

of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to F.A.O. many countries face unprecedented disaster because of increasing food shortages;

(b) if so, whether they have pointed out that many countries numbering at least 20 are suffering from acute food shortage;

(c) whether they have also pointed out that unless urgent measures are taken there will be a great human disaster in the world;

(d) whether this food scarcity in 20 countries will have effect on India also; and

(e) if so, what is India's position of foodgrains and what measures are being considered to improve our food position in view of the world food shortage?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO):

(a) to (c). Yes, Sir. A special report dated 13th June, 1980 issued by the FAO, Rome under their Global Information and Early Warning System on Food and Agriculture has highlighted that there are abnormal food shortages in 29 countries including 22 in Africa, one in Latin America and six in Asia. In a press release dated 23rd June 1980, the Director-General of FAO has mentioned about "the possibility of human disaster in many countries of an unprecedented character". He has called for urgent, full and assured continuing response of the international community to the most basic and crucial need of food for survival of millions of hungry and suffering people.

(d) No, Sir. There is no such apprehension.

(e) Does not arise.

Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya at Puri

*624. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN MOHANTY: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government have taken to have the building of Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya constructed at Puri in Orissa and when the institution is proposed to shift to its own building;

(b) whether on account of non-utilisation of land given for the purpose by the State Government now land is going to be utilised for Housing Colony; and

(c) when the construction work will start?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):

(a) to (c). The question of a permanent site for Sri Sadasiva Kendriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha at Puri is under negotiations with the State Government.

Augmentation of Storage Facilities in J. & K.

*628. SHRI GHULAM RASOOL KOCHACK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Food Corporation of India has evolved plans to augment storage facilities in J. & K. for the first time;

(b) if so, whether the Corporation has already selected the sites and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that State Government is not happy with the present arrangements of the F.C.I.;

(d) if so, whether State Government had requested the F.C.I. to build buffer stocks at Srinagar which is a deficit State; and

(e) if so, the reaction of Government on the State's proposal?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH