

the recommendations made by the Agricultural Prices Commission, now renamed as Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices, and after taking into consideration the views of the State Governments and the concerned economic Ministries.

Storage capacity of godowns of the Food Corporation of India

424. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of wheat so far procured by Government in 1985-86;

(b) the quantity of foodgrains stored in the godowns owned by the various Governments and semi-Government agencies; and

(c) the total available storage capacity in the godowns owned by the Food Corporation of India and other agencies in the country?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIREN-DRA SINGH): (a) During 1985-86 Rabi marketing season, a quantity of 23.80 lakh tonnes of wheat is reported to have been procured till 30th April, 1985;

(b) and (c) The Food Corporation of India constructs its own storage capacity for foodgrains and also hires storage capacity from Central Warehousing Corporation, State Warehousing Corporations, State Governments and private parties. The covered storage capacity with the Food Corporation of India, owned and hired taken together, was 194.2 lakh tonnes as on 28.2.1985. The foodgrain stock kept by the Food Corporation of India in the covered godowns as on 28.2.1985 was 160.9 lakhs tonnes. In addition, the foodgrain stock kept by the Corporation in the open under polythene covers as on 28.2.1985 was 18.73 lakh tonnes. Adequate precautions are taken to protect these stocks against losses.

Underground Car parking in Connaught Place, New Delhi

425. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the completion of the underground car parking centre in Connaught Place, New Delhi is running behind schedule;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether it results in air pollution in the locality?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOR):

(a) and (b) The project has since been completed/commissioned on 27th April, 1985.

(c) This cannot be said as the project has just been commissioned.

Formation of autonomous body to run two language news agencies

426. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:
SHRI KISHOR MEHTA:
SHRI DHARAM CHANDER
PRASHANT:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Union of Journalists has urged Government to form an autonomous body to run two language news agencies, i.e. Samachar Bharati and Hindustan Samachar; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government in pursuance of its deep commitment to the freedom of press: