

FAIR PRICE SHOPS IN INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS

4006. DR. RANEN SEN : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the draft legislation for compelling employees to open fair price shops for workers in their industrial establishments was approved by the Standing Committee on Industrial Truce Resolution in 1964;

(b) whether the draft legislation has not so far been introduced in Parliament;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government propose to introduce the necessary legislation during this Session ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI HATHI) :

(a) and (b). Yes.

(c) The scheme of legislation was considered at the highest level in June 1965, and again in November, 1965, when it was decided that the question of undertaking legislation should not be proceeded with immediately, but that the Labour Ministry should persuade the defaulting employers and the position should be reviewed after six months. The whole position was reviewed and the method of persuasion continued with the result that nearly 70% of the establishments had opened fair price shops or cooperative stores by the end of 1966. However, as some establishments were still not complying a revised draft scheme of legislation was prepared in the light of the experience gained. The views of the State Governments, the employing Ministries, the workers' and employers' organisations are being obtained on the details of the scheme. Some replies are still awaited.

(d) No.

HYBRID SEED PRODUCTION

4007. SHRI GADILINGANA GOWD : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of hybrid seed production in the country;

(b) the total requirement of hybrid seed in the country;

(c) whether some import of hybrid seed is being effected and if so, details thereof; and

(d) whether any efforts are being made to increase the production of hybrid seeds to meet the requirements ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of House as soon as it is received.

(c) There is no proposal at present to import any hybrid seeds.

(d) Arrangements have been made to meet the hybrid seed requirements of all States during the next Kharif season as per approved targets and no shortage is anticipated.

BLACKMARKETING IN FERTILIZERS

4008. SHRI GADILINGANA GOWD : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether complaints have been received from various quarters as regards blackmarketing in fertilizers even by Governmental agencies; and

(b) if so, the action taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected from the State Governments and Union Territories and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

कर्मचारी भविष्य निधि योजना

4010. श्री ओंकार लाल बरबा :

क्या धन तथा पुनर्वास मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि कर्मचारी भविष्य निधि योजना 1953 में आरम्भ की गई थी;

(ख) यदि हां, तो कितने उद्योगों में इसे क्रियान्वित किया गया है;

(ग) अब तक कितने मजदूरों ने अपना अंश देना आरम्भ कर दिया है और अब तक कितनी राशि इकट्ठी की गई है; और

(घ) इस योजना का अग्रेतर विस्तार करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या उपाय किए जा रहे हैं ?

श्रम तथा पुनर्वास मन्त्री (श्री हाथी) :

(क) कर्मचारी भविष्य निधि योजना 1952 में शुरू की गई थी ।

(ख) 112 उद्योग इसके अन्तर्गत आ चुके हैं ।

(ग) 30 नवम्बर, 1967 को अंशदानों की संख्या 50.96 लाख थी और अंशदान के रूप में 1,048.36 लाख रुपए वसूल हो चुके थे ।

(घ) इस योजना को कुछ और उद्योगों पर लागू करने सम्बन्धी प्रस्तावों पर विचार किया जा रहा है । जैसे ही किसी उद्योग का मामला अंतिम रूप से तय हो जाता है तैसे ही इस योजना को उस उद्योग पर लागू कर दिया जाता है ।

POSTAL BUILDINGS AT RAIKHOH AND ATHMALIK

4011. SHRI A. DIPA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that postal buildings at Raikhol, Sambalpur District and Athmalik in Dhankanal District (Orissa) are in dilapidated condition;

(b) if so, the steps taken to provide suitable accommodation for the postal authorities there;

(c) whether Government have also received any representation to provide

alternative suitable accommodation there; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a) Yes, the buildings are in need of repairs.

(b) Raikhol P.O. is being temporarily shifted to L.I.C. quarters pending repairs to P.O. building. Repairs to Athmalik P.O. building are in progress.

(c) and (d). No.

DECLINE IN PRICES OF FOODGRAINS AND COMMERCIAL CROPS

4012. SHRI S. S. KOTHARI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the prices of major foodgrains and commercial crops prevailing six months ago and how they compare with the current prices; and

(b) the likely trend of such prices during the next half year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) A statement giving Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices of Major Foodgrains and Commercial crops for the last week of February, 1968 compared to the corresponding period six months ago i.e. last week of August, 1967 together with percentage variation over six months is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-462/68].

(b) It is difficult to give at this stage a precise indication about the likely behaviour of prices of foodgrains and commercial crops during the next half year as it depends on a number of variable factors.

LEVY ON KHARIF CROP

4013. SHRI HIMATSINGKA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the levy on Kharif produce for foodgrains has