

be ruled out, and if drawn attention to, appropriate action can be taken.

Secret Ballot System for Recognised Labour Organisations

3962. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce secret ballot system for electing the recognised labour organisations;

(b) if so, the time by which this is likely to be introduced;

(c) the measures taken to deal with the labour problem engaged in the unorganised agricultural and other sector;

(d) the number of commissions constituted so far giving suggestions to solve the problems regarding child labour engaged in the unorganised agricultural and other sector; and

(e) the details of the suggestions made by these said commissions?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) The matter is under examination of the Government.

(c) to (e) Agriculture is also covered under the definition of "Industry" under the ID Act, 1947 and the provisions of the said Act are applicable to agriculture. Other labour laws like the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970 etc. also cover the unorganised sector.

No Commission has been constituted so far to give suggestions to solve the problem of child labour engaged in the unorganised agricultural sector and other sectors. However, the National Commission on Rural Labour studied this problem and made certain recommendations. The recommendations, *inter alia*, include (i) enactment of compulsory primary education centres by state, (ii) enhancement of outlays for elementary education, (iii) guarantee wage employment for parents of working children, (iv) creation of non-formal education centres, and (v) creation of awareness against child labour etc.

[Translation]

Supply of Sugar by Mills

3963. SHRI VITHAL TUPE:
SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether allotment of monthly levy sugar quota to States is being made district-wise/factory-wise;

(b) whether some factories sometimes refuse to deliver levy sugar quota released by the Central Government;

(c) if so, whether the State Governments particularly Maharashtra have requested the Union Government to find an alternative for it; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) The Central Government allocates the States' levy sugar quota from the assigned factories, whereas the District-wise allocation out of the overall States's quota is done by the concerned State Governments.

(b) to (d) Monthly levy sugar quota of the States/UTs is allocated two months in advance. During the current 1997-98 sugar season (Oct.-Sep.) allocations were made from certain factories in favour of the Government of Maharashtra which subsequently were reported having not started their crushing operations and as such, at the instance of the Government of Maharashtra, alternative arrangements were made.

[English]

Agricultural Labourers

3964. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT:
SHRI CHETAN CHAUHAN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unemployment diploma/degree holders from Agricultural Universities;

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to provide for employment opportunities to these qualified technical unemployed; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide them better employment opportunities?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) The number of job-seekers with Agricultural degrees (Graduate and Post-Graduate), all of whom need not necessarily be unemployed, on the live registers of the employment exchanges, was of the order of 33000 as on 30.06.1994 (latest available).

(b) and (c) The approach to the Ninth Plan envisages priority to agriculture and rural development with a view to generating adequate productive employment and eradication of poverty. Greater productive employment will be generated in the growth process itself by concentrating on sectors, sub-sectors and technologies which are labour intensive, in regions characterized by