

grants or project grants, during the last three years including the year 1978-79; and

(d) what criteria have been laid down for selection of cultural troupes for this purpose and what is the machinery to ensure that the criteria are followed?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER): (a) and (b) Financial assistance is given to groups of performing artists under the following Schemes:—

(i) Financial Assistance to Dance-Drama and Theatre Ensembles. This scheme is administered by the Department of Culture. Under the Scheme, financial assistance is given to professional groups working in the field for more than 10 to 15 years, to cover expenses towards salaries of artistes and cost of new productions.

(ii) Scheme of grants to Cultural institutions working in the field of performing arts. This scheme is administered by the Sangeet Natak Akademi. Grants under the Scheme are given for some specific projects or for maintenance.

(c) A statement giving the financial assistance granted to the institutions by the Department of Culture as well as the Sangeet Natak Akademi is enclosed. [See Appendix CVII, Annexure No. 14].

(d) The main criteria are artistic excellence, contribution to the field and the importance of the project.

Land reforms in States

205. PROF. RAMLAL PARIKH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the latest position regarding implementation of land re-

forms in each State as compared to that during the last three years;

(b) what is the acreage of surplus agricultural land acquired in each State during last three years, year-wise;

(c) what is the acreage of land which has been distributed to landless in each State during the same period; and

(d) what are the details of the directives given by the Central Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) to (c) The available information is given in Statements I and II. [See Appendix CVII, Annexure No. 15].

(d) State Governments have been urged to accelerate the pace of implementation and to ensure that land already taken possession of by them is distributed forthwith. Further they have been requested to ensure that allotment of land is accompanied by necessary entries in this favour in land records and that their possession is not disturbed.

Supply of "Polio Drops"

206. SHRI T. ANJIAH:
SHRIMATI SAROJ
KHAPARDE:
SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the supply of "Polio Drops" is controlled by Government;

(b) whether Government are aware that a very large number of private doctors/medical practitioners have been administering liquid glucose to infants and children in the name of 'Polio Drops'; and

(c) whether Government have made or propose to make any enquiry into the matter and bring the culprits to book; if so, what are the details in this regard.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) It is not so.

(b) No such reports have been received by the Government.

(c) Does not arise.

Token strike by the nurses in hospitals in Delhi

207. **SHRI T. ANJIAH :**
SHRIMATI SAROJ
KHAPARDE :
SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the nurses in the hospitals in Delhi had gone on a token strike in September, 1978 to press their demands; and

(b) if so, what were their demands and what decision Government have taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) and (b) Only the nurses under E.S.I. Hospital, Delhi, which is under the administrative control of Ministry of Labour, went on strike in September, 1978, to press their demand for the grant of Rs. 100/- p.m. as E.S.I. allowance. As a result of intervention by the Deputy Chief Labour Commissioner and Conciliation Officer of the Government of India the strike was called off. No final decision has yet been taken in regard to the demand raised by the nurses.

Fall in the sale of liquor in Delhi

208. **SHRIMATI SAROJ**
KHAPARDE :
SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that sale of liquor has gone down as a result of the recent curtailment in the working hours of wine shops and increase in the number of dry days in Delhi; and

(b) if so, to what extent this sale has gone down?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (SHRI DHANNA SINGH GULSHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Both as a result of a step-up in the number of dry days and reduction in the number of liquor shops, there has been an overall decrease in consumption of liquor to the extent of 17 per cent.

Import of oil seeds and cotton

209. **SHRI ABDUL RAHMAN**
SHEIKH :
SHRI PILOO MODY :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that large quantities of oil-seeds and cotton were imported during the year 1977-78; if so, what are the details thereof in terms of Indian currency together with the names of the countries from which these imports were made; and

(b) what were their International market prices and the prices paid by India for their imports?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha as soon as possible.