

है ताकि यह चालू वित्त-वर्ष के प्रारंभ से प्रभावी हो सके। विद्यमान परिवार पेंशन योजना के अन्तर्गत आने वाले कर्मचारी व अन्य, जो इस प्रस्तावित पेंशन योजना को अपनाना चाहें, इस योजना में शामिल किये जायेंगे।

Poor state of PDS in North-Eastern States

*6. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:

DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the severe shortcomings in the Public Distribution System in the North-eastern states;

(b) whether the inferior quality of foodgrains and inadequate storage facilities are adding to the problems of the region; and

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken or propose to take in this regard to ensure the adequate supply of essential commodities and foodgrains to the North-eastern states?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI A. K.

ANTONY): (a) to (c) The entire requirement of foodgrains and other PDS commodities for the North-Eastern States is being transported from outside this region by rail and road. The long distances involved coupled with the difficult terrain etc. do cause difficulties for the Public Distribution system in this region. It is not true that inferior quality of foodgrains are being supplied to the North-Eastern States. Central Government has taken a number of steps to improve the supplies for the Public Distribution System in the North-Eastern States.

The Food Corporation of India makes efforts to keep adequate stocks in the region

to meet contingent requirements during the monsoon season. Priority has been given for creation of adequate storage infrastructure by the FCI in the North-Eastern States. Central Government provides financial assistance to State Governments for creation of storage capacity in Revamped PDS areas and all North Eastern States on liberal terms. Similar assistance is also given to the State Governments for purchase of vans which could be used either as mobile fair price shops or for transportation of PDS commodities to the door step of the fair price shops.

The functioning of PDS in North-Eastern States is reviewed from time to time in consultation with the concerned States.

Formation of workers' Co-operatives to run sick units

*7. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he has expressed his disappointment over failure of trade unions and workers connected with sick industries in the public sector to come forward and form workers' co-operatives to revive sick and closed units;

(b) whether Government have formulated any scheme for the formation of Workers Co operative, if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Banks and creditor's liabilities over sick and closed units are proposed to be suspended;

(d) what are the conditions for handing over sick and closed units to workers; and

(e) whether Government propose to hand over these sick units to workers' co-operatives formed by the unemployed workers of other units in case workers belonging to connected sick industries re-