

also set up a Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction to determine and enforce the preventive, ameliorative and remedial steps for the revival of sick industrial companies.

[English]

Uniform Minimum Wages for Workers of Different Industries

331. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is considerable difference in the wages of workers of the traditional industries such as Beedi, cashew and handloom in the various Southern States;

(b) whether Kerala Government has requested Union Government to fix uniform minimum wages for workers of the industries like cashew, Beedi, handloom etc.; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir

(c) Regional Minimum Wages Advisory Committee comprising the representatives of Central Government and the Southern States was set up to consider the question of Regional minimum wages in the Beedi, Cashew, Handloom and Tiles industries. The Committee has given its report which have been sent to all the Southern States in February, 1990 for appropriate action, since under the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the State Governments are the appropriate Governments for fixation/revision of the minimum wages in their States.

Supply of Sugar, Edible Oils and Kerosene to Maharashtra

332. SHRI SUDAM DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the current monthly allocations of imported edible oils, Levy sugar and Kerosene Oil for the State of Maharashtra and city of Greater Bombay separately;

(b) whether Government of Maharashtra had been representing to the Centre for enhancing quota and also for modifications in the methods of allocations for all these three items;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL): (a) Allocation of imported edible oils, levy sugar and kerosene oil to the States/U.Ts. including Maharashtra are made on the following basis:—

Imported Edible Oil. Allocation is made on month to month basis taking into account the stock position in the Central Pool, market availability etc. The allocations made to Maharashtra for the month of August, 1990 is 16,500 MTs.

Levy Sugar. The allocation is made on a uniform norm of 425 grams per capita monthly availability for the projected population as on 1.10.1986. The monthly levy sugar quota in respect of Maharashtra is 25,031 Metric Tons.

Kerosene Oil. The kerosene oil requirement of State and U.Ts. are assessed by allowing a suitable growth over the allocations made for the corresponding period of the previous

year. The allocations are made Blockwise, namely, Winter Block (November to February), Summer Block (March to June) and Monsoon Block (July—October). The allocation of kerosene for Maharashtra for the Monsoon Block 1990 is 1,22,058 tons per month.

Internal distribution of these items is the responsibility of the State Governments concerned, and hence details of allocations made to the city of Greater Bombay is not available, with the Central Government.

(b) to (d). Government of Maharashtra has represented for increased allocation of imported edible oils. In consideration of this request the imported edible oil quota to Maharashtra has been increased from 14,500 M.Ts. in July, 1990 to 16,500 M.Ts. in August, 1990.

Maharashtra Government has also requested for increase in levy sugar quota on the basis of 1989 population. Keeping in view the present availability of levy sugar, it has not been possible to accede to this request.

No request has been received from the Government of Maharashtra for enhancement of kerosene quota or change in the method of allocation.

Deaths Due to Rabies

333. SHRI K.S. RAO. Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Institute of Communicable Diseases has made any

assessment of deaths in recent years due to contacting rabies,

(b) if so, the number of such deaths during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that number of persons, dying due to rabies affliction has been increasing in and around Delhi in recent years;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government have launched any crash programme for effective immunisation against rabies, and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD):

(a) and (b) Yes. Although no exact figures of the incidence of rabies are available, it is estimated that nearly 25,000 deaths occur in the country due to rabies every year. A statement showing the cases of Dogbite and deaths due to Rabies reported by States/UTs is given below.

(c) and (d). According to information received from the Delhi Administration, there were 283 cases of Dogbites and 29 deaths during 1989.

(e) and (f). The Ministry of Agriculture has launched a National Canine Rabies Control Programme during VI Five Year Plan. Under this programme, 30 rabies control units have been set up in different states to supplement the control activities undertaken by State Governments and local civil bodies.