

**Introduction of Mechanised Implements  
to improve Agricultural Production**

2381. SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to introduce mechanised implements to improve agricultural production;

(b) whether Government are aware that the cost of inputs is high and the selling price of the agricultural production is very low; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to fix a profitable price for the agricultural product by direct procurement from the agriculturists ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE ~~MINISTRY~~ OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Costs of production of inputs have increased due to increase in the cost of raw materials, manufacturing costs, etc. The support price for agricultural commodities is fixed by the Government taking into account the increases in the costs of production of inputs. Procurement is effected directly by public sector or cooperative agencies.

**Increase in Import of Fertilizers**

2382. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is sudden increase in the import of fertilizer during the last two years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). It is a fact that there has been an increase in the level of import of fertilizers during the years 1984-85 and 1985-86 (3.6 and 3.4 million tonnes of nutrients, respectively), as compared to previous years. During these two

years, import of large quantities was necessary to meet the gap between indigenous availability and farmers' demand for fertilizers. The current year's level of import will, however, be less than that of the last two years in view of higher anticipated indigenous production and stocks on hand.

[*Translation*]

**Amendment of Labour Laws**

2383. SHRI MADAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government are considering amendments to the labour laws most of which were enacted immediately after independence, to bring them in tune with the present changed conditions;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by what time this exercise will be finalised; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : a) to (c). Labour Laws are amended from time to time as and when the need arises. Several labour laws have already been amended, Amendments are also being contemplated to some other Labour Acts to make them meet current requirements. The exercise is a continuous and no final date for amendments of all Acts can be fixed.

[*English*]

**Protection of Labour against  
Exploitation**

2384. SHRI RAHIM KHAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether this ministry has information that since the introduction of the Contract Labour (Abolition and Regulation) Act, 1970 the employers have preferred to employ labour as contract labour even against the permanent perennial and essential nature of work and deprived the labour of the benefits of the Industrial Employment

(Standing Orders) Act, 1946 and Civil Service Rules as well as States Service Rules and the benefits of equal protection of laws under Article 14 of the Constitution;

(b) if so, the measures proposed to save the labour from exploitation and to provide them equal protection of law as envisaged in Article 14 of the Constitution; and

(c) if not, whether Government are planning to collect detailed reports from every State and how much time it will take ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c). The Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 does not envisage complete abolition of the contract labour system. The Act provide for the abolition of employment of contract labour in certain circumstances and for the regulation of employment of contract labour in other cases. According to Section 10 of the Act, the appropriate Government may, after consultation with the Central Board or, as the case may be, a State Board prohibit by Notification in the Official Gazette, employment of contract labour in any process, operation or other work which

is of perennial nature in any establishment. Under this provision, since the Act has come into force, the Central Government as well as various State Governments have abolished the contract labour system in various operations/jobs/processes. The Central Government has prohibited the employment of contract labour in certain jobs/operations in some industries as are given in the statement given below.

The employment of contract labour is not illegal unless such employment has been prohibited by the appropriate Government under the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act 1970. Government are committed to the abolition and regulation of contract labour system within the frame work of the provisions of the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970.

Inspections are conducted from time to time for the proper enforcement of the labour laws including the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 and the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946. Complaints about exploitation of workers are also looked into by the appropriate authorities.

#### Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the Industry	Nature of Job/Operation	Date of abolition
1	2	3	4
1.	Coal Mines	(i) Raising or raising-cum-selling of Coal; (ii) Coal loading and unloading; (iii) Soft coke manufacturing; (iv) Overburden removal and earth cutting; and (v) Driving of stone drifts and miscellaneous stone cutting underground.	1-2-1975
2.	Buildings	Sweeping, cleaning, dusting and watching of buildings owned or occupied by the establishments in respect of which the appropriate Government is the Central Government.	1-3-1977
3.	Iron Ore Mines	(i) Over-burden removal; (ii) Drilling and Blasting; (iii) Float ore operations;	10-5-1980

1	2	3	4
		(iv) Muck cleaning operations in crushing plants, screening plants and/or conveyor belts; and	} 28-5-1982
		(v) Wagon levelling operations	
4.	Limestone, Dolomite and Manganese Mines	(i) Over-burden removal; and (ii) Drilling and blasting	} 22-6-1980
5.	Coal Washeries	(i) Unloading of raw coal; (ii) Charging of magnetite; and (iii) Plant cleaning including removal slip-page waster, muck cleaning, magnetite removal etc.	} 25-7-1983
6.	Chromite Mines	(i) Overburden excavation and removal; (ii) Drilling and Blasting (iii) Raising of Ore; and (iv) Transportation of over-burden to dumps and Ore to stockind sites.	} 8-12-1984
7.	Magnesite Mines	(i) Over burden removal; (ii) Drilling and Blasting; and (iii) Raising of Minerals	} 8-12-1984
8.	Gypsum Mines	(i) Over burden removal; (ii) Mining-Raising of Mineral	} 8-12-1984
9.	Mica Mines	(i) Raising of Mica; (ii) Drilling and Blasting; (iii) Dewatering of mines; (iv) Muck removal; (v) Processing of Mica	} 8-12-1984

**'Technology Mission to Increase Production of Pulses'**

2385. SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Council of Agricultural Research has submitted a project on 'Technology Mission' to maximise production of pulses in the country to the Planning Commission for approval; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**News Item "ILO Suggests a Fund to Improve Labour Conditions"**

2386. DR. G.S. RAJHANS :  
SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA :  
DR. B.L. SHAILESH :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the International Labour Organisation has recently suggested to Union Government to constitute a fund to support activities of Government and non-Government agencies in making improvement of labour conditions;

(b) if so, the details of the suggestions of the International Labour Organisation and the reaction of Government thereto; and