

(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

affected areas in Orissa between the 8th and 10th October, 1980.

(b) The Vanasadhara river caused unprecedented havoc on the 17th and 18th September, 1980. At Gunupur in Koraput, it crossed the Danger Level of 82.20 metres at about 11 A.M. on the 17th September and, at about 5 P.M. the town protection embankment (84.50 mts.) was overtopped. The river started rising steadily thereafter till late evening of the next day. In the meantime, Gunupur and the down stream township of Kashinagar (in Ganjam) had been extensively devastated. Apart from numerous huts, a large number of pucca buildings in these two towns and in some villages on the Vanasadhara banks had been swept away. The Team found clear evidence of the flood level from the floating matter deposited in treetops and from water works on walls on surviving masonry structures. A huge bridge and massive transmission towers had fallen to the floods which have also annexed large areas of cropped lands to the river's beds causing heavy sand-casting on extensive agricultural lands.

(c) and (d). The Team recommended Central assistance for the relief and rescue operations, repair and restoration of public properties and for taking up labour intensive works and restoration of community assets. Besides it also recommended advance Plan assistance to the Government of Orissa. The report of the Central Team has been considered by the High Level Committee on Relief and a proposal to sanction a ceiling of expenditure of about Rs. 43 crores is under consideration of the Government of India.

The Central Team has recommended that the State Government should endeavour to organise housing loans from the HUDCO, the LIC and the State Housing Board to assist the people for reconstruction of the houses damaged.

No specific recommendation of assistance has been made in respect of Gunupur sub-division.

The State Government have taken the following measures:—

- (1) Rescue and relief operations.
- (2) Rehabilitation of the people whose houses have been washed away or wholly and partly damaged.
- (3) Extending assistance to artisans and fishermen.
- (4) Organising labour intensive works for providing employment.
- (5) Repair and restoration of damage to public properties.
- (6) Intensification of agricultural production in the affected areas.

Govt. accommodation for employees owning Houses

196. SHRI R. L. BHATIA: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government are contemplating to reverse the decision to allot houses to Government servants who own their houses and are getting rent at the rate of Rs. 1000/- p.m. and above with a view to accommodate such of the Government servants as have not been allotted accommodation for the last more than 2 decades or so and are still on the Waiting List; and

(b) if so, at what stage the matter stands at present?

**THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND WORKS AND**