

time. We want to wait and see what their recommendations are, and then we shall go on with this.

SHRI ABID ALI: Madam, is it not a fact that although the report will be received shortly it will not be possible for Government to implement their recommendations very quickly and that two years may be taken to implement them? So, without waiting for that long period will the hon. Minister kindly tell us at least what would happen regarding a pay commission?

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: Pay Commission, Madam,—it is known—it refers to the Finance Ministry, and therefore the Ministry of Finance can say about it.

SHRI ABID ALI: But you are concerned.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: So far as we are concerned, Madam, we have sent it to the Finance Ministry. So far as the other part is concerned—it was said that it will take two years for the Government—I can assure the House that it shall not take that time to consider the report of the Labour Commission.

SHRI AKBAR ALI: It may take one year.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: We shall see to it as early as possible. It may not take even the year.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Next question.

**FIRM ESTIMATES OF LOSSES OF
FOODGRAINS**

*676. **SHRI S. K. VAISHAMPAYEN:** Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the varying estimates by experts, Government have carried out any firm estimates of losses of foodgrains due to (1) the rodents and (2) storage difficulties; and

(b) if so, the percentages in each case and measures taken to overcome losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE): (a) and (b) The Govern-

ment of India appointed a Committee of Experts to assess the losses during post harvest handling. The Committee has in its Interim Report assessed these losses as follows:

	(per cent)
(1) Rodents	2.50
(2) Birds	0.85
(3) Insects	2.55
(4) Moisture	0.68
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	6.58
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A Statement giving the recommendations of the Committee and action taken by the Government, is laid on the Table of the Sabha [See Appendix LXIX, Annexure No 106.]

SHRI S. K. VAISHAMPAYEN: Madam, the total losses that have been shown by the hon. Minister are seven per cent, but according to the statement of the Director of the Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore, the losses cannot be less than sixteen per cent. May I know from the hon. Minister whether he has verified from the different State Governments whether the losses are as have been shown by the Committee of Experts, or are more because, even though we have improved upon production, even though we have improved upon procurement of foodgrains still, these losses, if they are very heavy, will affect our food situation? So it is necessary that this assessment should be made more exact and correct. May I know from the hon. Minister what steps the Government is taking to do so?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE: Madam, Dr. Parpiva, Director of the Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore, made some statement in regard to losses, and he put the figure at a high level, almost at the level of 50 per cent. And that is why there was a controversy as to what is the magnitude of the loss. Therefore, Government was concerned about this very much and a committee of Experts has been appointed. Dr. Parpiva is himself one of the members of this Committee. An interim report has been submitted. We are awaiting the final report. Unfortunately,

Dr. Panse, who was the Chairman of this Committee, died recently. We are putting somebody in charge, and as soon as the report is available, it would be possible to examine the points raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI GODEY MURAHARI: I would like to know from the Government whether the Government is considering the advisability of setting up silos in every taluka headquarters and providing facilities for storage on a common basis for all the farmers around, because that is the only way it can get rid of this kind of loss, and I would like also to know whether the Government would take it up on a big scale and consider the advisability of setting up the silos.

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE: 'Silos' is one of the modern methods to store foodgrains. We are putting up silos in important ports in our country where foodgrains are handled on a very big scale. As for putting up silos at taluka quarters, in the interior, it is a rather difficult proposition, but we are trying to cover up that aspect by evolving new types of metal bins, which will be available to the farmers as well as to co-operative societies and others so that foodgrains in smaller quantities can be stored in such bins, and we have been encouraging their manufacture in this country. Some proposals for foreign collaboration have also been received and we have been supporting those proposals.

SHRI S. K. VAISHAMPAYEN: According to the Statement given by the hon. Minister about the recommendations of the Experts Committee on storage loss, and action taken by the Government on them, almost all the recommendations entail action on the part of the State Governments, particularly with regard to the setting up of technical organisations and adoption of cheaper and more effective techniques to fight the storage loss, may I know from the hon. Minister whether the State Governments have taken action on this recommendation or not, and what steps have been taken by the Ministry to see that they take action early and fight the loss as far as possible.

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE: Madam, there have been contacts with the State Governments and reviews are being carried on jointly from time to

time. Ultimately the State Governments will have to look into a number of things, and I must say that many of the State Governments are responding very well. They are aware, are conscious of this problem. A number of steps are being taken. There can always be inadequacies as such, but we have been seized of the problem and the steps which are being taken in the direction of implementation are encouraging.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Next question.

CENTRAL WAREHOUSING CORPORATION

677. **SHRI JAGAT NARAIN:** Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the authorised and paid-up capital of the Central Warehousing Corporation at the time of its setting up and as on the 31st May, 1968;

(b) the amount of loan the Corporation owes to the Central Government, banks or other parties on the 31st March, 1968; and

(c) the amount of money that has been paid as interest by the Corporation during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE): (a) The Central Warehousing Corporation was established in 1957. The authorised capital as on 31st March, 1958 and 31st May, 1968 was Rs. 20 crores. The paid-up capital as on 31st March, 1958 and 31st May 1968 was Rs. 1,06,44,700 and Rs. 8,73,62,439 respectively.

(b) Rs. 7,69,63,000 to the Central Government. The Corporation did not take any loan from banks or other parties.

(c) The amount of interest paid during 1966-67, 1967-68 and 1968-69 was Rs. 1,37,11,443.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.