

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI D. P. YADAV): (a) According to the available data, about 6 per cent of the children in the age group 6—11 years are not attending the schools due to socio-economic reasons.

(b) The Delhi Primary Education Act 1960 provides for free and compulsory primary education for children in the Union Territory of Delhi. However, this Act is not being strictly enforced due to socio-economic reasons. In order to bring the non-attending children to schools, all persuasive measures including provision of incentives are being adopted. In order to meet the requirements of children seeking admission, new primary schools are opened and new classes are added to the existing schools.

Compulsory certificate to check adulteration of food items

7743. SHRI R. K. SINHA:

SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal to have compulsory certification marks on all important food items as a measure to check adulteration is under active consideration of Government; and

(b) if so, the particulars thereof and when a final decision is likely to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR): (a) and (b). The Government have under consideration a proposal to permit the sale of certain food items like ghee, butter, edible

oils, spices, honey, asafoetida, food colours and other food additives only after certification by a Government certifying agency like the Agmark or the I.S.I. A decision will be taken after getting comments of the concerned authorities.

Land ceiling legislation of Orissa and Andhra Pradesh

7744. SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Orissa and Andhra Pradesh Governments had passed progressive legislation in respect of land ceiling etc;

(b) when such legislations were passed by these two State Governments and when they were sent to the Government of India for obtaining approval of the President of India; and

(c) when these legislations were forwarded to the President of India and whether the President's Assent has since been accorded to them and when the decision was conveyed to the respective State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE):

(a) to (c). The revised ceiling bill for Andhra Pradesh was passed by the State Legislative Assembly on the 3th September, 1972, by the Legislative Council on the 13th September, 1972, and was sent to the Government of India on the 16th September, 1972. It received President's assent on the 1st January, 1973.

The Orissa revised ceiling bill could not be passed by the State Legislature before the promulgation of President's rule in Orissa. Therefore the occasion for taking subsequent measures as referred to in the question did not arise.