the anticipated revenue is at least 40 per cent of the anticipated annual recurring expenditure including depreciation.

(b) No loss is being suffered.

(c) Does not arise.

Timing of Central School, Delhi

4884. SHRI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE ALLURI: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the timings of Central School in Delhi have been increased from 6½ hours to 7 hours per day; while the timings