

[English]

(v) Need to take steps for redressal of hardships of beedi workers of Kasargod and Cannanore districts of Kerala

SHRI M. RAMANNA RAI (Kasargod): In the industrially backward Kasargod and Cannanore districts of Kerala, large number of men and women depend on beedi rolling work for their livelihood.

In 1968 when the then Kerala Government decided to implement the Beedi and Cigar Act, the manufacturers who were having their offices in Karnataka left Kerala in protest. But the then Kerala Government organised workers into industrial Co-operative Societies and started manufacturing beedies—"Kerala Dinesh Beedies". In the initial stage it was able to give work to 3000 workers and by now the Society is giving work to more than 45,000 workers and the workers are getting work to more than 45,000 workers and the workers are getting all the benefits. They are getting Rs. 22.60 per thousand beedies.

The major employment giving trade in the industrially backward districts of Cannanore and Kasargod of Kerala, especially Kasargod is beedi rolling. In Kasargod there are more than 60,000 workers in the private management and in Cannanore about 50,000 workers are there. 75% of them are women.

Tobacco and Tendu leaves are the raw material required for manufacturing beedies which are imported from other states like Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh. The manufacturers are mainly from Karnataka and only man power is from Kerala.

The minimum wage including D.A. is Rs. 22.60 per thousand beedies declared in Kerala Dinesh beedi and other companies having their offices in Kerala are paying at this rate. The Karnataka based companies refuse to pay at this rate

On the whole the condition of the work-

ers is most pitiable. They are not getting minimum wages nor full time work. I, therefore, urge the Government of India to take steps for the redressal of the hardships of said Beedi rolling labourers.

(vi) Need for construction of tubewells instead of wells under Jivan Dhara Scheme

SHRI PRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT (Baroda): The Government of India has introduced Jivan Dhara Scheme for providing wells to the small and marginal farmers of Scheduled Castes and Tribes, enlisted under Integrated Rural Development Scheme. The small and marginal farmers of SC/ST who are enlisted under Integrated Rural Development Scheme having no irrigation facilities can get the advantage of the Scheme, provided they have not been recipients of such small irrigation facilities in the past under IRDP & SMF Programme. These facilities can only be availed for wells not for bore wells/tube wells. The Government has made the Scheme liberal, if water source is not available through well, the bore well can be projected under this open well.

6" diameter bore well can be constructed in Baroda District instead of wells suggested in Jivan Dhara Scheme by the NABARD. As per the Geological Survey data of this district, this type of bore is feasible. Due to rocky area, no pipe is required for Tube Well. Pipe is required only upto the overburdened stage. Hence tubewell may be allowed to be undertaken in this District.

Sir, I suggest that Union Government may accord necessary sanction for constructing the tube wells in this district instead of wells under Jivan Dhara Scheme.

[Translation]

(vii) Need to provide drinking water in villages and towns at Ahmedabad

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA (Dhandhuka): In Gujarat, there is acute scarcity of drinking water in Dhandhuka,