

**International Agencies Forums Engaged
in Relief Measures for Refugees
from East Bengal**

5610. **SHRI R. S. PANDEY** : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state

(a) which are the International agencies/ Forums engaged in providing relief measures to the refugees coming from East Bengal ;

(b) whether U. S. Peace Corps are also making any contribution in this regard ;

(c) if so, the nature of the work being done by them ; and

(d) whether they are doing their work under the supervision of the Government authorities ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) to (d) The required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha shortly.

**Test Borings for Underground Water
Levels in Uttar Pradesh**

5611. **SHRI V. N. P. SINGH** : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have carried out test borings to ascertain underground water levels in chronically drought affected areas of Uttar Pradesh ; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHER SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Central Ground Water Board, under this Ministry has carried out test borings in the districts of Partapur, Azamgarh, Jaunpur, Ghazipur, Ballia, Mirzapur, Varanasi, Allahabad, Banda, Jalaun and Hamirpur of U. P. which are identified as drought-affected areas to ascertain presence of ground water in these areas.

(b) Does not arise.

**Recovery of Loans from Cooperative
Societies in Mysore**

5612. **SHRI K. LAKKAPPA** : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Mysore has taken steps to collect land revenue and other loans due from Cooperative Societies and Institutions from the weaker section of the Society ; and

(b) if so, how Government are going to help the weaker sections in the State after imposition of Presidents rule now ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA) : (a) and (b). Necessary information is being collected and on collection, will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

**Prevention of Cutting down of Cashew
Trees**

5613. **SHRI C. JANARDHANAN** : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have considered the need for preventing the cutting down of cashew trees for their timber in view of the Indian Cashew processing industry on imported raw nuts ;

(b) whether Government have any idea of the quantity of cashew wood used annually as (a) firewood (b) for packing case manufacture ; and

(c) if so what are the quantities for each item ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) No Sir. The Government have not considered the need for preventing cutting of cashew trees for timber since such cuttings are only to a very limited extent and mostly confined to uneconomic and old trees which have passed the stage of fruiting.

(b) It is understood that cashew trees are cut down for use as firewood and for the manufacture of packing cases.

(c) No information regarding the quantity of cashew wood used as firewood or manufacture of packing cases is available.

Views of State Agro-Industries Corporation on Agreement signed with G. D. R. regarding RS-09 tractors

5614. SHRI N. K. SANCHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Agro-Industries Corporations through whom GDR tractors were sold have expressed their displeasure about the terms of the agreement signed with GDR Government for return of defective RS-09 tractors ; and

(b) if so, the terms of the agreement, the points of displeasure of the State-Industries Corporations and the Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) and (b). While agreeing to the return of the modified RS-09 tractors, the various State Agro-Industries Corporations have also expressed their desire to return unmodified, tractors modified after 21.2.1971, unsold and cannibalised tractors, implements, tyres and tubes and spare parts. A high-level meeting was held on 8th June, 1971, to review the matter in the context of the terms of the Protocol. It was agreed that the Projects and Equipment Corporation may negotiate the above issues and also to extend the validity period of the Protocol for another three months, with the GDR Representatives. It was also agreed that a time-limit of 2-3 months should be fixed for the GDR Suppliers to make payment to the Corporations after all formalities were completed. The Projects and Equipment Corporation is, however, negotiating the various issues with the GDR Representatives and the outcome is awaited.

Enforcement of recommendation of Central Land Reform Committee to State Government on Protection of Bargadar right to cultivate Land

5615. SHRI GADADHAR SAHA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be

pleased to state whether the Central Government have issued instructions to the State Government of West Bengal to implement and enforce the recommendation of the Central Land Reform Committee and Central Government on the issue of Protection of Bargadar right to cultivate their land ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : As the law regulating the rights of bargadars in West Bengal was amended in 1971 by the enactment of a President's Act, the question of issuing instructions to the State Government by the Central Land Reforms Committee in this regard does not arise. By enactment of President's Act provisions have been made for :

- (i) ensuring complete security to every bargadar in respect of a minimum area ;
- (ii) making the right of the bargadar heritable ;
- (iii) increasing the bargadar's share of the produce from 60% to 75% where the bargadar supplies plough, cattle and other inputs ;
- (iv) transferring cases of appeal against decisions of the Bagchis Officers from Munsif Courts to Sub-Divisional Officers.

The term 'bargadar' has also been amplified to include share-croppers generally known as 'kisani'. Provision has also been made for preventing forcible eviction of bargadars by regulating surrenders and abandonments. The land owner is not permitted to resume cultivation of land which is at present cultivated by a bargadar except in accordance with the provision of the legislation. In case a bargadar surrenders or abandons his right of cultivation such land will be cultivated by another landless agriculturists who would be entitled to distribution of land under the West Bengal Land Reforms Act.