

GRATUITY SCHEME FOR COAL MINERS

339. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the steps Government propose to take to implement the gratuity scheme for the Coal Miners as recommended by the Central Wage Board ; and

(b) the reasons for the delay in its implementation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD) : (a) and (b) The Wage Board has recommended the introduction of an industry-wise scheme of gratuity to be financed out of a fund to be created by the levy of a cess on despatches of coal and to be administered by the Board of Trustees of the Coal Mines Provident Fund or a similar tripartite autonomous body. Necessary preliminary work with a view to considering the question of acceptance of the above recommendations has been taken up.

एग्नेन्टिसेज एक्ट 1961 में संशोधन

340. श्री राम सहाय : क्या भ्रम तथा पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि ग्रेजुएट इंजीनियरों और डिप्लोमा प्राप्त इंजीनियरों को आसानी से नौकरी दिलाने के लिये एग्नेन्टिसेज एक्ट, 1961 में संशोधन करने का सरकार का कोई विचार था; और

(ख) यदि हां तो क्या इस प्रस्ताव पर विधिवत् विचार पूरा हो गया है; और कब तक संशोधन कर दिये जाने की संभावना है ?

†[AMENDMENT IN THE APPRENTICES ACT, 1961]

340. SHRI RAM SAHAI : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there was a proposal before Government to amend the Apprentices Act, 1961 with a view to facilitating employment for the Engineering Graduates and Diploma holders in Engineering ; and

(b) if so, whether the proposal has been duly examined ; and the time by when the amendment is likely to be made ?]

भ्रम, सेवा नियोजन और पुनर्वास मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री भगवत झा आज़ाद) : (क) जी हां ।

(ख) प्रस्ताव अभी विचाराधीन है । शिक्षा अधिनियम, 1961 में संशोधन के लिए प्रक्रिया संबंधी औपचारिकताओं में समय लगेगा ।

†[THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD) : (a) Yes.

(b) The proposal is still under consideration. The procedural formalities for amendment to the Apprentices Act, 1961 will take time.]

BROADCASTING OF MEDICAL PROBLEMS
BY A. I. R.

341. SHRI A. D. MANI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that medical problems are not generally broadcast on the All India Radio ;

(b) whether there is a ban on the discussion of certain subjects ; and

(c) if so, what are these subjects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a)

and (b) No, Madam.

(c) Does not arise.

TARGET FOR PROCUREMENT OF FOOD-GRAINS

342. SHRI CHITTA BASU :

SHRI BALACHANDRA MENON :

SHRI S. K. VAISHMPAYAN :

SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS :

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

(a) the target fixed for the procurement of foodgrains of different categories during the year 1967-68, 1968-69 and 1969-70;

(b) the actual quantity of foodgrains procured till 30th June this year ;

(c) the target for import of foodgrains during the current year and the actual quantity of foodgrains so far imported ;

(d) whether it is a fact that the producers are not getting the procurement price fixed by Government in many States like Punjab, Haryana, West Bengal, and Uttar Pradesh ;

(e) if so, the reason therefor ; and

(f) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to ensure the full payment of procurement price to the producers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE) : (a) The all-India targets fixed for the marketing years 1967-68, 1968-69 and 1969-70 were/are as follows :

(In '000 tonnes)

Foodgrains	Marketing year	Targets fixed
Rice	1967-68 (Nov. 67 to Oct. 68)	5,100
	1968-69 (Nov. 68 to Oct. 69)	3,455
Kharif Coarse-grains	1967-68 (Nov. 67 to Oct. 68)	1,900
	1968-69 (Nov. 68 to Oct. 69)	810
Wheat	1967-68 (April 67 to Mar. 68)	No target was fixed.
	1968-69 (April. 68 to Mar. 69)	2,075
	1969-70 (Apr. 69 to Mar. 70)	3,640
Rabi Coarse-grains	1967-68 (Apr. 67 to Mar. 68)	No target was fixed.
	1968-69 (Apr. 68 to Mar. 69)	Do.
	1969-70 (Apr. 69 to Mar. 70)	Do.

(b) :

(In '000 tonnes)

Foodgrains	Marketing year	Quantity procured
Rice	1967-68	3,259
	1968-69 (Up-to 30-6-69)	3,015
Kharif Coarse-grains.	1967-68	773
	1968-69 (Up-to 30-6-69)	464
Wheat	1967-68	893
	1968-69	2,273
	1969-70 (Up-to 30-6-69)	2,261
Rabi Coarse-grains	1967-68	242
	1968-69	129
	1969-70 (Up-to 30-6-69)	2

(c) It is proposed to import 5.2 million tonnes of foodgrains during the financial year 1969-70. During the period 1st April to 30th June, 1969, 9.77 lakh tonnes has been actually imported.

(d) to (f). The Government have offered to purchase any quantities of foodgrains of fair average quality that is offered to them at the procurement prices. By and large, the producers are getting the prices fixed by Government. It may sometimes happen that some producers in the remote villages do not get the benefit of these prices. Whenever such cases come to notice arrangements are made to open the necessary purchasing centres to ensure that such producers also get the procurement price fixed by Government.

DEMAND FOR TRACTORS

343. SHRI Z. A. AHMAD : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated total demand for tractors in the country at present ; and

(b) how Government propose to meet this demand ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE) : (a) and (b) The total demand of tractors for the current financial year, 1969-70 has been assessed at about 83,000 tractors. Against this, the indigenous production is estimated to be of the order of 20,000. Besides, import of a substantial number of tractors during 1969-70 is under consideration of Government.

SUPER BAZAR, DELHI

344. SHRIMATI LALITHA (RAJAGOPALAN) : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question No. 232 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 9th May, 1969 and state :

(a) whether a copy of the audit report of the Super Bazar, Delhi for the years 1966-67, 1967-68 and 1968-69 will be laid on the Table of the House ;

(b) the administrative and operational expenditure incurred by the Super Bazar during the above period ; and

(c) what is the criterion for recruitment of personnel in the Super Bazar ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY) : (a) The audit of Super Bazar which is run by the Co-operative Store Ltd., is made by the Statutory Auditors appointed by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Delhi, and copies of the audit reports of co-operative societies are placed before their general bodies/managing committees and not laid on the Table of the House. The audit of the Super Bazar for the year 1967-68 is under progress and is likely to be completed shortly. The audit for the year 1968-69 would be taken up after the accounts are finalised by the Co-operative Store.

(b) 1966-67—Rs. 46.17 lakhs

1967-68—Rs. 64.19 lakhs

1968-69—Accounts have not yet been finalised.

(c) Recruitment of personnel is made on the basis of suitability and experience for the jobs for which they are considered and selection is made by the appointment committees constituted for the purpose. Sometimes, suitable persons are taken on deputation from Delhi Administration/Central Ministries, etc.

IMPORT OF AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS, ETC. FROM U. S. S. R.

345. SHRI JAGAT NARAIN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the type of agricultural implements, fertilizers and seeds that are imported from the U.S.S.R. and the U.S.A. for distribution small farmers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE) : Neither agricultural implements nor seeds are imported from U. S. S. R. and U. S. A. for distribution to small farmers. The following types of fertilizers are, however, imported from these Countries :

U. S. S. R.—

1. Ammonium Suphate.
2. Urea.
3. Muriate of Potash.

U.S.A.—

1. Ammonium Sulphate.
2. Urea.
3. Di-Ammonium Phosphate.
4. Ammonium Phosphate.
5. NPK Complex Fertilizer.

Distribution of seeds to farmers is the responsibility of State Governments.