

Ratio fixed for Distribution of Land to Landless Persons, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

1196. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the proportions fixed by Government while distributing the land to the landless persons and the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Backward Classes) and the Marginal land holders farmers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) The Government of India has not laid down any definite proportion. The State Governments had, however, been advised to show preference to landless labourers, particularly to members of Scheduled Castes and Tribes.

The Chief Ministers' Conference which was held on 23rd July, 1972, has decided that in the matter of distribution of surplus land priority should be given to the landless agricultural workers particularly those belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. This decision will be formally conveyed to all the State Governments as a guideline.

Rules for Workers Employed in Haldia Dock and Port

1197. SHRI MOHAMMAD ISMAIL : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of workers employed in the Haldia Dock and Port ;

(b) whether the workers are governed/regulated under the Dock Labour Board as per Act No. 9 of 1948 of the Dock workers (Regulation of Employment) Act 1948 ;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the rules governing workers at the anchorage of Haldia Dock are governed; and

(d) the requirement of employees category-wise on the commissioning of the Haldia Dock and Port ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) About 1700 persons are directly employed by the Calcutta Port Commissioner on the Haldia Dock Project.

(b) and (c). As the Haldia Dock system is still under construction, on workers are empl-

oyed at Haldia at present for loading and unloading of cargo. The question of extension of the Dock Workers (Regulation of Employment) Act, 1948 to the workers at Haldia, therefore, does not arise. When the lightening of food ships was undertaken at Haldia Anchorage in the past, work was carried on by stevedores who engaged local labour specially listed for the purpose by the Calcutta Dock Labour Board. With the starting of construction of the Dock Project, the work at the Anchorage has been almost nil.

(d) Manpower planning for Haldia has not yet been finalised. However, rough estimates indicate that about 3,600 men will be required to operate the Dock when it comes into commission.

Absorption of Labourers engaged in Construction of Dock and Port at Haldia

1191. SHRI MOHAMMAD ISMAIL : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the decision the Government have taken to absorb the existing labour force engaged in the construction of the Dock and Port at Haldia by the contractors under the Government; and

(b) how many of the existing workers are affected by eviction from land acquisitioned for the Haldia Project ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) All casual and temporary workers directly engaged by the Calcutta Port Commissioners for the Haldia Dock Project are proposed to be absorbed into regular posts in the various Departments for operation and maintenance of Haldia Docks, when put into commission, subject to their suitability and medical fitness. The workers engaged by the contractors in the construction of the Haldia Dock may also be considered by the Port Commissioners for filling other regular posts for Haldia Dock, when needed, if such employees are recommended by the Sutahata Employment Exchange of the State Government, subject to suitability and medical fitness.

(b) About 800 evictees from land acquired for Haldia Dock are employed directly by the Port Commissioners. Similar information about the number of evictees employed by the contractors is not available.