

THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(Part I—Questions and Answers)

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OFFICIAL REPORT

1539

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Saturday, 5th September, 1953.

The House met at a Quarter Past
Eight of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

CENTRAL COMMITTEE FOR LAND REFORMS

*1042. **Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) the terms of reference of the Central Committee for land reforms, appointed by Government recently;

(b) by what time the Committee is to complete its labours;

(c) whether the Committee has already started functioning;

(d) if so, how many meetings of the Committee have been held so far; and

(e) whether representatives of States have been associated with the Committee with a view to co-ordinating the activities of the Centre and the States in this direction?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) The Central Committee for Land Reforms, which consists of the Chairman and the Members of the Planning Commission and the Union Ministers of Food and Agriculture and Minister of Agriculture, was set up with the 402 P.S.D.

1540

object of ensuring the implementation of the land reform programme contained in the Five Year Plan.

(b) to (d). The Committee's work is of a continuing character, since it considers, amongst other things, land reform proposals from State Governments as and when they are received. The Committee began to function in May, 1953, and has since met four times.

(e) Representatives of State Governments are, as a rule, invited to attend the meetings of the Committee when their proposals are under consideration.

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : इस योजना की खास खास बातें क्या हैं और अभी तक इस कमेटी ने क्या काम किया है ?

Shri Hathi: This Committee generally advises the State Governments on the implementation of the land reforms programme contained in the Five Year Plan. As I mentioned earlier, it has met four times, and the land reforms of the Delhi, Himachal Pradesh and PEPSU States were considered.

Shri Heda: Looking at the different types of land reforms that are being taken up by the different States, we find that there is no uniformity in the measures that are being taken. How does this Central Committee strive to bring about some sort of uniformity or harmony between these various measures?

Shri Hathi: The policy would be uniform, but it may be that there are differences, so far as fixation of ceilings is concerned, or so far as the ranges are concerned. That may not be uniform, but vary according to the local conditions in each particular State. But the general policy would remain the same.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : इस कमेटी न
यू० पी० के सम्बन्ध में अब तक क्या क्या
काम किया है ?

Shri Hathi: As for Uttar Pradesh, the matter has not yet been taken up by this Committee, because it has started functioning only since May last.

Shri A. M. Thomas: In the progress report of the Five Year Plan it has been stated that a special division for Land reform studies is being set up. May I know whether that special division has been set up, and if so what the personnel of that division is?

Shri Hathi: Yes, that special division for land reform studies has been set up in June last.

Shri A. M. Thomas: What about the personnel?

Shri Hathi: It is a special division set up under this Committee, and there are officers, of course.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know which out of the reforms recommended by PEPSU, have been approved by this Committee?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It must be a long list, I think?

Shri Hathi: It is a long list. It is not possible for me to give the reply offhand here.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is it published?

Shri Hathi: No. The matter is still under consideration by Government.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: May I know whether Government have any scheme for nationalising land?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This question relates to the Committee on land reforms, and not nationalisation.

Shri Kelappan: May I know which of the States have already taken up these reforms?

Shri Hathi: As I said before, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh and PEPSU.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: May I know whether this Committee waits for suggestions by the various Governments, or whether they consider this issue, without waiting for any suggestions from the different States?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon member wants to know whether States other than Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, PEPSU have been consulted?

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: The hon. Minister just stated that the Committee will go into the suggestions submitted by the various State Governments. I want to know whether the Committee will wait for their suggestions, or act on their own initiative.

Shri Hathi: Generally land reforms which are proposed by the State Governments are considered by this Committee, and the representatives of the States concerned are also invited during the discussions.

श्री गणपति राम : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि इस कमेटी में राज्य सरकारों के भी प्रतिनिधि रखे गये हैं, यदि हाँ तो उत्तर प्रदेश से कौन हैं ?

Shri Hathi: Whenever any particular question pertaining to any particular State is being considered, the representatives of the State concerned are invited for the discussion.

Shri B. K. Das: The Planning Commission has suggested that there should be a state machinery. May I

know whether such state machineries have been set up for the purpose of helping this Committee?

Shri Hathi: The regional boards have not yet been established in all the States.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: The hon. Minister stated that plans submitted by the State Governments are considered by this Committee. Have all the State Governments submitted their plans? If not, what happens to those States which have not yet submitted any plans?

Shri Hathi: The States which I mentioned earlier, viz., Delhi, Himachal Pradesh and PEPSU have sent their proposals. The other States have not yet sent their proposals.

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : मैं यह जानना चाहता था कि जो यह काम कमेटी ने शुरू किया है इस सम्बन्ध में जो लोकल व्यक्त हैं उनको जानने के लिये क्या प्रबन्ध किया गया है ?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): I think people have not yet clearly understood the position. The different States were carrying out land reforms, and there was a large divergence of opinion in regard to what has been done in one State, and what has been done in another State. Therefore this Committee had been constituted and now all those States that want to have land reforms will submit their schemes to this Committee, for its approval; after their approval has been obtained, effect will be given to their proposals, and legislation will be undertaken. Therefore this Committee has been created, to effect some sort of uniformity in all the States. Some States have already carried out the reforms, while many other States are still having proposals under consideration. This Committee was created only in May last, and it has since then been

considering all the proposals that have been coming from different States.

HARIJAN UPLIFT IN PUNJAB

***1043. Prof. D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state the different schemes under the Five Year Plan for the betterment of Harijans in the Punjab and the amount of money to be spent on each of them by the Punjab Government and the Central Government?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): There are no schemes as such, under the Five Year Plan for the betterment of Harijans in the Punjab specifically. The latter part of the question does not, therefore, arise.

Prof. D. C. Sharma: According to the special directives in the Constitution, a special provision has got to be made for the uplift of Harijans in every State. If so, why has not any special provision been made for their uplift in Punjab?

Shri Hathi: That is for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, not for Harijans exclusively.

Prof. D. C. Sharma: When I talk of Harijans, I talk of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes also. May I know whether any scheme has come from either the Punjab Government or the Punjab people, for the uplift of Harijans, so far as education, medical, health, tilling, co-operative facilities etc. are concerned?

Shri Hathi: No scheme as such for Harijans has yet been received from the Punjab Government.

श्री गणपति राम : क्या सरकार यह समझती है कि संविधान की धाराओं के अनुसार जो सुरक्षा हरिजनों को मिली हुई है और जिस रफ्तार से सरकार चल रही है उससे निश्चित समय के अन्दर क्या हरिजनों का काम पूरा कर सकेगी ?