

giving the required information is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [Placed in library See No. LT.—2819/70]

#### **Paid Holiday for workers**

\*419. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided on the number of paid National and festival holidays for the workers;

(b) whether the National Commission on Labour has expressed its views on the subject; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI D. SANJIVAYYA): (a) to (c). The National Commission on Labour has recommended that uniformity in the number of paid National and Festival holidays is desirable and each employee in a calendar year should be allowed 3 National and 5 Festival holidays. Government have accepted this recommendation in the sense that such uniformity is desirable and commended the same to the State Governments for taking necessary action.

#### **Helicopter Mail service between Punjab and Himachal Pradesh**

\*420. SHRI SRADHAKAR SUPAKAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that helicopter mail service is being introduced between Punjab and Himachal Pradesh as an experimental measure; and

(b) if so, whether the economics of such service has been examined in detail?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING, AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SATYA NARAYAN SINHA): (a) A fortnightly helicopter mail service utilising the spare capacity of the service operated for the Border Road Development Board has already been started

between Chandigarh (Punjab) and Keylong (Himachal Pradesh) with effect from 16.2.70 as a regular measure during winter season when the Rohtang pass remains snow-clad.

(b) Yes, Sir.

#### **Canning of Fish**

2601 SHRI BABURAO PATEL: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the precise steps taken by Government to supervise the canning of fish and enforce scientific and hygienic processes of canning; and

(b) the steps taken to check up violations of the standards laid down for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) No general arrangements have been introduced by the Central Government to supervise the canning of fish and to enforce scientific and hygienic processes of canning. The Indian Standard Institution has laid down standards for five varieties of canned fish, but these standards are not mandatory. The bulk of the fish canned in the country is exported. Export of canned fish is confined almost exclusively to shrimp. A scheme of pre-shipment inspection for canned shrimp was introduced in April, 1965. This Scheme was operated by the Central Institute of Fisheries Technology until 1st May, 1969 when it was transferred to the Export Inspection Council of India. Compulsory inspections are carried out under this scheme in terms of Section VII of the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963.

For the purchase of canned fish for the Defence Forces the Army Purchase Organisation in the Deptt. of Food have introduced system of registration of suppliers and inspection of their factories.

(b) Under the pre-shipment inspection scheme, samples of consignments of canned shrimp intended for export are subjected to organoleptic and bacteriological tests. Consignment which do not confirm to the