

**Shri P. T. Chacko:** May I know whether Government are aware that the hon. Member **Shri Rishang Keishing** has to walk about eighty miles to reach a cartable road to come to this House of Parliament?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order.

**COUNCIL OF ADVISERS FOR MANIPUR AND TRIPURA**

\*1611. **Shri Rishang Keishing:** Will the Minister of States be pleased to refer to the reply to starred question No. 532 asked on the 5th June, 1952 and state:

(a) the approximate date when the Council of Advisers is likely to be appointed;

(b) what will be the number of members of the Council of Advisers; and

(c) the procedure to be followed in selecting the members of the Councils?

**The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju):** (a) to (c). All these matters are under very active consideration and Government hope to finalise these arrangements at a very early date.

**Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Is Government aware that all Members of the electoral college of Tripura including Congress Members have stated their objections against the appointment of an Advisory Council?

**Dr. Katju:** All these matters are under active consideration.

**LAND ARMY**

\*1612. **Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether *Bhumi Sena* or Land Army has been started under the Land Transformation Programme; and

(b) if so, on what basis the army has been composed?

**The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar):** (a) The State Governments and certain institutions have been requested to make a beginning in the formation of a Land Army for harnessing public interest for agricultural development and a few States have organised such Land Armies.

(b) The Land Army will consist of all classes of persons who are interested in the development of the villages

and are prepared to direct their enthusiasm to agricultural extension and development.

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** May I know, Sir, whether this army would be composed of volunteers or men paid for their services?

**Shri Karmarkar:** The conception is that the personnel of the land army will consist of official and non-official workers who are actually working on the extension in the districts, students of colleges, particularly agricultural colleges in the States, and public men including Members of Parliament and State Legislatures who will be willing to associate themselves with this activity.

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** May I know, Sir, what are the salient features of the ten year programme of land transformation under which the land army also is thought of?

**Shri Karmarkar:** I should like to have notice of it.

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** May I know, Sir, what is the target of production aimed at at the end of the ten year period?

**Shri Karmarkar:** I should like to have notice about it.

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** May I know, Sir, what is the exact nature of the activities of the land army?

**Shri Karmarkar:** The activities are agricultural in all ways.

**Shri Sarangadhar Das:** Will the Minister please tell us how many States have formed these armies, what their probable number is and how much work has already been done in reclaiming land?

**Shri Karmarkar:** I have information for seven States here: the unit organised by Delhi, the unit organised by the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, West Bengal State, Bombay State, Vindhya Pradesh, Bhopal State and Assam State. To begin with, the land army units which have not so far received any special training, have been assigned *ad hoc* by the authorities organising the units. In some places they have dug drains, constructed roads, planted trees, eradicated weeds and similar work relating to agricultural production.