

(d) The Government of West Bengal have taken the following steps to meet their demands :

- (i) The pay scales of the employees of the Durgapur State Transport have been revised with retrospective effect from 1st April, 1970 to correspond to those applicable to the State Government servants;
- (ii) Sixty six flats for the staff of the Undertaking are under construction and there is a programme for building more flats;
- (iii) The question of ex-gratia payment in lieu of Bonus is under consideration;
- (iv) A Government Hospital at Durgapur is under construction. At present, two beds have been kept reserved at Raniganj Marwari Relief Society Hospital and arrangements exist for the treatment of six employees at the Bankura Government Hospital. The employees of the Durgapur State Transport, being Government employees, are getting medical allowance as admissible to other State Government employees.

**Development of Cropping Pattern by
Agriculture Scientists to Remove
Regional Disparities**

2019. SHRI P. GANGADEB : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have asked the Agricultural Scientists to develop cropping pattern in such a way that the regional disparities are removed ;

(b) if so, the suggestions made by the Agricultural Scientists; and

(c) how many suggestions have so far been implemented by Government ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI**

ANNASAHAB SHINDE) : (a) The Agricultural Scientists endeavour to develop cropping Patterns suitable for different regions which would reduce disparities in development.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT--1161/71]

Census of Landless Labour

2020. SHRI P. GANGADEB :
SHRI P.M. MEHTA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the hunger for land among the landless in India is growing despite talk of land reforms according to provisional 1971 Census Report ;

(b) if so, whether in States like Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal, the number of landless labourers continues to be high and has grown during the past decade ; and

(c) the reasons therefor and steps being taken in this regard ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI
ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE) :** (a) The provisional 1971 Census Report does not give the number of landless in India but it gives the number of agricultural labourers which includes landless as well as those who have some land to cultivate as owner or tenant but whose main activity is that of agricultural labour. However, the Government is aware of the problem of landless agricultural workers and are keen to alleviate their socio-economic conditions.

(b) As stated above, the Census data relates to agricultural labourers and not landless labourers as such. The number of agricultural labourers given in 1971 Census Report are not strictly comparable with those of 1961 since the definitions of worker

which were adopted in the two Censuses were different.

(c) As has been laid down in the Fourth Five Year Plan, where State Governments are in possession of cultivable waste lands or have come in possession of surplus lands, efforts are being made for the systematic redistribution and resettlement of lands and to extend credit and other facilities to allottees including landless agricultural workers to improve their lands. Tenancy reform measures by facilitating wider adoption of high-yielding varieties, intensive cultivation and multi-cropping measures, land to increasing employment opportunities for agricultural labour. Another indirect effect of conferment of security of tenure on tenants and share-croppers is a check on increase in the number of landless agricultural workers competing for the limited opportunities. These measures along with specific programmes for rural works and for ensuring minimum wages on the one hand and general economic development creating non-farm employment opportunities on the other, are expected to improve the condition of agricultural workers.

Suggestions made regarding development of roads at the Indian Roads Congress Seminar held at Srinagar in September, 1971

2021. SHRI P. GANGADEB :
SHRI P.M. MEHTA :

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Roads Congress Seminar was held at Srinagar in September, 1971;

(b) if so, what were the suggestions made in regard to the development of roads; and

(c) how far Government have agreed to these suggestions ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) to (c) Presumably the hon'ble Members

are having in mind the Seminar on Strengthening of existing Road Pavements organised by the Indian Roads Congress at Srinagar from the 31st August to 4th September 1971. It is understood that the recommendations of this Seminar will be examined in the first instance by the Executive Committee of the Indian Roads Congress and thereafter where they consider necessary, forward to the Government of India for their consideration with such other suggestions as the Executive Committee might like to make in the matter. No such reference has so far been received from the Indian Roads Congress.

Enforcement of Pharmacy Act

2022. SHRI P. GANGADEB : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether most States have failed so far to enforce Pharmacy Act?

(b) if so, what are the States where the provisions of the Pharmacy Act have been enforced;

(c) the States who have not done so far; and

(d) the action Government propose to take to see that those States enforce the Act immediately ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A.K. KISKU) : (a) to (c) The State Governments of Assam, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi have enforced all the provisions of the Pharmacy Act, 1948. A statement giving the detailed information in regard to enforcement of various provision of the Act by the State Governments is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in *Liberary See* No. LT-1162 171]

(b) It is for the State Governments to enforce the provisions of the Act. They will be requested to do so.

Central aid to Rajasthan for development of land affected by Saline-Alkaline problem

2023. SHRI R.S. PANDEY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :