

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI RENUKA DEVI BARKATAKI): (a) an^ (b) According to information furnished by Delhi Administration, about 300 out of 400 Government Higher Secondary Schools (11 year pattern) have been selected for addition of class XII from academic session 1978-79 under the 10 + 2 pattern of education. The remaining 100 schools have been allowed to offer only the secondary course, i.e., upto X standard. This rMnge-over has not resulted in reduction of posts in higher scales to which the school teachers are normally entitled for promotion.

Foodgrains with the Food Corporation of India

*82. SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN; SHRI G. LAKSHMANAN; SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA; SHRI C. D. NATARAJAN; SHRI R. NARASIMHA REDDY;

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state;

(a) what is the quantum of food-grains with the Food Corporation of India at present; and

(b) what is the quantum out of the above foodgrains which is damaged and is not fit for human consumption?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH): (a) A quantity of 13.4 million tonnes of foodgrains has been held in storage by the Food Corporation of India as on 1st April, 1978.

(b) Out of the above stocks, only a quantity of 0.52 lakh tonnes is damaged and unfit for human consumption.

Revision of the Procurement Price of Wheat

*S3. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN; SHRIMATI KUMUDBEN MANISHANKER JOSHI; SHRI SAT PAUL MITTAL;

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government have received any proposals from the Governments of Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh for revision of the procurement price of wheat;

(b) if so, what are their demands and what decision the Central Government have taken thereon; and

(c) whether any assessment has been made about the cost of production of different varieties of wheat in different States and if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) and (b) In the course of discussions on pricing policy for wheat for 1978-79 season, the Chief Ministers of Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh had suggested that the procurement price of wheat may be raised to Rs. 125 per quintal while the Agricultural Prices Commission had recommended that it may be maintained at Rs. 110 per quintal. After careful consideration, Government have decided to fix the procurement price for wheat of fair average quality at Rs. 112.50 per quintal for all varieties.

(c) Under the Comprehensive Scheme for studying the cost of cultivation of Principal crops being implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, mostly through Agricultural Universities, the estimates of cost of production per quintal of wheat in Punjab, Haryana