

DEDUCTIONS FROM WAGES DUE TO SHORT OUTPUT IN GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESSES

995. SHRI N. R. CHOUDHURY: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the "Rates and Rules for calculating outturn of Lino/Mono operators in the Government Press" making provisions for deductions from wages on account of short outturn, have been framed under the payment of Wages Act, as modified upto 1st February, 1964; and if so, under which section of the Act;

(b) whether any other categories of employees working in Government Presses are also subjected to such wage deductions; and if so, what are those categories; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons for the discriminating treatment of the Lino/Mono operators; and what steps Government propose to take to remove this discrimination and make uniform rules in this respect applicable to all categories of the -technical staff of Government Presses ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI OM MEHTA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) L.No. Sir.

(c) The reason is that the pay of Lino/Mono operators is linked to stipulated outputs but not so in other categories. The introduction of a new scheme called Productivity Bonus Scheme in which there will be no monetary deduction and the wages would be guaranteed irrespective of the level of performance, is under consideration.

996. [Transferred to the 15th March, 1973.]

26TH CONFERENCE OF INDIAN SOCIETY OF AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS HELD AT KALYANI UNIVERSITY

997. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO ; Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the 26th Conference of the Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics was recently held at Kalyani University in West Bengal;

(b) if so, whether a number of experts were critical of continued dependence on chemical fertilisers;

(c) the details of arguments put forward in this regard; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE) : (a) Yes. The 26th Annual Conference of the Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics was held at Kalyani, District Nadia, West Bengal, from 26th to 28th December, 1972.

(b) Dr. N. R. Dhar, Director, Shiela Dhar Institute of Soil Science, Allahabad, was the only critical expert.

(c) Dr. Dhar in his inaugural address entitled "New Aspects of Land Fertility Improvement" expressed the view that organic matter oxidation is the chief source of nitrogen and is vital in Crop Production in India. On the basis of his researches he was of the view that Sunlight and organic matter add nitrogen in soils is vital in Land fertility improvement and can fix greater amounts of nitrogen than factory nitrogen. He also emphasized that organic matter produces crops of better quality.

(d) The role of organic matter in soil fertility can never be overemphasized. While every effort should be made to conserve and recycle rural and urban wastes for enriching the soil the data gathered over a number of years in Long Term Soil Fertility Experiments from India and also from abroad have indicated that balanced inorganic fertilizers can maintain the yield levels obtained in organically manured plots and sustain soil productivity. The inorganic nutrients, if applied in balanced form do not impair the quality of produce. Government would, therefore, support the balanced use of inorganic fertilizers and organic manures. It is also appreciated that the problem of building of soil fertility and increasing

crop production from the land already under the plough is so big that it requires all out efforts to produce as much fertilizers and organic manure as the country can.

NATIONAL HEALTH PILOT PROJECTS

998. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up national health pilot project in one district in each State; and

(b) whether any decision has been taken in this regard and if so, the details thereof statewise; and the period likely to be taken in the implementation of the proposal ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K.

K'SKU) : (a) and (b) The proposed National Health Scheme for rural areas envisages setting up of pilot projects in different States. The Scheme has not been finalised so far.

HARBOUR-DOCKS

999. SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to erect some more Harbour-Docks like Bharathiar. and

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

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) and (b) New berths for meeting traffic demands are under construction at all Major Ports and two new Major Ports, Mangalore and Tuticorin are also under construction. Specific new harbours/docks under construction—apart from the one at Madras referred to in the Question are at Calcutta (Haldia), Visakhapatnam (Outer Harbour), Tuticorin and Man-galore. Proposals are under consideration for new harbours/docks at Bombay (Nhava-Sheva) and Cochin.

SHIPBUILDING INDUSTRY AT TUTICORIN

1000. SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to establish Shipbuilding industry at Tuticorin as demanded by Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu recently; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI M. B. RANA) :

(a) and (b) No such proposal has been received from the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. However, the Government of Tamil Nadu (Public Works Department) has forwarded a proposal submitted by M/s. Canamar Associates. Canada, for setting up a shipbuilding yard at Tuticorin to construct ships with a capacity of 80,000 tonnes in collaboration with M/s. Desein Consulting Engineers, New Delhi. It has been mentioned by the State Government that the shipbuilding yard can be taken up at Tuticorin in the existing Bay on the South-Western Corner to be supplemented by acquisition of additional land, if required. It has also been stated that the depth in this Bay is less than one fathom and the Bay has to be dredged to the required depth including a leading channel connecting the main channel.

SHIPPING INDUSTRY

1001. SHRIMATI SAVITA BEHEN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that despite rapid expansion of the country's shipbuilding industry after independence. Indian ships carry only about 20 per cent of the country's export-import trade;

(b) the reasons for the Indian Shipping Industry's failure to cater to the country's foreign trade requirements; and

(c) the percentage of unused carrying capacity, both in respect of passen-