

No foreign exchange was allowed to him. No other person accompanied him. The subject of the seminar directly related to the working of super markets.

(e) The Government is not aware of any such fact.

(f) Since 15th July 1966 when Super Bazar started till the 30th of June 1967 when the last cooperative year ended the loss suffered by Super Bazar is Rs. 5.64 lakhs. This figure is provisional and subject to audit.

(g) Steps being taken to prevent losses include rationalisation of staff, increase in sales by opening of new departments and reduction in operational expenditure such as packing material, etc.

FREE LEGAL AID TO POOR

259. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Will the Minister of LAW be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken give free legal assistance to those poor people who cannot afford it;

(b) whether any scheme has been chalked out; and

(c) if so, the salient features thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN) : (a) The administration of justice is a State subject and consequently the responsibility for formulating and implementing schemes of legal aid is that of the State Governments. The Central Government does not come into the picture in so far as States are concerned. A scheme of legal aid has been introduced in some Union Territories;

(b) Schemes for the grant of legal aid have been formulated in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Kerala, Gujarat, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan and West Bengal and in the Union Territories of Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Goa, Daman and Diu, Himachal Pradesh, Pondicherry and Tripura; and

(c) A statement showing the salient features of the scheme of legal aid in force in the above States and Union Territories is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1517/67].

CHIEF MINISTERS' CONFERENCE ON FOOD

260. SHRI D. C. SHARMA :
SHRI V. KRISHNAMOORTHY :
SHRI P. C. ADICHAN :
SHRI Y. A. PRASAD :
SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA :
SHRI D. N. DEB :
SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU :
SHRI N. K. SANGHI :
SHRI SHIVA CHANDRA JHA :
SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK :
SHRI RAM CHARAN :
SHRI MOHAN SWARUP :
SHRI DEORAO PATIL :
SHRI SURENDRANATH
DWIVEDY :
SHRI K. LAKKAPPA :
SHRI D. B. RAJU :
SHRI K. M. KOUSSHIK :
SHRI GADILINGANA GOWD :
SHRI K. R. GANESH :
SHRI HEM RAJ :

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

(a) whether the food policy was reviewed at a meeting of the State Chief Ministers held in Delhi in September, 1967;

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon; and

(c) the steps taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1518/67].

PRODUCTION OF HIGH-YIELDING VARIETIES

261. SHRI D. C. SHARMA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the high-yielding varieties of grain used in 1966-67 were successful experiment;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any comprehensive programme for their use has been drawn out ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICUL-

TURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNA-SAHIB SHINDE): (a) to (c). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1519/67].

SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE TO INDUSTRIAL WORKERS

262. SHRI D. C. SHARMA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether workers in the industrial and commercial establishments will receive a subsistence allowance while under suspension; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI HATHI):

(a) Yes, in respect of workers in establishments in the central sphere covered by the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946;

(b) A copy of the notification issued by this Ministry in this behalf is placed on the table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1520/67].

LOSS OF FOODGRAINS BY RATS

263. SHRI D. C. SHARMA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on an average about 10 per cent of the annual grain production is lost after it has been harvested because of faulty handling and storage;

(b) whether it is a fact that rodents and insects are the main causes of the loss and they eat up 5.5 per cent of the food produced during storage;

(c) whether any attention has been paid to check this colossal loss; and

(d) if so, the details thereof with the results achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) The Expert Committee constituted by the Government has, in an interim report submitted to the Government, estimated the loss during the post-harvest handling of foodgrains at 9.33%.

As far as the foodgrains handled by the Government are concerned, the average annual loss is less than 1%.

(b) Yes Sir; the Expert Committee has estimated that the loss on account of insects and rodents is 5.05%.

(c) Every effort is being made to ensure that the loss is minimized.

(d) Following are the details of the steps taken:—

- (i) It has been ensured that all the pesticides and equipment required for protection of foodgrains in storage against pests are manufactured in the country and are readily available to the users.
- (ii) Every possible effort is made to see that new storage godowns constructed are rodent and damp-proof. As far as farm storage is concerned, use of better rodent-proof receptacles and fumigation of grains are being popularised.
- (iii) A nation-wide 'Save Grain Campaign' was launched wherein scientific techniques of better storage were demonstrated in important grain markets and at some rural centres.
- (iv) Training and research activities relating to grain storage have been encouraged and it is proposed to further extend these facilities with the help of the United Nations Special Development Fund.
- (v) Steps have been taken to make it obligatory on the Roller Flour Millers, Rice Millers and grain stockists to adopt pest control measures on their premises.
- (vi) The State Governments and various other agencies handling foodgrains have been advised of the benefits of anti-coagulants for controlling rat trouble and the importance of scientific/modern storage of foodgrains and exhorted to take measures actively for reducing the losses.