

(c) the time by which the committee is expected to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) The Government, in the Deptt. of Fertiliser, has set up a Central Purchase Committee to recommend the purchase of jute and HDPE bags for public/cooperative sector fertiliser companies.

(b) The Committee comprises of 4 members. They are as follows:

Dr. K.K.S. Chauhan Managing Director, KRIBHCO.	Chairman
Shri M.H. Avadhani Managing Director, IFFCO.	Member
Shri S.N. Jain Managing Director, National Fertiliser Ltd.	Member
Shri R. Venkateasan Director(Finance) and acting Chairman & Managing Director, Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertiliser Ltd.	Convener

It has been made obligatory for all public sector undertakings and cooperative sector fertiliser companies to buy all their requirements of jute and HDPE bags as per the advice and decisions of the Committee.

(c) This is a standing committee and it is not required to submit its report to the Govt.

**Pension scheme for working journalists and non-journalists employees of the press**

\*104. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Expert Group had been set up to go into the question of providing a pension scheme for working journalists

and non-journalists employees of newspaper establishments; if so, when and the location of its office;

(b) the steps taken by the Group to elicit opinion on the question from various sectors of the newspaper industry including journalists of small newspapers; and

(c) whether the Group has submitted its report and if so, the findings and recommendations of the Group and Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): (a) Yes, Sir, The Group was set up in May, 1988. As the Central Provident Fund Commissioner is the member secretary of the group, as such the work is carried out from his office located at Mayur Bhavan, Connaught Circus, New Delhi.

(b) The Group already has representatives of employers, journalists and non-journalists employees of the newspaper establishments, who will be placing their respective view points before the Group.

(c) The Group has not submitted any report, as such the question of Government's response thereto does not arise.

**Protection to Olive Riddley Sea-Turtles**

\*107. SHRI SOMNATH RATH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to protect the Olive Riddley Sea-turtles laying eggs at Gahirmatha in the Bhattar-Kanika wildlife sanctuary in Orissa;

(b) the number of eggs laid by Olive Riddley Sea-Turtles at a time; and

(c) the number of Turtles that migrate to Gahirmatha annually?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) The

steps taken to protect the Olive Riddley turtles at Gahirmatha in Orissa include the up-gradation of the Bhattar-Kanika wildlife sanctuary to the status of a national park to afford greater legal protection to the turtles and other fauna and their habitat; prohibition of mechanised fishing within 10 Kms. of the coast; the deployment of additional protection staff alongwith the coast-guards at the time of nesting of the turtles; the involvement of voluntary organisations to protect the turtles during nesting and the deployment of a mobile patrolling unit with wireless facility. Government of India have given an assistance of Rs. 10.27 lakhs in 1988-89 for this purpose.

(b) The Olive Riddley sea-turtles lays a clutch of 40 to 125 eggs at a time.

(c) After the mating has taken place in the sea, only the female turtles emerge for mass nesting along the Gahirmatha coast. In the last mass nesting which took place between 13th and 27th January, 1989, about 2.90 lakh female turtles were observed at Gahirmatha.

[Translation]

#### **Outstanding demands of doctors**

\*108. SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI:  
SHRI BALWANT SINGH  
RAMOOWALIA:

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

(a) the reasons for not meeting certain demands of the Central Services doctors which were earlier agreed to by Government in the package of benefits;

(b) whether doctors are pursuing those demands and have threatened to strike work; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to meet those out standing demands and if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY

WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE):(a) to (c). Most of the items included in the package of benefits announced in July, 1987 have been implemented.

The items regarding placement of Chief Medical Officers, Associate Professors with 6 years service and Specialist Grade II officers of Public Health Sub-cadre with 9 years service in the scale of Rs. 4500-5700 included in the package of benefits have not been implemented as all the administrative formalities involved in the process have not been completed. Expeditious action is being taken to complete the implementation.

The doctors have represented for early implementation of the outstanding provisions of the package announced by Government in July, 1987 as well as severel other unacceptable and new demands. They have resolved to continue their struggle.

[English]

#### **Supply of rice to Andhra Pradesh**

\*110. SHRI MANIK REDDY:  
SHRI G. BHOOPATHY:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the price at which Union Government supplies rice to the States;

(b) whether the price charged is different for each State; if so, details thereof;

(c) the other food items supplied to Andhra Pradesh for public distribution;

(d) whether the supply of these items during the last two years has been as per the demand of State Government; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE  
MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES  
(SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The Central Issue