

State	Kharif marketing Season	
	1978-79 (as on 17th March, 1979)	1977-78 (corres- ponding period)
10. Punjab	1554.3	846.7
11. Rajasthan	24.5	—
12. Tamil Nadu	24.6	—
13. Uttar Pradesh	22.5	0.5
14. West Bengal	44.7	53.8
15. Others	5.9	2.1
TOTAL :	2211.1	1022.5

Neg.—Below 500 tonnes.

(c) A number of steps have been taken by the Government to ensure that the farmers are not obliged to sell their paddy at prices lower than the support prices as detailed below:

(1) It has been impressed upon the State Governments that in order that the price support operations are effective, purchase centres should be opened in adequate numbers;

(2) In particular, the State Governments have been advised that immediately on receipt of reports regarding prices falling below the support prices in any pocket, the Government purchase machinery should be set in motion to prevent any distress sale by the farmers.

(3) The States have been advised to coordinate the activities of the various procurement agencies with a view to ensuring widest possible coverage;

(4) The State Governments have also been instructed to set up Committees at State and District levels to review the position from time to time and for giving effect to the Government's policy of price support; and

(5) The State Governments have also been asked to give wide publicity about support price arrangements made by them through all media of mass communication.

Grant of allowance to the staff of Government of India Press at Gangtok

1904. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK:
Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the staff recruited through the Employment Exchange, Darjeeling for the Government of India Press, Gangtok have not been granted the staff allowance *vis-a-vis* as is the case with other such employees recruited through the same Employment Exchange or other places in India and posted to Sikkim; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to remove the anomaly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI RAM KINKAR): (a) and (b) The question of granting India based staff allowance to the employees of the Government of India Press, Gangtok, recruited through the Sub-Regional Employment Exchange, Darjeeling, is under consideration.

Abolition of leases of properties in Delhi

1905. SHRI SATCHIDANANDA:
Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he had recently made a statement that Government propose to abolish leases of properties in Delhi but bureaucrats in his Ministry stand in his way;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) by when Government propose to abolish the leases of lands?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI SIKANDAR

BAKHT): (a) and (b) The Government has under its consideration a proposal for conversion of leasehold system into freehold in respect of residential plots in Delhi/New Delhi.

(c) A final decision would be possible only after all the important implications of the proposal have been examined.

Housing Co-operatives

1906. SHRI SATCHIDANANDA: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of representations have been made to Government for permission to those members of the cooperative societies owning plots of less than 80 sq. yds. to be eligible for allotment of plots through the cooperative societies;

(b) whether similar relaxation is given by the Delhi Development Authority while allotting land to the citizens in Delhi; and

(c) whether Government propose to extend this relaxation to the cooperative societies also?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI SIKANDAR BAKHT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A person, who owns less than 75 sq. yds. of plot is allowed, to bid at D.D.A.'s auctions.

(c) No, Sir.

Mental retardation as a subject of teaching

1907. SHRI SATCHIDANANDA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Third Asian Conference on Mental

Retardation held in November, 1977, at Bangalore recommended inclusion of 'mental retardation' as a subject of teaching in the syllabus for teachers, nurses and doctors;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to implement the recommendations;

(c) what is the number of vocational training centres and sheltered workshops for the mentally retarded persons in the country; and

(d) what efforts are being made to increase the number of such centres and workshops and what is the number of special training courses so far organised in the country for the teachers specialising in mental retardation?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER): (a) No, Sir, according to information received.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) According to a list published by the Federation for the welfare of Mentally Retarded, there are 142 Schools, vocational centres, sheltered workshops etc. for the mentally retarded in the country. 10 of them offer some specialised teacher training courses. Government offers assistance to voluntary organisations for the education, training and rehabilitation of the handicapped. In 1977-78, assistance was given to 20 institutions for the mentally retarded. The Department of Social Welfare also proposes to conduct, with UNICEF assistance, short-term courses for the training of teachers of the mentally retarded.

Allotment of quarters to the Government servants

1908. SHRI SATCHIDANANDA: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state: