

कृषि और सिंचाई मन्त्रालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री भानु प्रताप सिंह) : (क) जी नहीं यह क्षति डिपो में अनाज लाते समय हुई थी क्योंकि तूफानी मौसम के परिणामस्वरूप 211 खुले बैगनों से तिरपालों के हट जाने के कारण अनाज की बोरियां वर्षा से भीग गई थीं।

(ख) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता। यह क्षति भारतीय खाद निगम के अधिकारियों की किसी प्रकार की लापरवाही के कारण नहीं हुई थी बल्कि अनाज लाते समय अपरिहार्य कारणों से हुई भी।

†[THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH): (a) No, Sir. The damage occurred during transit of the grains to the depots when bags carrying the grains got wet by rain due to tarpaulins which were provided on 211 open wagons got displaced as a result of stormy weather.

(b) Does not arise. As the damage was not due to any negligence on the part of the officials of the Food Corporation of India but due to unavoidable causes during transit.]

Enforcement of Total Prohibition in the Country

*68. SHRI KALP NATH RAI:
SHRI SAT PAUL MITTAL:
SHRIMATI HAMIDA
HABIBULLAH:
SHRIMATI LAKSHMI
KUMARI CHUNDAWAT:
SHRI PRAKASH MEH-
ROTRA:

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

(a) what are Government's plans to enforce total prohibition in the country;

(b) whether any time-bound programme has been drawn up;

(c) whether the views of the State Governments have been sought in the matter;

(d) whether prohibition is proposed to be extended to the Defence Services also; and

(e) what would be the loss of revenue to the Central exchequer annually as a result of total prohibition and what steps Government contemplate to make up the loss?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER): (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

Enforcement of total prohibition in the Country

(a) to (c) Constitutionally, Prohibition is a State subject and the Central Government have throughout been trying to persuade the States to enforce prohibition. The Ministers in charge of prohibition in all the States, who are members of the Central Prohibition Committee met at its ninth meeting held on 30th July, 1977 in New Delhi and arrived at a consensus to draw up a time-bound programme for the introduction of complete prohibition within a period not exceeding four years. The State Governments have accordingly been requested to draw up their programmes.

(d) Certain proposals for extending prohibition to Defence Services are being examined.

(e) The Central Exchequer does not receive any revenue from liquor since 'duties of excise' on 'alcoholic liquors' is a State subject, vide Entry 51 of List II of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution.

However, according to the budget estimates for 1977-78, the States (excluding, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Arunachal Pradesh, Lakshadweep) are expected to derive a revenue of the order of Rs. 550 crores from excise on liquor. Allowing a buoyancy which in the past has been of the order of 10 to 15 per cent per annum, the total loss of revenue on account of introduction of prohibition in the 5 years beginning 1978-79 could be of the order of approximately Rs. 3,700 crores. In view of the fact that the speed and manner in which the policy of prohibition will be enforced by State Governments is not yet known it may be premature at this stage to indicate the exact quantum of loss of revenue.

As the State excise revenue accrues to the State Governments, they will have to consider steps which may be necessary, or considered feasible, to make good the loss through other measures. It is premature to indicate what steps the State Governments propose to take or will take to make good the loss of revenue which may be occasioned as a result of enforcement of prohibition.

Convention of Medical Specialists at Delhi

*69. SHRI MAHENDRA BAHADUR SINGH:
SHRI SAT PAUL MITTAL:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that medical specialists of Delhi at a convention held on the 7th September, 1977 adopted a resolution urging upon Government to set up panels of doctors in all important medical centres to decide whether a patient should or should not be sent abroad for treatment;

(b) if so, what are the main features of the resolution; and

(c) what action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YALAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Visit to Flood-affected States by the Central Team

*70. SHRIMATI HAMIDA HABIB-ULLAH:
SHRIMATI LAKSHMI KUMARI CHUNDAWAT:
SHRI PRAKASH MEHROTRA:
SHRI SAWAISINGH SISO-DIA:
SHRI GURUDEV GUPTA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a Central team recently visited the flood-affected States to make an on-the-spot enquiry about the loss of life, property and crops caused by the recent floods in those States;

(b) whether the team has submitted its report to Government;

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

(d) what action Government have taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Central Teams have visited the flood-affected areas in Assam, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal and have submitted their reports.

(c) and (d) The Teams have recommended to Government to provide