

Steps taken against hoarders of Foodgrains in Delhi

1296. SHRIMATI SAVITA BEHEN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government against hoarders of foodgrains in Delhi, during the last three months; and

(b) the details in this regard and the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE) : (a) and (b) Apart from intensified checking of the dealers, the Delhi Administration are organising surprise and intensive raid to detect unauthorised hoarded foodgrains. So far one godown containing a large number of rice bags, 4 godowns containing 2007 bags of gram, and one godown containing wheat have been unearthed. Legal action is being taken in all the cases.

Deaths of Toddlers due to malnutrition

1297. MISS SAROJ PURUSHOTTAM KHAPARDE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news item in the Indian Express of the 6th July, 1973 wherein it has been reported that one million toddlers die every year of malnutrition; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to meet the situation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI KONDAJJI BASAPPA) : (a) Yes.

(b) The Government are implementing the following programmes to improve the nutritional status of children :

(1) Special Nutrition programme for children in the age group 0-6 years are undertaken in Urban Slums and Tribal areas through State Governments and Union Territory Administrations.

(2) Prophylaxis programme against Nutritional Anaemia among mothers and children and pregnant mothers is being implemented through distribution of tablets containing Iron and Folic Acid, by the Health Centres.

(3) To prevent irreversible blindness due to Vitamin 'A' deficiency, children of age group 1-5 years are being supplied with oral doses of Vitamin 'A' once in six months in areas where Vitamin 'A' deficiency is predominant.

(4) Provision of curative, preventive & promotional services for the health of children.

(5) Control of communicable diseases like Small Pox, Malaria, Tuberculosis through National Programmes.

These measures are being further stepped up during the Fifth Plan period.

Upgrading of Primary Health Centres

1298. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that 200 Primary Health Centres in villages are being upgraded into 30-bed Rural Hospitals;

(b) if so, the State-wise details thereof; and

(c) the progress made so far in this direction?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (PROF. A. K. KISKU) : (a) to (c) A scheme for upgradation of selected Primary Health Centres into 30-bed rural hospitals during the Fifth Five Year Plan is under consideration. The number of Primary Health Centres to be upgraded in different States will be decided when the position regarding allocation of funds for the purpose is finally known. However, about 1283 Primary Health Centres are expected to be upgraded. Each Community Develop-