

## AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS

\*153. **Shri K. G. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state whether the survey to bring about a uniform system of minimum wages to Agricultural labourers has been completed?

(b) If so, what time will it take for introducing a Bill in this direction?

(c) If the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, what is the approximate time that will be required to finish the survey?

**The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali):** (a) and (c). No survey has been undertaken to obtain a uniform system of minimum wages to agricultural labourers. If, however, the reference is to the Agricultural Labour Enquiry conducted by the Labour Ministry, the Enquiry has been completed. The final report is being drafted.

(b) Reference to the Bill is not understood. It is not contemplated to introduce any such Bill. If the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, is contemplated, minimum wages for employments in agriculture as specified in Part II of the Scheduled to the Act are required to be fixed by the States before the 31st December, 1953.

**Shri K. G. Deshmukh:** Do Government propose to bring a uniform system of minimum wages?

**Shri Abid Ali:** It is not possible, Sir.

**Shri Nanadas:** May I know whether this Committee has recommended cash payments or payments in kind?

**Shri Abid Ali:** A comprehensive statement was placed on the Table of the House in reply to question No. 76, and all the information will be available there.

**Shri Raghavaiah:** Will Government in this country see that forced labour among agricultural labourers is removed?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** It does not arise out of this question.

## FAMINE RELIEF WORKS IN MADHYA PRADESH

\*154. **Shri K. G. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh have asked any financial assistance from the Government of India for famine relief works in the famine-stricken areas of that State?

(b) If so, what is the amount so far sanctioned?

(c) Will this amount be treated as a loan or grant to that State?

(d) What are the relief works that have already been started in the areas under famine in the said State?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) No.

(b) and (c). The question does not arise.

(d) The State Government have started 23 Road works, 27 tank and other irrigation works and 18 metal breaking centres. Irrigation works include digging of *Jharias* in beds of rivers and nullahs, bunding of nullahs and streams, and construction, repairs and deepening of wells.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

## ACADEMY OF MEDICINE, VIENNA

\*131. **Shri Eswara Reddy:** (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state whether the Academy of Medicine, Vienna, has offered to admit in the Academy Indian Doctors, for doing post-graduate work?

(b) if so, what are the details of the offer and how many seats have been offered for Indian Doctors?

(c) What authority has been entrusted with the selection of Indians desiring to avail of this offer, and what is the machinery of selection?

(d) How many applications have been received up till now, who are the applicants and what are the qualifications of each?

(e) If selections are already over, how many have been selected and on what considerations?

(f) If selections are not yet over, what will be the methods of selection?

**The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur):** (a) Yes.

(b) The offer was for post-graduate training for about 20 Indian Doctors during the session commencing April 1953. It has been accepted and applications from intending candidates have been called for through a press note.

(c) (e) and (f). There will be no selection in India. Applications of all