

member is right in saying that sometimes the land is acquired at a very cheap price and sold at a very high price. Keeping this in view, the Delhi Administration is taking a decision so that the farmers will get just and reasonable price for their land.

[Translation]

Equal Pay for Equal Work

416. SHRI SATYANARAYAN JATIYA:
SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state;

(a) whether the principle of equal wage for equal work has been implemented in the nationalised textile mills; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(a) and (b). No, Sir.

The wages, dearness allowance etc., of textile workers, including those in NTC mills, are periodically negotiated on the principle of "Region-Cum-Industry" between employers of Cotton Textile Mills or their Associations with the concerned Trade Unions or their Co-ordinating Joint Committee of Trade Union or State level Federations or Branches of Central Trade Unions Organisation on bipartite basis, or before Labour Commissioner of the concerned State Government on tripartite basis. In respect of Punjab, such matters are determined by the government of Punjab in exercise of their powers under Minimum Wages Act, 1948. All workmen in respective categories in a mill are paid on the

above basis, in the textile industry, including the NTC mills.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Textile Industry and its workers, both are facing hard time and the situation is so worse at present that the workers of Textile Industry are not able to earn their livelihood properly. I wanted to know from the hon. Minister that what steps are being taken by the Government to implement the principle of equal wages for equal work in the Textile mills. The hon. Minister has mentioned about the various measures to be adopted to solve the problems regarding labourers but he has not given any clarification about the progress made by his Ministry in implementing the principle of equal wages for equal work in different textile mills. Therefore, I would like to know, through you, as to what special measures have been taken by the Central Government to provide the labourers equal wages on basis of their working conditions and to safeguard the labourers from being exploited by the mill owners.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has raised the question of implementation of the principle of equal wage for equal work and the crisis in the Textile Industry. I would like to make one thing clear to the hon. Member, through you that the situation is improving very fast in the textile industry and I am very much confident that in coming year the textile industry and especially NTC will be able to bring down the percentage of loss. For instance, last year itself, the holding company could bring down its percentage of loss to half of what it originally was and moreover the cash losses were reduced by rupees one hundred thirty eight crores. As far as the 'question' of equal wages for equal work is concerned, I would like to state that the nationalised textile mills are facing problems and difficulties and we inherited them in this condition. Out of them, many mills have become sick and many have been closed. Labourers have become unemployed. The responsibility of making all

such mills running has come to this Government under social obligation during past years. We have kept all our promises which were made to the workers of these mills by us and we fully abide ourselves by the rules and regulations laid down by the Labour Ministry. Basically, the Government is not against the principle of equal wages for equal work but the truth remains that the working conditions differ a lot from region to region and they are very much traditional in nature. Moreover, our financial condition does not permit us to implement this principle at central level.

SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Heera mill of NTC in Ujjain is also not functioning properly. The workers are not getting proper wages. Their living conditions are deplorable and the place where these workers live does not have proper facilities of medical aid and education and therefore, I would like to ask the hon. Minister through you, as to what positive steps are being taken by the Government to provide all the facilities to these workers?

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has had a detailed discussion with me on the problems faced by the workers of Heera Mill and I agree with him. I only want to say that if he has any other information about the problem, he can state and I am ready to help. When he will see me, I will discuss all the details with him.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*Translation*]

Quota of Sugar and Foodgrains to Madhya Pradesh

*417. **DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:** Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the monthly quota of sugar and foodgrains being allocated to State Governments at present;

(b) whether Madhya Pradesh is being allocated quota on the basis of its population in 1990; and

(c) if not, the reasons for allocating less quota in proportion to its requirement or population?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA):

(a) to (c). Under the present policy of partial control, levy sugar allotments to States/UTs are made on uniform norms of ensuring minimum 425 grams per capita monthly availability for projected population as on 1.10.86. These norms are effective since 1st February, 1987. Accordingly, monthly levy sugar quota for all the States/UTs is 3.32 lakh tonnes and for Madhya Pradesh is 25031 tonnes. Keeping in view the present estimates of sugar production and availability it will not be possible to revise these norms at present. The details of Statewise levy sugar quota are given in the attached Statement I.

The allocations of foodgrains (Rice and Wheat) from Central Pool to the various States/Union Territories for Public Distribution System are made on a month to month basis taking into account the stock position in the Central Pool, market availability past off-take and other related factors. These allocations of foodgrains are only supplemental in nature and are not intended to meet the entire demand of the State. The details of Statewise allocations of wheat and rice from January, 1990 to April 1990 are given in the attached Statement II.