

(b) if so, whether any arrest has been made in this connection and further steps taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHARAN SINGH): (a) and (b). According to information received from the Government of Bihar, on 19th June, 1977, about twenty to twenty-five landlords of village Pathada under Police Station Amarpur in District Bhagalpur went to the Harijan Toli and asked the Harijan labourers to come for work in their fields. The labourers had earlier stopped working as they were not being paid minimum wages. When the Harijans still refused to come for work unless minimum wages were paid, the landlords started beating the Harijans with lathis and dragged them out of their houses. They bound a few of them with ropes, took them round the village and forcibly took them to the local middle school, where they were detained and beaten. Eleven Harijans including five women sustained injuries as a result of the beating. The information of the incident was conveyed by the Vice President Kisan Sabha, Bhagalpur to the District Magistrate on 22-6-1977, who after getting preliminary inquiries made by two officials, visited the spot along with the Superintendent of Police, Bhagalpur and the Deputy Chief Medical Officer, Bhagalpur. The Deputy Chief Medical Officer found that the Harijans had been beaten mercilessly. It was also found that some belongings of the Harijans had been taken away by the landlords. A case under Section 143/341/364/307/324/452/323 and 120(B) IPC was registered on 24-6-1977 at the Police Station, Amarpur. Eighteen accused persons have been arrested out of the twenty two named in the FIR. One other accused has since surrendered in court. Warrants of attachment have been obtained against the remaining accused. Investigation of the case is in progress. The DIG (Harijan Cell) and the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Banka have also visited the spot.

2. Out of the 11 injured persons, 3 were admitted in Hospital at Banka,

but have since been discharged. Each of the injured persons has been given a grant of Rs. 100 by the District Magistrate towards medical expenses. All the Harijans of the village have been granted two weeks rations. A magistrate and a Police party have been deputed in the village for maintaining law and order and giving protection to the Harijans. The officer-in-charge, Amarpur Police Station has been transferred and suspended. The Assistant Sub-Inspector, Phulitumar Outpost has also been suspended. Disciplinary proceedings have been instituted against both of them.

Marketing of Tractors by H.M.T., Pinjore

5005. **SHRI G. NARSIMHA REDDY:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the nature of marketing arrangements made by the HMT, Pinjore for the sale of Zetor Tractors throughout the country during last 3 years; and the annual expenditure incurred for this purpose;

(b) the nature of marketing organisation involved in different regions and the areas for selling these tractors; and

(c) whether any complaints were received in recent days regarding poor quality and performance of this tractor, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b). During the last three years and over, MHT have been marketing their tractors through the State Agro Industries Corporation in different States, who were their exclusive dealers till 20-3-1977. Since 21-3-77, further marketing outlets have been provided by appointment of dealers mainly in northern region in addition to the State Agro. The expenditure in-

curring by HMT on marketing during the last three years has been as under:—

Year	Expenditure
1974-75	Rs. 37 lakhs
1975-76	Rs. 34 lakhs
1976-77	Rs. 32 lakhs

(c) Yes, Sir. The complaints related to defects in some components of the engine and transmission systems, mainly of tractors fitted with imported components. As a measure of improving quality control in production, it has been decided to obtain random samples of tractors manufactured by individual units in both the public and private sectors and carry out necessary tests at the Tractor Training & Testing Station, Budni.

Promotion of Class IV Employees to Class III Posts

5006, SHRI K. MALIANNA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of clerks who have completed more than 15 years service in the Central Secretariat Service;

(b) the number of Class IV employees in the Central Secretariat Service who have completed more than 15 years service;

(c) whether Government has considered the cases of Matriculate Class IV employees to promote them after rendering some period to the grade of Class III (clerks); and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHARAN SINGH):

(a) As the Central Secretariat Clerical Service was decentralised in 1962 and cadres are administered by the Ministries/Departments concerned, information, about the number of Clerks who have completed more than 15 years service is not available in the

Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms.

(b) There is no separate service for Class IV employees in the Central Secretariat. Each Ministry/Department/Office makes its own recruitment in accordance with the general orders issued by the Government. Therefore, no information about the number of Class IV employees who have completed more than 15 years of service is available in the Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms.

(c) and (d). Promotion from one grade to another is allowed only when there is a relation in the job contents of the two grades. There is no relationship in the job contents of the categories of Clerks and Class IV employees. Even so, with a view to providing an opportunity to the latter for advancing their career, 10 per cent of vacancies in the grade of Lower Division Clerk of the Central Secretariat Clerical Service are reserved for them. Vacancies in this quota are filled on the results of a competitive examination conducted by the Subordinate Services Commission which is restricted to Class IV employees in the Central Secretariat, who are matriculates, have rendered a minimum of five years approved and continuous service as a Class IV employee and are not more than 45 years of age. There was a demand from the Staff Side to treat such appointments as promotion. The matter is before a Committee of the National Council of the Joint Consultative Machinery.