

Under-Invoicing and Evasion of Taxes by Traders in Punjab and Haryana in Wheat Sales

4528. SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to refer to letter of 17th November, 1974 from Minister of State for Food and Agriculture to a Socialist Party Member and state:

(a) whether the charge of under-invoicing and evasion of taxes by traders in Punjab and Haryana in the matter of wheat sales has not been conceded by the Minister;

(b) if so, the action taken against traders by the Centre and the states,

(c) whether the charge of corruption in the matter of high milling margins allowed by West Bengal Government has also been impliedly conceded by the Minister; and

(d) whether this charge was proved by the Wanchoo Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) and (b). There have been reports of under-invoicing by traders in Punjab and Haryana in the matter of sale of levy-free wheat, and to curb mal-practices of this type, the Governments of Punjab and Haryana stopped issue of fresh export permits in August, 1974 to private traders for taking wheat to deficit States;

(c) and (d). No, Sir. On the contrary, it was explained that the milling margin being allowed by the West Bengal Government was not as high as suggested.

National Council for Vocational Education

4529. SHRI GAJADHAR MAJHI: Will the Minister of EDUCATION,

SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a National Council for Vocational Education; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI D. P. YADAV): (a) and (b) The All India Council of Technical Education has recommended that for a proper review and coordination of policy and programmes of vocational and technical education and to provide effective linkages between them and also programmes of vocational and apprenticeship training, a National Council for Vocational Education be set up by the Central Government with corresponding State Boards/Councils in all the States. The recommendation was considered by the Central Advisory Board of Education and endorsed by them at their meeting held on 4th and 5th November, 1974. The proposal is under consideration in consultation with the concerned Ministries and Departments.

Present Requirement of Foodgrains

4530 SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA: SHRI HARI SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether NCAER's economic review have estimated 120 million tonnes of foodgrains sufficient for our present population; and

(b) if so, the time by which this target can be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) Yes, Sir.