

Union Organisations have opposed appointment of more wage boards. He asks, what are the grounds for opposing.

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : They do not want us to interfere, they say they will deal with the employers. That is the only ground.

Damage of wheat at F.C.I. Godown in Delhi due to unloading

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*1300. **SHRI N. K. SANGHI :**
DR. KARNI SINGH :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether 250 truck loads of wheat had to be sent back to Haryana Mandi after they were rain-soaked because they could not be unloaded at the FCI godown in Delhi even after waiting for some days ;

(b) whether a substantial quantity of the foodgrains was damaged making it unfit for human consumption ;

(c) is so, whether any assessment has been made of the losses ; and

(d) what steps have been taken to prevent recurrence of such incidents ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) No, Sir.

As a result of work-to-rule agitation by a Section of Food Corporation employees, 276 trucks which had brought wheat from Haryana for Food Corporation of India depots in Delhi could not be unloaded on the 26th and 27th June 1971. Only 126 trucks had to be returned to Haryana but the remaining were unloaded at other storage points in and around Delhi. None of the truck loads of wheat was rain soaked.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

SHRI N. K. SANGHI : The hon. Minister has made contradictory remarks. When 126 trucks were returned to Haryana after remaining in Delhi for three days,

they may not be rain-soaked but they would have become moist. And certainly a huge amount of loss has been incurred by the Food Corporation. May I know whether a loss of as much as Rs. 25 lakhs has been incurred ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : It is not correct because the trucks were properly covered by tarpaulin. In the rainy season they are normally covered, and these trucks in particular were covered and there was no damage as far as these trucks are concerned.

SHRI N. K. SANGHI : The movement of food from the mandis to the various depots is a continuous process and these strikes are taking place from time to time in the Food Corporation. In case strikes take place in future, have you thought of any alternative arrangements to see that there is no loss sustained ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : We have given considerable thought to this problem. This year, the problem came in a very big way, because the magnitude of procurement was very big. But all the same, we tried to meet the situation and reduce the losses to the minimum. Storage, transport coordination, etc. were all looked into and we made arrangements to see that the foodgrains were properly covered, even if it was in the open.

श्री रामबन्धु बिकल : 126 ट्रक दिल्ली जाए और लौट गए। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि उनके जाने का और जाने का क्या कारण था ?

अध्यक्ष सहोदय : दिल्ली तो सभी जाते हैं।

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : In my main reply, I have explained the whole position.

Farmers Trade Union Organisation

*1301. **SHRI RANABAHADUR SINGH :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) Government's policy regarding the healthy growth of a Farmers Trade Union Organisation in this country ; and

(b) the steps the Government propose to take to expedite the growth of such Trade Unions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) We presume that the Hon. Member has in mind the farmers' organisations on the lines of trade unions. The Government would like to encourage the growth of farmers' voluntary organisations. In the development of agriculture voluntary organisations can play an important role.

(b) The Government is already helping the farmers' voluntary organisations by various means, including financial and technical assistance. Extensive operational assistance and co-operation is also being extended to such organisations.

SHRI RANABAHADUR SINGH : We have seen for the last 15 years that such farmers' organisations, as soon as they receive financial help, tend to become ineffective. Actually recognition of their viability as a pressure group is the main feature which makes them helpful and useful. May I know whether the Government has any policy in view which would give them this recognition which they have not so far received ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : At the national level, we have recognized four organisations Bharat Krishak Samaj—Young Farmers' Association of India, National Tonnage Club of Farmers, and Bharatiya Gram Mahila Sangh. It is for the State Government to consider organisations at the State level. As Federal Government, we only consider national organisations.

SHRI RANABAHADUR SINGH : I understand that the Government has been giving financial aid to these organisations. But my submission was that the financial aid itself made these organisations tend to become ineffectual. My specific question was, in view of this fact that financial aid does not help—on the other hand, recognition as a pressure lobby group helps—does the Government have any policy in view to give them this sort of recognition ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : It is a suggestion for action.

श्री आर. वी. बाडे : भारत कृषक समाज को हमने रिकग्निशन दे रखा है। क्या यह सच है कि उसको सेंटर से कुछ भी मदद नहीं मिलती है और स्टेट्स से भी बहुत थोड़ा सा पैसा मिलता है ? क्या शासन का इस बारे में ध्यान गया है ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : Normally we do not give any grants to any organisation. But if they organise some seminar or some programme connected with training farmers in productive programme, taking into consideration the nature of the programme we give some small modest amounts.

SHRI R. V. BADE : What is the amount given ?

MR SPEAKER : For that, he should ask another question.

श्री संकर दयाल शर्मा : क्या यह सच है कि दिल्ली में पिछली सोलह तारीख को प्रान्त सिव फार्मर्स एसोसिएशन नाम की संस्था का निर्माण हुआ था जिसमें मुख्य बतियि के रूप में प्रो० शेर सिंह जी उपस्थित थे ? यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार इस संस्था को कुछ सहायता देने जा रही है ?

MR. SPEAKER : This is not relevant here. It does not arise out of this.

SHRI SHIVAJI RAO S. DESHMUKH : The question specifically related to organising farmers on the trade union pattern. The answer is about voluntary organisations of farmers which are aided by the Central Government. In view of the need for putting teeth into farmers' organisations, whether voluntary or involuntary and in view also of the fact that many of the trade union leaders out of frustration may become Naxalites, do the government propose taking the help of such unemployed trade union leaders so that they can organise the associations of farmers and make them effective, so far as farmers are concerned ?

MR. SPEAKER : I think I have to pass on to the next question.