

Statement

*Statewise procurement of wheat during 1979-80
Rabi Marketing season (Position as on
10-7-1979)*

State	Quantity procured (lakh tonnes)
Bihar	0.81
Gujarat.	Neg.
Haryana	13.86
Himachal Pradesh	0.02
Jammu & Kashmir	0.15
Madhya Pradesh	0.96
Punjab	41.40
Rajasthan	2.96
Uttar Pradesh	18.14
West Bengal	0.03
Chandigarh	Neg.
Delhi	0.12
TOTAL	78.45

Neg.—Below 500 tonnes.

Stone cancer afflicting Taj Mahal

248. SHRI PRAKASH MEHROTRA:
SHRI KALP NATH RAI:
SHRI S. K. VAISHAMPAYEN:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether stone cancer afflicting the Taj Mahal is showing signs of proliferation; and

(b) if so, what remedial steps Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER): (a) Discolouring, flaking, pitting, blackening of the fractured portions etc., have been observed on the marble stones of the Taj Mahal.

(b) The Surveys has set up an Air-pollution control centre at Agra and also conducting experiments with different stone-preserved to find out their efficacy against injurious gases. Steps are being taken to control the atmospheric pollution resulting from the Railway shunting yard; Thermal Power Station and over two hundred and fifty industrial foundries.

National Education Policy

249. SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH:

DR. LOKESH CHANDRA:
SHRI SITARAM KESRI:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have obtained the views of the various State Governments on the National Education Policy; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and what is Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER): (a) and (b) The Draft National Policy on Education, 1979 which was laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha on 2nd May, 1979 was prepared after consultation with various educational authorities including the State Governments.

This Draft has since been widely circulated and comments, including those of the State Governments are being examined.

Appointment of a Review Committee on working of Institute of Advance Studies, Simla

250. DR. LOKESH CHANDRA:
SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH:

SHRI KALP NATH RAI:
SHRI SHRIKANT VERMA:
SHRI BIPINPAL DAS:

PROF. SURENDRA BHAT-
TACHARJEE:

SHRI JAGJIT SINGH ANAND:
SHRI DEVENDRA NATH DWI-
VEDI:

SHRI BHAGAT RAM MANHAR:

SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA:

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION,
SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE
be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Govern-
ment have decided to close the Indian
Institute of Advance Studies in Simla;

(b) if so, what are the reasons there-
for;

(c) whether it is a fact the Govern-
ment had appointed a Review Com-
mittee to go into the working of the
Institute;

(d) whether the Committee has sub-
mitted its report to Government, and
if so, whether the same will be
placed on the Table of the House;
and

(e) whether it is also a fact that
one member of the Committee recom-
mended the winding up of the Insti-
tute and the Ministry of Education
was against winding up of the Insti-
tute, if so, what are the details in
this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION,
SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE
(DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUN-
DER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) In September, 1977, the
Government of India appointed a
Committee to review the functioning
of the Institute. It submitted its re-
port in April, 1978. The Committee
had *inter-alia* expressed the view that
there was no justification for the con-
tinuance of the Institute in its pre-
sent form and that if the Institute
had to continue, its character should
be changed and the objectives re-
vised. The Committee also pointed
out certain built-in deficiencies in
the concept of an Institute of Advan-
ced Study with its location at

Simla. The cost of locating it at any
other place was considered but in
view of the large expenditure in-
volved in doing so, the Government
came to the conclusion that the ba-
lance of advantage lay in closing
down the Institute.

Copies of English version of the
Report have been made available
to the Parliament House Library.

(e) None of the members of the
Committee made any categorical re-
commendation on the winding up of
the Institute. This was, however,
one of the alternatives considered
by the Committee. Government has
taken the decision to close down the
institute, as stated above.

Shortage of postal articles

- * 251. SHRI S. K. VAISHAMPAYEN:
DR. (MRS.) SATHIAVANI MU-
THU:
SHRIMATI NOORJEHAN RA-
ZAK:
SHRI E. R. KRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNI-
CATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there
have been shortages of postal articles
like post card and inland letters in
the Western and Southern Postal
Circles;

(b) if so, whether an enquiry has
been made in this regard;

(c) what are the findings in regard
to the (i) period and (ii) shortages
in each case; and

(d) what remedial steps are being
taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICA-
TIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD
SUKHDEO SAI): (a) to (c) There
has been shortage of post cards and
inland letters for some of post offices
of Western and Southern Circles.

(d) The shortage has been mainly
due to insufficient supply by India
Security Press, Nasik Road. The