

[Translation]

Interim Relief to Working Journalists

***593. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA :** Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the decision taken by the Indian Federation of Working Journalists to go on strike on not getting interim relief;

(b) if so, the details of demand of the federation and also of the difficulties being faced in its fulfilment;

(c) whether Government have taken any initiative in this matter; and

(d) if so, the details of initiative taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR : (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (d). the Indian Federation of Working Journalist had demanded interim relief of Rs. 300/- p.m. for all the newspaper employees irrespective of existing pay scale in May, 1985. Subsequently in another representation received in August, 1985, from the National Confederation of Newspapers and News Agency Employees Organisations, of which IFWJ is a constituent, demand has been made for an interim relief of Rs. 400/- per month to be paid from 1-1-1984. The Newspaper Employees observed One day's strike on 2-4-86 for early announcement of Interim relief. The question of interim rates of wages was referred to the Wage Boards for Working Journalists and Non-Journalist Newspaper Employees soon after their constitution under the provisions of Working Journalists and other Newspaper Employees (Conditions of Service) and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1955. Their recommendations are still awaited. The Government have already requested the Chairman, Wage Boards to expedite their recommendations. As soon as the recommendations are received the same will be considered by the Government under Section 13A of the Act.

[English]

Delay in Construction of Vijayanagar Steel Plant

***594. SHRI SURESH KURUP :** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the foundation stone of Vijayanagar Steel Plant was laid in the year 1973;

(b) if so, the progress made in the construction of the steel plant since then;

(c) the reasons for delay in the construction of the plant; and

(d) when the plant is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K.C. PANT) : (a) No, Sir, it was laid in October, 1971.

(b) Certain preparatory/preliminary works such as land acquisition, topographical survey, geophysical investigations, soil investigation etc. have been undertaken.

(c) Delay in the construction of the plant is mainly due to overall constraints of resources.

(d) The total plan provision in the Seventh Five Year Plan for new Steel Plants which includes the Vijaynagar Steel Plant is Rs. 10 crores. With this allocation, it would not be possible to take substantive steps for setting up the plant in the near future.

Project Report on Regulated Markets for Assam

***595. SHRI ATAUR RAHMAN :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Assam State Agricultural Marketing Board has prepared a project report on regulated markets for Assam and submitted the same to his Ministry for consideration and for World Bank assistance; and

(b) if so, when the proposal was received by the Union Government and the stage at which the proposal stands at present ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (S. BUTA SINGH) : (a) and (b). The Directorate of Agriculture of the State Government of Assam have sent a copy of project report titled "Regulated Markets Development Project on Assam" to this Ministry in December, 1985. However, neither the State Government of Assam nor Assam State Agricultural Marketing Board have asked for World Bank assistance for implementing the Project.

[Translation]

Adoption of Villages by Voluntary Organisations For Integrated Development in Bihar

*596. **SHRI KUNWAR RAM :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any scheme has been formulated for adoption of villages by voluntary organisations for integrated development; and

(b) if so, the names of voluntary organisations in Bihar approved for this task ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (S. BUTA SINGH) : (a) and (b). It is the accepted policy of Government to give all encouragement to voluntary organisations in implementation of programmes of rural development and increasing agricultural production. In Bihar, according to information available, voluntary agencies are running four Krishi Vigyan Kendras out of eight in that State. These Kendras are acting as focal points of promoting voluntary action in agriculture and rural development.

[English]

Quality Control in Agriculture Implements

5492. **SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have established some training centres/testing institutes to make the quality control in agricultural farm implements and machinery more effective;

(b) if so, the location of such institutes and subjects of training imparted in different States during the last two years; and

(c) whether Government propose to sanction such an institution for Orissa also, if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) to (c). Government of India have established three Farm Machinery Training and Testing Institutes one at Budni (Madhya Pradesh) in the Central Region, other at Hissar (Haryana) in the Northern Region and third at Garladinne (Andhra Pradesh) in the Southern Region for imparting on-the-job training in selection, operation and maintenance of agricultural machinery and testing of the same. During Seventh Five Year Plan two more such Institutes one in the Eastern Region and the other in the Western Region are proposed to be established.

Emigrants During 1985

5493. **SYED SHAHABUDDIN :** Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) number of emigrants during 1985, categorised by States of destination;

(b) break-up by professions;

(c) break-up by State of origin in India;

(d) break-up by port of exit;

(e) the total amount collected as deposit from the recruiting agencies during the year, the amount refunded to them during the year and the final balance in the hands of the Protector General of Emigration as on 31st December, 1985; and

(f) the income from these deposits during the year ?