

- (b) 1967-onwards—15 years service in the grade.

Reduction in Price of Tobacco by Monopoly Purchasers in Andhra

1624. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether four companies are the monopoly purchasers of tobacco in Andhra ;

(b) whether these four companies have recently, through agreements among themselves reduced the price of tobacco from Rs. 500 to Rs. 250 per quintal ;

(c) whether following this action, there was a strike by the tobacco growers in three Districts of Andhra ; and

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take to ensure fair price to the growers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) Major quantity of tobacco in Andhra Pradesh is purchased by five firms.

(b) The Government is not aware of the same.

(c) According to the reports received there was some disturbance created by cultivators at one or two centres resulting from the heavy rejections of the tobacco.

(d) The State Trading Corporation has started purchases of tobacco from the growers in Andhra Pradesh and there has been some improvement in the prices.

Programme of integrated Services for Children and youth in Urban Areas

1625. SHRI C. CHITTIBABU : Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether project report of cities, barring Baroda, have been prepared under the programme of Integrated Services for Children and Youth in Urban Areas ;

(b) whether the assistance of 100,000 offered by the UNICEF has been availed of ; and

(c) the details of projects on which this amount has been spent ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI K. S. RAMASWAMY) : (a) Drafts of the Project Reports on Integrated Services for Children in selected urban areas of Bombay, Baroda and Lucknow have been prepared by the Centre for Training and research in Municipal Administration of the Indian Institute of Public Administration and submitted to the Department of Social Welfare.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. The UNICEF assistance of \$100,000 in 1970-71 was for undertaking the studies and preparing these project reports.

Maximum Income of Agriculturists

1626 SHRI B. V. NAIK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the recorded maximum agricultural income earned by an individual agriculturist in the States of Mysore, Maharashtra and Andhra during 1971 ; and

(b) the names of those agriculturists ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected from the State Governments and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as available. Information of this nature may not be easily available even with the State Governments.

Appointments in Paradip Port Trust by Orissa Government

1627. SHRI DEVENDRA SATPATHY : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Orissa by their Notification issued on 15th November, 1971 made direct appointments of two Revenue Officers in the Paradip Port Trust in the Posts

of Assistant Secretary and Estate Officer without prior consultation with the Paradip port Trust ;

(b) whether the Paradip Port Trust had made any request to Government of Orissa to depute two officers for manning those posts ; and

(c) whether the Assistant Secretary who had been already holding that Office was man-handled by some of the members of the Port Shramik Congress (led by Utkal Congress of Orissa), as he was unable to hand over charge to the newly appointed Assistant Secretary because he was not given orders to that effect by the Chairman of the Paradip Port Trust ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) Yes, but they later cancelled the order regarding Assistant Secretary.

(b) The Government of Orissa had been requested to send a panel of names of suitable officers for making a selection for appointment, on deputation, to the post of Assistant Secretary as the term of the incumbent at that time was due to expire shortly. The State Government had also been requested to agree to the extension of the term of deputation of the incumbent of the post of Estate Officer for a further period of two years.

(c) No.

Absorption of Sub-Assistant Engineers in Paradip Port Trust

1628. **SHRI DEVENDRA SATPATHY :** Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether in spite of clear decision of the Paradip Port Trust Board at its meeting held on 21st June, 1971 to revert two sub-Assistant Engineers to the Government of Orissa, the Port Trust has agreed to absorb them in the Port Trust services ; and

(b) if so, the action contemplated for flouting the decision of the Port Trust Board ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) and

(b). Though the Port Trust Board had decided to revert two Sub-Assistant Engineers on deputation from the Government of Orissa, to the Paradip Port Trust, at its meeting held on the 21st June, 1971, the matter was reconsidered by the Board at its meeting held on 17th March, 1972. A Sub-Committee has been set up by the Board to consider the general question of absorption of deputationists and the Board will consider its recommendations on their receipt. Thereafter, the Chairman of the Port Trust Board will decide individual cases of deputationists on merits. The case of the two Sub-Assistant Engineers would, therefore, be decided accordingly.

Distress Sale of Tobacco In Andhra Pradesh

1626. **SHRI N. K. SANGHI :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether tobacco producers in Andhra Pradesh are being compelled to distress sale and that the prevailing prices have reached on all-time low ; and

(b) whether Government propose to introduce any permanent machinery to keep a watch on the price behaviour and to take suitable remedial measures ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA) : (a) The prices of tobacco showed downward trend this year on account of higher production and reported low quality of tobacco in certain areas of Andhra Pradesh. As a remedial measure, the State Trading Corporation has entered the market and according to the reports received there has been improvement in prices now.

(b) The Government of India have under consideration a proposal to set up a Tobacco Marketing Board dealing with marketing of Virginia Flue-Cured Tobacco.

Visit of a single Officer to U.S.A. instead of a Delegation

1630. **SHRI SAT PAL KAPUR :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a single officer of his Ministry visited U.S.A. instead of a delegation, as