

ments and educationists. A plan of action for examination reform has been circulated to the State Governments for action. The University Grants Commission has also initiated action for reforms of examinations at university level. The National Council of Educational Research and Training have, in collaboration with the State Departments of Education, initiated measures of examination reforms at the school level. The principles governing these reforms are:

(a) Examinations should be valid and reliable measures of pupils' growth.

(b) They should be powerful instrument of improving teaching and learning through feed back.

#### **Guidelines for minority institutions**

106. SHRI BASHIR AHMAD: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state whether Government proposes to issue guidelines for the recognition of the minority institutions under Article 30 of the Constitution?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER): No, Sir.

#### **Repeal of Evacuee Property Act**

107. SHRI BASHIR AHMAD: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state whether Government propose to repeal and abrogate Evacuee Property Act 31 of 1950?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI SIKANDAR BAKHT): No, Sir.

#### **Prices of agriculture produce**

108. SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE & IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of agriculture produce have gone up in each item since last three months; and

(b) if so, the reasons and facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRAKASH SINGH BADAL): (a) and (b). A statement showing index numbers of wholesale prices of important agricultural commodities from 26-2-1977 to 21-5-1977 (latest available) is attached. While the position varies from week to week, on the whole there is some rise in the price index of grains like rice and pulses, and jute, groundnut and gur, but the price index for commodities like wheat and cotton has shown a fall.

Different factors account for rise or fall in prices of different commodities. Generally speaking, the rise in the prices of the agricultural commodities produced in the kharif season is partly seasonal; in some cases, e.g., pulses, groundnut, it is also attributable to shortfall in production.