

Besides the legislative measures, the Government is promoting safety through a number of other initiatives, such as:

- (a) conferences on safety in mines;
- (b) self-regulation by managements;
- (c) workers' participation in safety management;
- (d) tripartite and bipartite reviews at various levels;
- (e) training of work persons;
- (f) observance of safety week and safety campaigns; and
- (g) national safety awards (Mines).

#### Supply of Foodgrains to Mills

2076. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India had purchased foodgrains from Punjab since 1995 upto now and sold it to mills at cheaper rates;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the losses suffered by the F.C.I. as a result thereof;

(d) whether the Government have conducted any inquiry in this regard; and

(e) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken against the guilty officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) (a) to (c) The quantities of foodgrains procured and sold by FCI in Punjab during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 are given in the Statement enclosed.

Besides, a quantity of 7.44 lakh tonnes of paddy procured in 1994-95, has been sold by FCI in the open market upto June, 1997. No quantity was specifically sold to the millers exclusively. In the process of open sale, if the millers had been in the fray, they would have availed the same rate as that of other bidders/ buyers.

(d) and (e) Based on some press reports, the Hon'ble High Court of Punjab & Haryana admitted, suo-moto, a Public Interest Litigation (No. 915/97) where it was alleged that certain irregularities were committed in the Open Market Sale Scheme of wheat. In pursuance of the directions of the Hon'ble High Court, given on 25.7.97, the matter was investigated by the Deputy Commissioners of Punjab and Haryana and based on their reports, C.B.I. pursued the matter and 13 F.I.Rs. have been lodged by C.B.I. so far.

#### Statement

##### Quantities of Foodgrains procured by FCI in Punjab Since 1995

Year	(in lakh tonnes)		
	Wheat	Paddy	Rice Levy
1994-95	23.89	27.45	0.09
1995-96	22.83	17.58	0.41
1996-97	16.64	17.18	7.88
1997-98	14.97	29.11	13.04
1998-99	18.12		
	(upto 1.6.1998)		

##### Quantities of Foodgrains Sold by FCI in Punjab since 1995

Year	(in lakh tonnes)	
	Wheat	Rice
1994-95	3.25	0.25
1995-96	7.69	0.36
1996-97	(*) 5.32	0.26

(\*) In addition to this 8.75 lakhs tonnes of wheat was issued to different buyers under Punjab Special Scheme.

#### Central Assistance for Primary Health Centres

2077. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK:  
SHRI SATNAM SINGH KAINTH:  
SHRI RAMPAL UPADHYAY:

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

(a) the details of Primary Health Centres and sub-Centre and Family Planning Centres opened in each State during the Ninth Plan till date;

(b) whether the Government emphasised the common minimum programme to increase the number of Primary Health Centres and sub-centres likely to be set up state-wise during 1998-99;

(c) whether the Government proposed to grant/provide special assistance to each State for setting up of sub centres;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT

EZHILMALAI): (a) The Planning Commission is in the process of finalising the proposals for the 9th Five Year Plan in consultation with the State Governments.

(b) One of the seven priorities set out under the Basic Minimum Services is to provide 100% coverage of primary Health Service facilities in all rural and urban areas by the year 2000.

(c) to (e) The Planning Commission is in the process of finalising the targets for setting up of Sub-Centres in Different states, during 9th Five Year Plan. The funds will flow directly to the State Governments and they will have flexibility in identifying priorities.

#### **Amendment in Existing Rules for Collection/ Preservation of Blood**

2078. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any amendments are proposed to be made in the existing rules for permitting the collection/preservation of blood without license;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Hospitals/blood banks have sufficient quantity of blood to meet their requirements;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to meet the requirement of blood?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (f) There is a general shortage of blood obtained through voluntary blood donations in the country. State Governments and State Blood Transfusion Councils have been asked to step up Voluntary blood donation by organising camps with the help of voluntary organisations like Indian Red Cross Society etc.

[Translation]

#### **Chemicals and Fertilisers Policy**

2079. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of new Chemicals and Fertilisers Policy and the issues included in the policy;

(b) the time by which this policy is likely to be announced and whether the policy had been approved by the Parliamentary Standing Committee;

(c) whether the new policy would encourage the foreign and private investments in the development of infrastructure for fertilisers industries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL) : (a) to (d) There is no proposal before the Government for formulating a separate policy for the Chemicals sector.

The High Powered Fertiliser Pricing Policy Review Committee, which was constituted to review the existing system of subsidisation of urea and suggest an alternative broad based, scientific and transparent methodology, has submitted its report. The process of inter-ministerial consultations and dialogue with the industry on the recommendations of the Committee is under way. The new fertiliser policy, which would aim at harmonising the imperatives of growth with efficiency upgradation in the industry, would be formulated in the light of the conclusions of this exercise.

[English]

#### **Recognised Dental Colleges in Karnataka**

2080. SHRI A. SIDDARAJU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Dental Colleges recognised/unrecognised running in Karnataka by the Dental Council of India;

(b) whether it is a fact that the unrecognised Dental Colleges have fulfilled all the conditions; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to recognise those unrecognised Dental Colleges in Karnataka who are fulfilling the requisite terms and conditions in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) to (c) Under the provision of the Dentists (Amendment) Act, 1993, the Central Govt. grant permission of the establishment of dental colleges. The permission of the Central Govt. is renewed on an annual basis till such time as the first batch of admitted students appear in the final examination at which time the college, through the University concerned should apply for the recognition of the BDS degree under section 10(2) of the Dentists Act, 1948. The Central Govt. has, since the commencement of the Dentists (Amendment) Act, 1993, given its permission for the establishment of 10 dental colleges in Karnataka, as per list at Statement-I.