

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Central Government in this regard ?

**THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) :** (a) and (b) About 1300 villages in Orissa are likely to face shortage of drinking water on account of drought conditions.

(c) No such project report has been received by the Ministry of Works and Housing. The Government of Orissa requested the Central Government to assist in obtaining ODEX attachment for existing rigs through UNICEF.

(d) The request was recommended to the United Nations International Children Emergency Fund and they have agreed to procure and supply these attachments to Government of Orissa on priority basis.

#### **Tripartite Committee to study the Hardships of Workers**

4757. **DR. G.S. RAJHANS :** Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal under the consideration of Government to constitute a tripartite committee to go into the hardships caused to workers due to lock-outs, sickness and closure of industries ; and

(b) if so, when the said committee is likely to be constituted ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) :** (a) and (b) In the meeting held with the workers' and the employers' organisations on the 9th and the 10th April, 1985, a suggestion to constitute a Tripartite Committee to look into the problems of the workers effected by sickness and closures in industry was discussed. No decision has been taken so far to constitute such a Committee by the Government.

#### **Review of Functioning of Fair Price Shops**

4758. **PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR :** Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any review has been undertaken by the Union Government on the functioning of the Fair Price Shops in the country during the past three years ;

(b) if so, the findings of the review ; and

(c) if not, whether any such review would be undertaken during the financial year 1985-86 and the likely date therefor ?

**THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) :** (a) to (c) The Union Government continuously reviews and monitors the functioning of the Public Distribution System in the country. The objective of such reviews is to see whether sufficient number of fair price shops have been opened in various State/Union Territories and whether consumers get satisfactory service from their allotted fair price shops. On the basis of such reviews, guidelines have been issued to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations from time to time during the last 3 years to improve the functioning of fair price shops by streamlining the system of supplies to them. Instructions have been issued to State Govts./U.T. Adms. that there should be no reason for complaints of 'stock outs' of essential commodities in fair price shops on some plea or the other. Their attention has also been drawn to the need of preventing cases of diversion of foodgrains from fair price shops to open market or their substitution by inferior quality of foodgrains through a system of regular inspections and strict supervision.

A periodical review of the working of the Public Distribution System of which proper functioning of Fair Price Shops is an essential aspect, is also made in the meeting of the Advisory Council on Public Distribution System under the Chairmanship of Union Minister for Food and Civil Supplies of which all Ministers of Food and Civil Supplies of States/Union Territories are members. Four such meetings were held during the past three years viz. on 19th May, 1983, 7th November, 1983, 26th May, 1984 and on 29th March, 1985. Since the review of the working of the Public Distribution System including the functioning of Fair Price Shops is a continuing process, it is not considered