

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKA-TASUBBAIAH): (a) Recently the fol-lowing steps have been taken to im-prove the traffic conditions in Delhi:—

(i) Unauthorised encroachments have been removed at several pla-ces.

(ii) vehicles found improperly parked on roads are lifted by the help of cranes.

(iii) Announcement is made daily on the public address system urging people to obey the traffic rules.

(iv) More traffic staff has been detailed in the congested areas to regulate the traffic.

(b) and (c) The following special measures are proposed to be taken at the time of Asian Games:—

(i) Movement of heavy and me-dium goods vehicles will be restric-ted from 8 A.M. to 8 P.M. on certain roads.

(ii) No roadside parking of vehi-cles on main roads leading to the medium goods vehicles will be restric-ted.

(iii) Intensive patrolling will be done by Mobile traffic police.

(iv) Road signs and road mark-ings will be provided.

(v) All major intersections and other important points will be man-ned by the traffic police.

Centrally Sponsored Schemes in Tri-bal Areas of Orissa

593. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the centrally spon-sored scheme under implementation in the tribal areas of Orissa;

(b) whether any such scheme is proposed to be introduced or is under implementation in Keonjhar district of Orissa for the welfare of Bhuiyan tribes living in the hilly areas of that district; and

(c) if so, the details about the pro-gramme proposed to be undertaken under that scheme in Keonjhar dis-trict of Orissa in 1982-83?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR):

(a) to (c). Centrally sponsored sche-mes under implementation in Orissa for the welfare of backward classes are-(1) Research and Training (2) Book Banks for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes students studying in medical and engineering colleges, (3) enforcement of the provisions of PCR Act (4) special coaching for competitive examinations, (5) con-struction of hostels for Scheduled Cas-tes and Scheduled Tribes girls, (6) share capital for Scheduled Caste Finance Cooperative Corporation, and (7) Pre-matric scholarships for students whose parents are occupied in unclean occupations. Post-matric scholarships for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes students is a Central Scheme.

The above schemes cover the whole of the State including the tribal areas. No Centrally Sponsored Schemes are undertaken exclusively for Keonjhar district.

Revision of Minimum Wage ..

594. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has sug-gested various State Governments to revise the minimum wages;

(b) if so, when was the suggestion made and the names of the State Gov-ernments who have revised the wages so far;

(c) whether it is a fact that some of the State Governments have not revised the minimum wages;

(d) if so, the names of those States and the reasons of making delay in revision of wages; and

(e) the efforts proposed to be made by his Ministry to see that the minimum wages are revised by those State Governments?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI DHARMAVIR): (a) to (e). A statement giving the information is attached.

Statement

The Minimum Wages Act empowers the appropriate Government to fix minimum rates of wages payable to employees employed in employments specified in the Schedule thereto. Each State Government has included several employments in the Schedule, the total number of which exceeds 217. The periodicity and dates of revision of minimum wages vary depending upon when the employments were included in the Schedule, when the wages were first fixed and last revised and the procedure adopted for revision of minimum wages—whether by Committee method or by notification method. The Labour Ministers' Conference held in July, 1980 recommended that the minimum wages should be revised once at least every two years or on the rise of 50 points in the consumer price index. This was communicated to the State Governments for necessary follow-up action and they are being reminded from time to time to implement the above decision. In April, 1981 the State Chief Minister themselves were addressed in the matter. Again in December 1981 the State Labour Ministers were requested to secure revision and better enforcement of the wages. As a result of these measures, minimum wages in respect of several employments have been or are being revised. According to the information

supplied by the State Governments/Administrations, the position regarding the revision of minimum wages for various employments is as follows:—

Andhra Pradesh.—Minimum Wages were fixed in 1 employment in January, 1982. During 1980-81 Minimum Wages were revised in 10 scheduled employments and proposals for revision were notified in 6 employments.

Assam.—Minimum Wages are being regularly revised and notifications for revision, wherever due, are being attended to. Minimum Wages in agriculture were revised on the 28th December, 1981.

Bihar.—Since August, 1980, minimum wages were fixed in 2 employments and revised in 7 employments. Proposals for fixation were notified in respect of one employment and for revision in 4 employments.

Gujarat.—Of the 44 scheduled employments covered under the Act, the State Government have fixed/revised minimum wages in 29 employments. In 10 employments wages not fixed as number of workers is less than 1000. In respect of 15 employments Committees have been appointed for fixation/revision of minimum wages.

Haryana.—The minimum wages were last revised on the 2nd January, 1980 in respect of 23 scheduled employments. Proposals for revision of minimum wages in 36 scheduled employments were notified on the 10th November, 1981.

Himachal Pradesh.—Minimum rates of wages were revised in 5 scheduled employments.

Jammu & Kashmir.—Fixation of minimum wages in respect of scheduled employments is under active consideration of the State Government.

Karnataka.—45 employments have been added to the schedule to the Minimum Wages Act, Wages have

been fixed in 28 employments. The State Govt. was considering proposals to fix minimum wages in 10 employments. There was a proposal to revise minimum wages in respect of 27 employments. The wages of bidi workers were revised with effect from the 1st January, 1982.

Kerala.—A minimum wage Committee has been constituted to revise the existing wages in agriculture as well as in some other employments in which the revisions are due.

Madhya Pradesh.—In 7 scheduled employments, wages have been fixed for the first time, in 3 notifications have been issued, in 2 Committees have been appointed. Besides, in 15 employments wages were revised from the 1st July, 1981 and in 5 wages were in the process of revision by the notification method. Minimum Wages in the employments in bidi and agriculture were revised in January, 1982.

Maharashtra.—53 employments are covered under the Minimum Wages Act. Out of 11 employments where wages had not been fixed yet, in 4 the matter was under consideration by Committees, in 3 there were less than 1000 employees, and in 4 employments the matter was under consideration.

Manipur.—Revision of minimum wages in organised and unorganised sectors have been taken up in the State.

Orissa.—Minimum wages were revised in 4 employments after August 1980 and a Committee was constituted to advise the Govt. on the revision of minimum wages for the employment in tobacco industry including bidi.

Punjab.—Minimum rates of wages in agriculture and certain other scheduled employments were revised with effect from the 31st January, 1982. Minimum wages have been revised in almost all scheduled employments.

Rajasthan.—State Government is fixing a general minimum wage of Rs. 8.50 for all scheduled employments.

Minimum wages in 30 employments including agriculture were last fixed/ revised on the 1st July, 1980 and notifications for their revision were issued on 1st July, 1981.

Uttar Pradesh.—In 6 employments minimum wages were fixed for the first time in 1980-81. Minimum wages were revised in one employment in 1980, and in 22 employments in 1981. Revision proceedings in the case of 12 employments are in different stages of processing.

West Bengal.—As in all the minimum wages notifications, provision is made to raise the dearness allowance half-yearly/yearly to neutralise the increase in prices, revision of minimum wages after every two years is neither necessary nor practically feasible.

Andaman and Nicobar Islands.—Minimum wages in respect of all the employments were revised on the 1st October, 1980.

Tamil Nadu.—Minimum wages were fixed in 4 employments and revised in 3 scheduled employments during 1980-81. Committees were constituted for the fixation/revision of minimum wages in 9 scheduled employments in 1981.

Nagaland.—State Government have recently fixed/revised minimum wages for unskilled labourers including agricultural labourers.

Arunachal Pradesh.—The rates of minimum wages were revised recently for all workers in the unorganised sector.

Chandigarh.—Draft proposals for revising the minimum wages for all the scheduled employments including employments in agriculture were notified in September, 1981.

Dadra and Nagar Haveli.—Necessary action to revise minimum wages is being taken.

Delhi.—Proposals were notified on the 17th September, 1981 to revise the minimum rates of wages in 26 scheduled employments.

Goa, Daman & Diu.—Draft proposals to revise minimum wages in agriculture were notified on the 26th February 1981.

Pondichery.—Draft proposals were notified on the 12th January, 1982 for revision of minimum wages in the employment in agriculture in respect of Karaikal region.

Scientific Study of Medicinal Plants

596. SHRI GHULAM RASOOL KOCHAK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study or survey is under consideration of a scientific study of medicinal plants in various areas of the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that several medicinal plants had become extinct and others faced extinction in near future; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to check the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ELECTRONICS AND ENVIRONMENT AND OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI C.P.N. SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. The Botanical Survey of India has conducted surveys in many parts of the country on medicinal plants.

(b) According to the studies made by the Botanical Survey of India, no medicinal plants have so far been reported as extinct. However, some species like *Aconitum* species *Coptis teeta*, *Dioscorea* species. *Rauvolfia* species *Podophyllum hexandrum* etc. have known to become threatened due to large scale extraction for export/domestic medicinal purposes.

(c) Botanical Survey of India is making a status survey of such threatened plants and trying to grow samples of many rare species in its botanic gardens for their survival.

Availability of Raw Material for Paper Industr

597. SHRI GHULAM RASOOL KOCHAK: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the availability of raw material is retarding the production for the paper industry; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take for ensuring sustained availability of raw material to the industry?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) and (b). Although overall production of paper and paper board is registering a steady growth, in certain regions capacity utilization has been adversely affected due to the fact that availability of primary forest based raw materials is limited. Steps are being taken to promote industry oriented plantations of fast growing pulpwood species and to encourage utilization of secondary raw materials such as agricultural residues, bagasse, waste paper etc.

बस्तर में नक्सलवादियों का आतंक

598. श्री लक्ष्मण कर्मा : क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पड़ोसी राज्यों के सोमा-भेदों से बस्तर जिले में नक्सलवादियों का सदैव आतंक रहा है ; और

(ख) यदि हां. तो क्या नक्सलवादियों की गतिविधियों को रोकने के लिए भारत सरकार द्वारा क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है ?