

OF THE COMMITTEE ON PRESS COUNCIL

1536. SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS; Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee consisting of Members of Parliament from both the Houses set up by Government to go into the question of Constitution of the Press Council and its working, has submitted its report; and

(b) if so, the details of the recommendation made by that Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes, Sir. The Report of the Advisory Committee on the Press Council has already been laid on the table of the House on the 10th March 1969.

(b) A summary of the conclusion! and recommendations of the Committee is given in Chapter XII of the Report.

EXPERT COMMITTEE ON MASS MEDIA

1537. SHRI S. A. KHAJA MOHIDEEN; Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Expert Committee on Mass Media appointed by the National Integration Council has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government with regard thereto; and

(c) whether a copy of the report will be laid on the Table of the House?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND

BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Committee of Experts on Mass Media has drawn up a publicity plan on national integration in which a number of recommendations, some of a continuous and long term nature, have been made. The plan has been placed before the Standing Committee of the National Integration Council for approval and such directions as the latter may deem fit. In the meantime, the media units are continuing a concerted and comprehensive publicity drive in regard to national integration.

(c) A copy of the publicity plan is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix LXVII, Annexure No. 104J.

PROCUREMENT PRICE FOR RICE AND WHEAT

1538. SHRI KESAVAN (THAZ-HAVA): Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state;

(a) the price, as it now stands, fixed by the Central Government for procurement of rice and wheat from various states by the Food Corporation of India;

(b) if there is any disparity in the procurement price, from state to state, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Central Government propose to give absolute power to fix procurement price to the State Governments; 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) A statement is attached.