

COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) BILL

[English]

As passed by Rajya Sabha

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I lay on the Table the Companies (Amendment) Bill, 1988, as passed by Rajya Sabha.

12.04 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

[English]

Fifth Report

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL (Kopargaon): Sir, I beg to present the Fifth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Petitions.

COMMITTEE ON SUBORDINATE
LEGISLATION*[English]*

Nineteenth Report

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER (Chazipur): Sir, I beg to present the Nineteenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation.

12.05 hrs.

*[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]*STATEMENT RE: PROCURE-
MENT/MINIMUM SUPPORT PRICES FOR
PADDY, KHARIF COARSE CEREALS,
PULSES, OILSEEDS AND RAW COTTON
FOR THE 1988-89 SEASON*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI): Sir, the Government have fixed the procurement prices for paddy, kharif

coarse cereals, kharif pulses, kharif oilseeds and raw cotton for 1988-89 season. The procurement price of all varieties of paddy in common group of fair average quality has been raised from Rs. 150 per quintal during 1987-88 marketing season to Rs. 160 per quintal for the 1988-89 marketing season.

For fine variety of paddy, the price will be Rs. 170 per quintal and for superfine variety of paddy Rs. 180 per quintal for the 1988-89 season.

The Government have fixed the procurement price for kharif coarse cereals viz., jowar, bajra, maize and ragi, of fair average quality at Rs. 145 per quintal for 1988-89 season, marking an increase of Rs. 10 per quintal over the price of Rs. 135 per quintal fixed for 1987-88 season.

It has been the endeavour of the Government to provide incentive to the farmers to step up the production and productivity of pulses. Accordingly, the minimum support prices of kharif pulses, namely, tur (arhar), urad and moong of 1988-89 crop have been fixed at Rs. 360 per quintal, marking an increase of Rs. 35 per quintal over the corresponding price for the produce of 1987-88 crop.

The National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) has been designated as the Central nodal agency to undertake purchase of kharif pulses of 1988-89 season at the minimum support price in collaboration with the State Cooperative Marketing Agencies designated by the State Governments.

To give a further boost to the production of oilseeds, the government has also increased the minimum support prices of oilseeds substantially. Accordingly, the minimum support price of groundnut-in-shell of 1988-89 crop has been fixed at Rs. 430 per quintal, marking an increase of Rs. 40 per quintal, over the previous year's level.

The minimum support price of soybean (yellow) of 1988-89 crop shall be Rs. 320 per quintal as against Rs. 300 per quin-

tal for the last year. Similarly, the minimum support price of soyabean (black) has been increased by Rs. 15 per quintal and fixed at Rs. 275 per quintal for the 1988-89 season. Likewise, the minimum support price for sunflowerseed, an upcoming oilseed crop, has been increased by Rs. 60 per quintal and fixed at Rs. 450 per quintal for 1988-89 season.

For the basic variety, H-4 in the long and superior long staple group of cotton, the minimum support price shall be Rs. 600 per quintal which marks an increase of Rs. 50 over the previous season. For F-414/H-777 variety, the minimum price shall be Rs. 500 per quintal. Not only is this price higher by Rs. 60 per quintal over the corresponding price of the previous season, but is also higher by Rs. 15 per quintal than that recommended by the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices. This has been done to remove varietal imbalance, particularly between demand and supply for medium staple cotton varieties and to provide sufficient cotton to the exporters of cotton and cotton yarn.

The Cotton Corporation of India will undertake price support operations in all cotton growing States, except Maharashtra, in case market prices tend to fall below the level of the minimum support prices fixed by the Government.

I am sure the incentives offered by the Government in terms of substantial increases in procurement/minimum support prices will enthuse our farmers to achieve the desired increases in productivity and production of both food crops as well as oilseeds and cotton.

12.07 hrs.

ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

[English]

Central Advisory board of Education

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): On behalf of Shri Laliteswar Prasad Shahi, I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of paragraph 5(b) of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education) Resolution No. F.1-2/85-PN.2, dated the 10th April, 1986, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, one member from amongst themselves to serve as a member of the Central Advisory Board of Education, subject to the other provisions of the said Resolution vice Shri P. Namgyal resigned from the Board."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of paragraph 5(b) of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education) Resolution No. F.1-2/85-PN.2, dated the 10th April, 1986, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, one member from amongst themselves to serve as a member of the Central Advisory Board of Education, subject to the other provisions of the said Resolution vice Shri P. Namgyal resigned from the Board."

The motion was adopted

12.08 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[English]

Fifty Fourth Report

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Fifty-fourth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 2nd May, 1988."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Fifty-fourth Report of the Business Advi-