

States of Punjab and Haryana and the final report was submitted on 20th August, 1970.

- (b) (1) Sanitary conditions in the localities inhabited by members of the communities engaged in unclean occupations require improvement.
- (2) Acceleration of education may help diversification of occupations.
- (3) The younger generation is conscious of their rights and are anxious to avail of their rights.
- (4) A crash programme to provide modern implements may be undertaken to help them lead a hygienic life.
- (5) By and large they like to live in good and clean houses.
- (6) Employees in the pay roll of the bigger municipalities are a shade better off than their counterparts in State Government Service.
- (7) In matters of housing the living conditions of municipal sweepers and scavengers, even though much still requires to be done, are better in comparison with the other lower strata of society in the town.

(c) A copy of the report along with the important findings have been forwarded to the State Governments for necessary action. The Government of India have accepted the recommendations.

Death due to Consumption of Varnish in Tiruvotttur, Madras

122. SHRI BAKSI NAYAK : Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether twenty persons died after consuming varnish at Tiruvotttur in North

Madras on September 22, 1971 ;

(b) whether the Central Government have received any report in this regard from the Tamil Nadu Government ; and

(c) if so, the contents thereof and reaction of Government in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI K. S. RAMASWAMY) : (a) The Government have not received any such information

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Assessment by Ford Foundation Regarding Self-Sufficiency in Food

123. SHRI BANAMALI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ford Foundation's assessment that India would not be self-sufficient in food for at least another decade has been brought to the notice of the Government ;

(b) If so, the basis of the assessment in view of the Government's decision to stop PL-480 imports with the lapse of the present agreement next year ; and

(c) the latest position with regard to self-sufficiency in this direction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE) : (a) No such assessment by Ford Foundation has come to the notice of the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The foodgrains production during 1970-71 was of the order of 107.8 million tonnes against the target of 106.0 million tonnes. During 1971-72 foodgrains production targets has been fixed at 112.0 million tonnes, which is considered to be sufficient to meet the requirements.