

(ग) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार का विचार इस मामले की जांच कराने का है अथवा उसने कोई जांच कराई है; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

साख, कृषि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार मन्त्रालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री अन्ना-साहिब शिन्डे) : (क) और (ख). जानकारी इकट्ठी की जा रही है और मिलते ही समा पटल पर रख दी जायेगी।

(ग) और (घ). इस समय प्रश्न ही नहीं होते।

Purchase of Rice by Food Corporation of India

10270. SHRI LAKHAN LAL GUPTA :

SHRI D. N. PATODIA :

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

(a) whether Government are aware that the officers of the Food Corporation of India in Raipur (M. P.) are purchasing Safri rice, known as M1, being grown in Chhattisgarh at the same rate as Dubraj rice (C. F. 3);

(b) if so, whether the officials of the Corporation and local traders are making undue profit as a result thereof and causing loss to both Central and State Governments to whom this rice is supplied in place of fine rice?

(c) if so, the complete details thereof and the action taken by Government against the guilty officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) It is not a fact that Food Corporation of India is purchasing Safri rice at the same rate as Dubraj rice. Safri rice is classified as medium I whereas Dubraj rice is classified as Fine II. The two varieties have distinctive features in regard to their dimensions, cooking qualities, etc. Moreover, Dubraj variety has a distinctive scent which is not present in other qualities. There is therefore, no

scope for Safri rice being purchased as Dubraj rice even by mistake.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Labour Ministers' Conference

10271. SHRI ANBUCHZHIAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Conference of Labour Ministers of States was held in New Delhi recently;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the Union Labour Minister has urged the transfer of full powers to the Central Government to handle Labour relations; and

(c) the other subjects discussed and decisions taken at the Conference?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI HATHI) : (a) Yes. The 19th Session of the Labour Ministers Conference was held at New Delhi on 19th April, 1968.

(b) and (c). A copy of the Statement of the Main Conclusions of the Conference is placed on the Table of the House. [*Plac'd in Library.* See No. LT - 1265/68]

Dr. Sirohi of Indian Agricultural Research Institute

10272. SHRI SURENDAR REDDY : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Dr. Sirohi of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi is the first Indian National who has been to South Pole, where he carried out scientific experiments of immense importance;

(b) whether it is a fact that the U. S. Board on Geographical Names gave a high recognition to Dr. Sirohi's outstanding scientific work and in his honour named a place near South pole as Sirohi Point;

(c) whether any honour has been conferred upon Dr. Sirohi by Government as a result of recognition of his work; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?