

NATIONAL COMMISSION ON DROUGHT CONDITIONS

690. SARDAR RAM SINGH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have considered the desirability of setting up a National Commission to assess the ways and means to end drought conditions in the country; and

(b) if not, what long term measures are being taken to tackle the problem ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE) : (a) and (b) A statement is attached. [See Appendix LXIX, Annexure No. 60.]

INCREASE IN ENTRANCE FEE IN DELHI ZOO

691. SARDAR D. K. JADHAV :
SARDAR GURCHARAN
SINGH TOHRA :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the entrance fee in the Delhi Zoo has recently been increased from 20 paise to 50 paise per ticket;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to give concessional tickets to children; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE) : (a) Yes. The entrance fee has been increased from 25 paise to 50 paise *only for adult visitors*, with effect from the 1st June, 1969.

(b) Important Zoos in India such as Alipore Zoo, Calcutta and the Mysore Zoo are charging 50 paise per adult. The Alipore Zoo, besides this fee, charges an additional fee of 25 paise for the "White Tiger Enclosure". The Delhi Zoo also has the white tiger enclosure, yet no separate fees are charged for this but only an increase from 25 paise to 50 paise for adults has been effected in the Entrance Fee.

(c) There has been no increase in the entrance fee for the children, who are allowed entry at 10 paise per child.

(d) Does not arise.

REPORT OF THE STUDY GROUP OF THE NATIONAL LABOUR COMMISSION ON HOUSING CONDITIONS

692. SHRI R. P. KHAITAN :
SARDAR HARCHARAN SINGH
DUGAL :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the salient features of the report submitted by the Study Group of the National Labour Commission on the housing conditions and the living environments of workers in the principal Indian cities ;

(b) whether it is a fact that most of the houses are without latrines or bathrooms or kitchens; and

(c) if so, by when and in what manner the workers are going to be provided with these basic amenities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD) : (a) to (c). Government understand that the Study Group on Sociological Aspects of Labour Management Relations and the Committee constituted by the Commission to study the working and service conditions of sweepers and scavengers have in their reports submitted to the Commission referred to these aspects, Government is not, however, seized of the findings at present and will consider the matter on receipt of the recommendations of the Commission.

RESISTANCE TO THE USE OF NEW VARIETIES OF SEEDS

693. SARDAR RAM SINGH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the production of wheat in Punjab has improved over the figures for the last year because of the use of improved variety of seeds ;

(b) whether it is a fact that States like Uttar Pradesh have been showing conservative resistance towards the use of new variety of seeds ;