

**Pilot Projects for Rice Production in  
Andhra Pradesh**

3877. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal under the consideration of Government for selection of some blocks in the State of Andhra Pradesh for taking up Pilot Projects for increasing the production of rice ;

(b) if so, details thereof during the first half of the Seventh Five Year Plan period ;

(c) the expected share of financial assistance to be provided by the Government of India for Special Rice Production Programme in that State ; and

(d) the time by which the project is expected to be started ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Question do not arise.

**Ineffective Modernisation of  
Bonded Labour**

3878. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether modernisation in terms of electrification, irrigation facilities and literacy rate had no positive effect on the reduction of bonded labour system in our country ; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) : (a) and (b). The system of bonded labour in India is an outcome of

rural indebtedness which has been prevailing for a long time involving certain economically exploited and weaker sections of the society. The system originated from the uneven social structure characterised by feudal and semi-feudal conditions. Bonded labourers constitute one of the weakest section of the rural poor. Since modernisation in terms of electrification, irrigation facilities and literacy has brought about overall development, this may have had some effect on the bonded labour system. However, no study in this regard has been made. The bonded labourers are mostly illiterate, landless, assetless and resourceless persons. The solution of the problem, therefore, should include removal of illiteracy, ignorance, poverty, landlessness and assetlessness among the rural poor and creating avenues of employment for them. A number of programmes have been included in the 20-Point Programme for ameliorating the lot of the rural poor.

**Construction of T.V. Centre at Porompat  
(Manipur)**

3879. PROF. MEIJINLUNG KAMSON : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) when the construction of the Television Centre at Porompat (Manipur) was started;

(b) the time by which it will be completed and commissioned; and

(c) the power and range of the transmitter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL) : (a) Site for setting up a TV Transmitter at Porompat in Imphal was made available to Doordarshan in May 1985. Action for construction of building and tower has been taken up.

(b) It is expected that the Centre shall be ready for operation in 1987.