

(b) The fish are subjected to very rigorous quality control measures including thorough treatment with chlorinated water and microbiological testing. The State Government have also been advised to take further necessary action to control outbreaks of any such infection.

Teaching of Science in Schools

245. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI : Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Council of Educational Research and Training has recommended compulsory science education upto High School level ;

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

(c) whether all schools in the country are equipped to impart compulsory science education upto High School level ; and

(d) if not, what steps are being contemplated for the implementation of this recommendation ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI D. P. YADAV) : (a) Yes sir.

(b) The national policy on Education adopted by the Government of India recommended that Science and Mathematics should be an integrated part of general education till the end of the school stage. Accordingly during the first ten years of schooling, Science and Mathematics are to be taught on a compulsory basis to all the pupils as a part of general education.

(c) In many States, Science is at present taught as a compulsory subject upto Class X/XI. In some States, however, it is being taught as an optional subject. It may be necessary to equip the schools in the later category to teach Science as a compulsory subject upto class X.

(d) National Council of Educational Research and Training is an Academic Organisation and is providing necessary academic help to the States for the implementation of the new curriculum. It also helps them to organising teacher's training, particularly for the Science teachers.

Court cases against American Companies

246. SHRI NABIN CHANDRA BURAGOHAIN :

SHRI KRISHNA BAHADUR CHETTRI :

SHRIMATI RATHNABAI SREENIVASA RAO :

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

(a) whether Government have filed court cases against American grain companies for fraud, forgery, and short-weight in grain shipments to India; and

(b) if so, in which courts such cases are pending and the stages of each case together with the precise nature of the allegations made ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE) : (a) and (b) Government have recently filed preliminary claim against five U.S. grain supply firms in the first week of May in the Federal District Court for Southern Region in New York claiming damages against fraud in grain shipments during the period 1961 to 1975. The complaint is to the effect that the shipments were inferior and of lesser value than the grain specified in the contracts in that they were short-weight, of lower grade and quality and were infested or contaminated. Details are being processed and the whole matter is *sub-judice*.