

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Purulia Pump Storage Hydroelectric Project (4x225 MW) is under construction in Purulia District of West Bengal by West Bengal State Electricity Board.

(b) The Purulia Pump Storage was cleared by Central Electricity Authority, on 15.3.1993. The environment and forest clearance for the project have also been received in October 1993 and the project was cleared by Planning Commission on 9.2.1994. The loan agreement has been signed by with OECF for 20520 Million Yen on 28.2.1995. 92% of land has been acquired. The infrastructure works at site are in progress since January 1996. The joint venture 'Purulia EPDC' Japan and Water and Power Consultancy Services, India have been appointed as the consultant for the project. Evaluations of pre-qualifying documents for main works and hydro-mechanical jobs are in progress. Pre-qualifying documents for electro-mechanical jobs has been issued.

(c) The latest estimated cost based on 1994 estimates is Rs. 3188.90 crores including Rs. 227.90 crores for interest during construction.

Implementation of Labour Law

4985. SHRI M. RAMANATHAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that some of the Delhi based Japanese Companies including Sumitomo Corporation and the Mutsui Corporation are not paying minimum wages to Indian Security guards and office boys/messengers employed by them;

(b) if so, the action taken against these companies to enforce the labour laws;

(c) whether the Japanese officers observe racial practice and discrimination against their Indian employees and pass derogatory and humilitary remarks against their Indian Employees only; and

(d) if so, the remedial action contemplated by the Government to safeguard the service interests and honour of the Indian workers in these companies?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d) Information is being collected from Labour Department, Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Punishment To D.D.A. Officials

4986. SHRI VISHVESHWAR BHAGAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether unauthorised constructions have been undertaken on DDA land with the connivance of many DDA officers and employees;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government in this connection; and

(c) the number of officers awarded punishment and the names thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Delhi Development Authority has reported that in some cases connivance on the part of DDA officials have come to its notice.

(b) and (c) According to Delhi Development Authority, on the basis of complaints received about unauthorised constructions and encroachments, investigations were carried out and action was taken against the defaulters. During the last four years Delhi Development Authority has taken following action against the defaulting officials :

1. Penalty of withholding of promotion for two years imposed :

Shri Raj Kumar, Patwari

2. Penalty of censure imposed :

(a) Shri Narain Swaroop, Naib Tehsildar

(b) Shri Gainda Lal, Kanoongo

(c) Shri Kulbir Singh, Patwari

(d) Shri Suresh Kumar, Patwari

3. Penalty of recovery of Rs. 2, 000/- imposed :

(a) Shri J.C. Sehgal, Naib Tehsildar

(b) Shri B.S. Jain, Patwari

4. Proceedings for major penalty initiated :

(a) Shri Satyabir Singh, Jt. Director

(b) Shri Aftab Iqbal, Dy. Director

(c) Shri S.S. Chopra Dy. Director

(d) Shri L.C. Rathi, Asstt. Director

(e) Shri R.D. Gupta, Asstt. Engineer

(f) Shri K.D. Gupta, Tehsildar

(g) Shri Om Prakash, Tehsildar

(h) Shri Satish Kumar, Tehsildar

(i) Shri Soran Singh, Tehsildar

(j) Shri Dinesh Kumar, Naib Tehsildar

(k) Shri J.C. Sehgal, Naib Tehsildar

(l) Shri Harshvardhan, Patwari

5. Proceedings for minor penalty initiated :

Shri P.K. Jain, Jr. Engineer

6. Officials placed under suspension :

- (a) Shri Satish Kumar, Tehsildar
- (b) Shri Soran Singh, Tehsildar
- (c) Shri Dinesh Kumar, Tehsildar
- (d) Shri Harshvardhan, Patwari
- (e) Shri Jai Parkash Verma, Kanoongo
- (f) Shri Mahinder Singh, Patwari
- (g) Shri Yog Raj Sharma, Asstt. Director
- (h) Shri Parag, Sectional Officer.

Clean Administration

4987 SHRI KASHI RAM RANA :
SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken fresh initiatives in its fight to curb corruption through formulating effective laws, policies and anti-corruption programmes with national and international cooperation,

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps proposed to enhance transparency and accountability in international business transactions and in public administration; and

(d) whether similar measures being taken in various States, have been reviewed recently for a sharper focus to deal with the problem more effectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (d) A conference of Chief Secretaries of States and Union Territories was held on 20.11.1966 to discuss the issues of making administration responsive, accountable and effective, cleansing the civil services and ensuring its adherence to constitutional principles. The Conference recommended, *inter alia*, that :

- (i) The approach to the elimination of corruption in the public service needs to address prevention, surveillance and deterrent prosecution and deal ruthlessly with the nexus between criminals and unscrupulous elements.
- (ii) It is necessary to introduce greater transparency and openness in the functioning of Government and public bodies. This would cover, for example, movement towards a Right to Information Act.
- (iii) Accountability should be interpreted in a larger sense in order to ensure public satisfaction and responsive delivery of services. For this purpose, a phased introduction of Citizens' Charter for as many service institutions as possible could be considered.

The recommendations of the Conference have been given wide publicity and are being followed up within the Central Government and with the State Governments for urgent processing.

Some of the steps initiated by the Government in the recent past are as follows:

- The Lokpal Bill has been introduced in Parliament.
- A Working Group on Right to Information and promotion of open and transparent Government was set up to examine, *inter alia*, the feasibility of right to information and to recommend measures for bringing about greater transparency and openness in functioning of Government agencies.
- The Government has decided to set up computerised facilitation counters near the Reception offices at Government buildings housing various Ministries/Departments.
- Steps have been initiated for formulation of Citizens' Charter by a number of Central Ministries and Departments with public interface.
- The Ministries/ Departments have been requested to review the regulatory and legal framework under their purview to see whether the regulations administered by them are serving the objectives for which they were framed and how these could be made citizen friendly.

Benefits to Beedi Workers

4988 SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether even one fourth of Bidi workers who had been issued identity cards by the Labour Department of Madhya Pradesh, are not getting the benefit thereof;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Union Government and State Governments for providing full benefit of Provident Fund to the Beedi Workers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) No Sir. In Madhya Pradesh 6,71,267 beedi workers have been issued identity cards out of an estimated 7,50,000 beedi workers. So far 4,16,628 beedi workers have received various kinds of benefits from the Welfare Fund.