

(c) how it is ensured that officials strictly follow this direction and prescribed quality of paddy only is procured;

(d) whether it is a fact that bulk of the paddy stock has been mopped up by rice millers and paddy with higher moisture content only is left for Government agency; and

(e) if so, whether there is proper check on Procurement Officers and Commission Agents against their collusion to deprive the farmers of proper price by arbitrarily declaring quality and moisture content of paddy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) No, Sir. There have been no official reports of distress sales from any State Government. A few representations received regarding non-purchase of paddy by State agencies in Punjab and Haryana in the beginning of the season were forwarded to the State Governments for suitable action.

(b) No, Sir. The limit for moisture content has recently been enhanced from 18 per cent to 20 per cent subject to cuts as last year.

(c) Technically qualified and trained staff who are equipped with moisture metres are deployed on procurement work.

(d) No, Sir. In fact, in Punjab and Haryana major portion of the paddy stock has been purchased by Government agencies. Of the total market arrivals of 37.02 lakh tonnes as on 12th November, 1980 in the Punjab and Haryana, the public agencies purchased 21.58 lakh tonnes which works out to more than 58 per cent. For stocks purchased with higher moisture content, proportionate cuts are being made as usual.

(e) Special squads are deputed during the procurement season to make on the spot surprise inspections

and sort out the grievances of farmers in the mandies.

Protection for Teachers working in Educational Institutions run by Minority Communities

194. SHRI C. CHINNASWAMY: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to amend the Constitution to protect the interest of the teachers working in the Educational institutions run by the minority communities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Visit of Central Team to Gunupur due to flood in Vansadhara River in Orissa

195. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central team recently visited flood affected Gunupur sub-division of Koraput District, Orissa to assess the loss and damages due to Vansadhara river;

(b) if so, the findings made by that team in Gunupur sub-division;

(c) the suggestion made by them to his Ministry and also to the Government of Orissa to meet the problems of flood affected people; and also the sub-division; and

(d) the measures taken by his Ministry and Government of Orissa in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) A Central Team visited the flood