

[*Translation*]

Eradication of Contract' Labour System

*856. SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA:
Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the points of difference between bonded labour and contract labour;

(b) whether Government propose to eradicate the contract system, like bonded labourers to rid the contract labour from exploitation; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to regularise the services of all the contract labourers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN):

(a) to (c). The Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976 inter-alia defines a bonded labour as any labour or service rendered under the bonded labour system, a system of forced labour. Contract labour on the other hand are such workmen who are hired to work in an establishment for the work of that establishment by or through a contractor with or without the knowledge of the principal employer. Whereas the former represents a system of forced labour, the latter refers to the system of indirect employment of workmen in an establishment to do the work through a contractor.

Unlike Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976 through which the system of debt bondage has been abolished throughout the country, the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 envisages regulation and prohibition of employment of contract labour. The Act as it stands does not provide for absorption into regular jobs of contract labour rendered jobless following the prohibition of employment of contract

labour in an establishment.

[*English*]

Margin of Profit by Super Bazar and Kendriya Bhandar

*857. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:
Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the margin of profit at which the Super Bazar and Kendriya Bhandar supply items of stationery like photo copying paper, typing paper, etc. to Ministries and Departments of Government of India;

(b) whether there is considerable difference between the margin of profit charged by the Super Bazar and Kendriya Bhandar;

(c) if so, the difference in margin of profit charged by the said two bodies and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken or proposed to issue necessary guidelines and directions to the said cooperative bodies to reduce the margin of profit on items being sold to the Government Ministries and Departments?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA):

(a) to (c). The general margin at which the Kendriya Bhandar and Super Bazar supply items of stationery like photo-copying paper, typing paper etc. is 9% and 10% respectively. The difference cannot be said to be considerable.

(d) These consumer cooperatives have their own pricing policies depending on business norms, establishment charges and other cost chargeable to the commodities. Consumer interests, are, however, kept in mind.