

not only from the USA but from Canada, Argentina and Australia. So far as Canada is concerned, they are just about to harvest their wheat and it will be available from next month or September.

So far as Australia is concerned, it will be some time in the beginning of next year. They generally harvest in the end of December or beginning of January. So far as Argentina is concerned, I am told their crop is very bad this year. So, there cannot be any possibility of getting foodgrains from there. It has to be remembered that the world shortage of foodgrains, particularly of wheat, is in the vicinity of about 8 million tonnes. In the context of these things, we have to make arrangements to get our necessary requirements for distribution through our public distribution system so that it may be possible for us to provide to our people food in the coming months.

**PROF. MADHU DANAVATE:** Will these imports make any impact on the issue price? Secondly, the North American ports are very busy shipping the purchases made by the Soviet Union. In view of that, will it be possible for our imports to be completed by the end of this financial year?

**SHRI F. A. AHMED:** So far as the last question is concerned, the purchases which we have made recently have been booked for July or is likely to be booked for August. They will reach us within about five or six weeks from the time of their shipping from the United States. So far as the issue price is concerned, no decision has been taken in the matter.

13.12 hrs.

#### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

STATEMENT CORRECTING REPLY GIVEN DURING DISCUSSION ON APPRENTICES (AMENDMENT) BILL

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND RE-

HABILITATION (SHRI G. VENKAT-ASWAMY): On behalf of Shri Raghunatha Reddy, I beg to lay on the Table a statement (Hindi and English versions) correcting the reply given by him on the 15th May, 1973 to a question by Shri Indrajit Gupta during the discussion on the Apprentices (Amendment) Bill, 1972. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5188/73].

#### NOTIFICATION UNDER PASSPORTS ACT, 1967

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 24 of the Passports Act, 1967:—

- (i) G.S.R. 287 (E), published in Gazette of India dated the 31st May, 1973 making certain amendments to Notification No. G.S.R. 398(E), dated the 30th August, 1972.
- (ii) The Passports (Amendment) Rules, 1973 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 310(E), in Gazette of India dated the 12th June, 1973. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5189/73].

#### REVIEW AND ANNUAL OF NATIONAL COAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD. FOR 1971-72

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUBODH HANSDA): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 169A of the Companies Act, 1956—

- (1) Review by the Government on the working of the National Coal Development Corporation Limited, Ranchi, for the year 1971-72;