

12:00 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER
OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCEIMPLEMENTATION OF THE KERALA AGRARIAN
RELATIONS ACT

Shri Punnoose (Ambalapuzha): Under Rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

The failure to observe the directives of the Planning Commission in the implementation of the Kerala Agrarian Relations Act leading to large-scale eviction of tenants, widespread discontent, agitation, mass arrests and repression.

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra): May I place the statement, which is somewhat of a longish nature, on the Table and then add a few words?

Mr. Speaker: Yes.

Shri S. N. Mishra: I lay the Statement on the Table. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 55].

After the statement was prepared, we have received a telegraphic message from the State Government. The message says that steps have been taken with the utmost speed to implement the land legislation. Secondly, no case of actual unlawful eviction has been brought to the notice of the State Government. Thirdly, the State Government has reported that three writ petitions were filed before the Supreme Court and 534 before the Kerala High Court challenging the validity of the Act. You will have noticed from this morning's Delhi newspapers that probably judgment has been delivered in certain cases by the Supreme Court, striking down the Kerala Agrarian Relations Act in its application to ryotwari land in South Kanara.

Shri Punnoose *rose—*

Mr. Speaker: A statement has been laid on the Table. The hon. Member will kindly go through it first.

Shri Punnoose: I have not got a copy. I just want to ask one question.

In view of the fact that particular emphasis has been laid by the Planning Commission that a cadastral survey should be undertaken while implementing the Agrarian Relations Act, may I know whether it has been done in Kerala?

Shri S. N. Mishra: Steps are being taken in that direction.

Shri Vasudevan Nair (Thiruvella): The Kerala Government has always refused it by saying that it will take a lot of time. I may inform the House that 40 per cent of the tenants of Kerala have no documents about their possession. So large numbers of peasants are facing the threat of eviction. The Planning Commission had even promised financial help to them to conduct such a survey.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister has received a telegram saying that no evictions have taken place.

Shri Punnoose: No, Sir. No illegal evictions have taken place.

Mr. Speaker: Let us see.

Shri Punnoose: The fact is that many tenants are driven out of their land on the plea that they have no documents, and then they are treated as wage labourers.

Shri Maniyangadan (Kottayam): Certain evictions have taken place, but these evictions are from government lands of people who have unauthorisedly occupied them. These do not. No eviction has taken place under the Act.

Mr. Speaker: It is not a matter for discussion. This is purely a State subject. All the same, in view of the fact that the Planning Commission had given some directives or suggestions, I wanted to see how far those directions were carried out or implemented by the State Government and what

difficulties, if any, there were in this regard. The hon. Minister has gathered the information and placed a statement on the Table. In addition, he has given us the information he has received telegraphically. He has also referred to what has appeared in the newspapers today. The Planning Commission and the hon. Minister are very sympathetic. Therefore, if suggestions are made to him, he will consider them.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao (Khammam): The directives are not being implemented.

Mr. Speaker: If suggestions are made indicating how they are not being implemented or how they are being contravened, the hon. Minister will carry on further correspondence and see to it that they are implemented. He will do his best.

12.08 hrs.

INFORMATION RE: CALLING ATTENTION NOTICE

Dr. Melkote (Raichur): I had given a Calling Attention Notice.

Shri Tangamani (Madurai): Only one can be answered on a day.

Mr. Speaker: I have allowed only one today. I shall see if it can be brought up tomorrow. I have not yet seen it.

12.08½ hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

ANNUAL REPORTS OF HINDUSTAN CABLES, NAHAN FOUNDRY, PRAGA TOOLS CORPORATION, HEAVY ENGINEERING CORPORATION, NATIONAL PRODUCTIVITY COUNCIL, REVIEWS THEREON AND REPORTS OF INDIAN PRODUCTIVITY TEAMS

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers:

- (1) (a) Annual Report of the Hindustan Cables, Limited,

Burdwan, for the year 1960-61 along with the Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon, under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956.

- (b) Review by the Government of the working of the above Company. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-3405/61.]

- (ii) (a) Annual Report of the Nahan, Foundry Limited, Nahan, for the year 1960-61 along with the Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon, under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956.

- (b) Review by the Government of the working of the above Company. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-3406/61].

- (iii) (a) Annual Report of the Praga Tools Corporation Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 1960-61 along with the Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon, under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956.

- (b) Review by the Government of the working of the above Corporation. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-3407/61].

- (iv) (a) Annual Report of the Heavy Engineering Corporation Limited, Ranchi, for the year 1960-61 along with the Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon, under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956.