

(b) if so, whether the report of the survey team has been received; and

(c) if so, the assistance extended to the Government of Bihar to combat and contain the disease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAG-DAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) A central team of experts conducted a random survey of selected villages in four districts of Muzzaffarpur, Vaishali, Samastipur and Sitamadhj which were mainly effected by Kalazar from 7th to 22nd August, 1977.

(b) Yes.

(c) The assistance extended by the Government of India to the Government of Bihar consists of the following:—

1. Insecticides, spray equipment, operational support has been provided by diversion of funds from National Malaria Eradication Programme.

2. A strategy for control has been worked out in consultation with the Government of Bihar.

3. While the Government of Bihar is procuring the indigenously available anti-mony compounds, Government of India procured Pentamidine, Lomodine drugs through the WHO and supplied them to the Government of Bihar.

4. Provided epidemiologists to continuously evaluate the Kalazar activities.

5. Designed a search in 31 districts by house to house visit by health workers. Due to strike of State Health employees in Bihar this could not, however, be undertaken so far.

चासनाला कोयला खान श्रमिकों को मुन्नावजा

619. श्री राम दास सिंह : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) उन देशों के नाम क्या हैं जिनके श्रमिकों ने तथा अन्य संगठनों ने दिसम्बर, 1974 में चासनाला कोयला-खान (इण्डियन आयरन एण्ड स्टील कम्पनी) दुर्घटना में मरे 378 श्रमिकों के संतप्त परिवारों को सहायता देने के लिए राष्ट्रीय खान कर्मचारी संघ को धनराशि दी है तथा वह कितनी धनराशि है ,

(ख) यह कुल राशि किन-किन मदों पर खर्च की गई ;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि एक बड़ी राशि का दुरुपयोग किया गया ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार इस मामले में जांच करेगी ?

इ पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री करिया मुष्ठा) : (क) से (ग) - सरकार को इस बात की कोई जानकारी नहीं है कि दिसम्बर, 1974 में चासनाला कोयला-खान दुर्घटना में मरे कामगारों के संतप्त परिवारों को सहायता देने के लिए राष्ट्रीय खान कर्मचारी संघ को बाहर के देशों से धनराशि, यदि कोई थी, प्राप्त हुई थी।

(घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Agricultural Workers

620. SHRI CHITTA BASU :
SHRI PHOOL CHAND-
VERMA :

Will the Minister of PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of agricultural workers in the country;

(b) the condition of their life and work; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to ameliorate their conditions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI LARANG SAI): (a) and (b). According to the 1971 Census agricultural workers in India number about 47.5 million. Their problems, as highlighted from time to time by various forums and Rural Labour Enquires, are, generally, low wages and the resulting low standard of living, unemployment and underemployment and lack of Organisation.

(c) To ameliorate conditions of life of the weaker section in rural areas, including agricultural workers, 160 Small Farmers' Development Agencies/ Marginal Farmers and Agricultural Labourers Projects were functioning in the country during 1976-77, the main emphasis in the projects being on crop husbandry which includes Intensive Agricultural Multiple Cropping, introduction of high yielding varieties, development of minor irrigation, soil conservation, land development etc. These Agencies have also been authorised to implement the usual animal husbandry programmes like distribution of milch cattle, poultry, goat and sheep rearing, piggery etc. The problems of labour in the unorganised sector, including agricultural workers were discussed at the recent Tripartite Labour Conference held on 6-7th May, 1977. The general consensus at the Conference was that, having regard to the various complex issues involved, a Special Conference be convened to consider the problems relating to unorganised rural labour, including, agricultural workers, and the nature of subjects to be discussed and nature of participants to the proposed Conference settled in consultation with the interests concerned, including the State Governments/ Union Territories, Central Organisations of Workers and Employers etc. The suggestions received from these interests are being examined and steps are being taken to convene the proposed Special Conference soon to discuss the problems of agricultural workers.

2416 LS-3

White Paper on Farakka Project Agreement

621. **SHRI C. R. MAHATA:**
SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN:
SHRI CHITTA BASU:

Will the Minister of **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state whether Government propose to issue a White Paper on the Farakka Project Agreement with Bangladesh?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): The Agreement on sharing of the Ganga waters at Farakka and on augmenting its flows has been placed before the Lok Sabha on 14th November 1977. While laying the Agreement on the Table of the House, the Prime Minister made a statement. In view of this, the Government of India do not intend to issue a White Paper on the Agreement.

Single Price Policy for Metals

624. **SHRI SURENDRA BIKRAM:** Will the Minister of **STEEL AND MINES** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to introduce single price policy for metals; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Location of Large Deposits of Bauxite in Semalia Sub-Tehsil in Rewa

625. **SHRI Y. P. SHASTRI:** Will the Minister of **STEEL AND MINES** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India has located a large deposit of bauxite in Semalia Sub-Tehsil in Rewa District of Madhya Pradesh; and