

**Shri V. V. Giri:** I am not able to follow. The question is not clear.

**Mr. Speaker:** What is the question?

**Shri Punnoose:** What percentage of labour has got the benefit of the minimum wages?

**Shri V. V. Giri:** The industries have been mentioned in Part I of the Schedule attached to the enactment. If the hon. Member refers to that schedule he will know to what industries this Minimum Wages Act applies.

**Mr. Speaker:** The question is vague. To my mind the point is what is the percentage of people who have got the benefit as compared to the totality of the labour employed in the State.

**Shri V. V. Giri:** To those workers working in the particular industries referred to in Part I to all of them the benefits accrue.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** May I know how many States have so far implemented the provisions as regards Agricultural labour?

**Shri V. V. Giri:** Some of the States have implemented in part with regard to agricultural labour and we are persuading them to implement everywhere.

**Shri H. N. Shastri:** Are the Government aware that in certain States the Minimum Wages Act has been implemented to the detriment of labour with the result that even the existing wages have been drastically curtailed?

**Shri V. V. Giri:** The Government is going into that matter.

**Shri Venkataraman:** May I ask, Sir, whether there is any proposal before the Government to extend the time for implementing the minimum wages regarding agricultural labour?

#### INTERNATIONAL GRASS LAND CONGRESS

\*61. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether India was represented at the Sixth International Grass Land Congress held in Pennsylvania during August, 1952; and

(b) whether any decisions taken there were of special interest to India?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** Did our representative bring any seeds from U.S.A. for experiment here?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I do not think so. At least I do not know. He was not sent for bringing any seeds any way.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** In the Press interview that he gave an indication that he was taking those seeds to India. I want to know whether he did bring these seeds and whether any experiment has been made so far in growing those seeds?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I do not know Sir.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** Did he make any report to Government and has that been examined?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** The report has not yet come to my hands.

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** With reference to Part I what are the decisions that have been taken in that Congress?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** No decisions as such were taken. The Conference of Scientists working in different regions of the world gave very useful and valuable information on the methods of research carried on in other countries. The specific subjects were as follows:

Managements of pastures by seeding; application of fertilisers widely practised in the U.S.A.; mechanisation in the farm, and fourthly the development of seeds mixture for fodder grass and manure for pastures.

These were the various subjects that were discussed and very valuable information was given. It was also suggested that each country should have a national policy of grasslands which will include research, survey extension and management of grasslands.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** Have our Planning Commission recommended any policy for national grasslands for our country?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Not to my knowledge.

#### MESSRS. SCHLIEREN OF SWITZERLAND

\*62. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) what are the different forms of technical aid received so far by the Government of India from Messrs. Schlieren of Switzerland under the technical aid Agreement entered into with the firm;

(b) what is the total expenditure incurred on this account giving separate figures on each head;

(c) the number of all-metal light weight coaching stock received so far; and