

regard to the specific commodities, the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation are making all efforts to stop up the export of ores by price adjustments and other measures. The Hindustan Steel Limited are exploring the possibility of exporting pig iron to European countries. The fall in its export is due to less demand from Japan. The decline in foodgrain imports is inevitable on account of the general improvement in the food situation in the country and our drive for self-sufficiency.

DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM OF FOODGRAINS

*382. SHRI N. R. MUNISWAMY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE/कृषि मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a statement of the Agriculture Price Commission against the over-optimism of the Government relating to a sizeable increase in the output of foodgrains in 1970-71, half of which was in fact due to bounty of nature; and

(b) whether Government have taken any steps to strengthen the distribution system of foodgrains so as to check the rising trend of prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE/कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

STRIKE BY STUDENTS OF PATEL MEMORIAL NATIONAL COLLEGE, RAJPURA

*383. SHRI NIREN GHOSH : DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN : SHRI SALIL KUMAR GANGULI :

Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE/शिक्षा और समाज कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the continuous strike by the students of Patel Memorial National College, Rajpura (Punjab) for the last few days;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE शिक्षा और

समाज कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (PROF. S. NURUL HASAN): (a) and (b) The students of the Patel Memorial National College, Rajpura went on strike from August 26, 1971 to express their resentment against the following :—

(1) alleged dictatorial attitude of and the irregularities committed by the Managing Committee of this college;

(2) non-removal of one of the teachers, inspite of the resentment shown by the students continuously for about three years;

(3) alleged termination of services of able professors every year without any fault on their part;

(4) non-probing of the deficit of over Rs. 2 lakhs in the college budget;

(5) non-completion of unfinished buildings and the delay taking place in their construction; and

(6) apathy towards games in as much as even the Director of Physical Education had not been appointed.

The students also demanded better teaching arrangements, improvement of library and laboratory facilities and provision of amenities for students.

(c) The strike was called off on September 21, 1971 on the intervention of the Director of Public Instruction, Punjab. The Panjabi University, to which the College is affiliated, is looking into the various aspects of the grievances of the students.

UNEMPLOYMENT OF AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS

*384. SHRI MONORANJAN ROY : DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN : SHRI SALIL KUMAR GANGULI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE/कृषि मंत्री be pleased to state :