

[Sh. Madan Pandey]

Standing Committee on Agricultural Labourers, held in May, 1975, a recommendation was made to enact a Central law. In the special convention of Unorganised Rural Labourers held in 1978, demand was made that in order to safeguard the interests of agricultural labourers, framing of an extensive central law be considered. With a view to studying the problems and giving suggestions to the Government in this regard, a Standing Central Committee on rural unorganised labourers was constituted in September 1978, but later on it was dissolved. The sub-committee of the Central Committee prepared a draft bill for the agricultural labourers, which was considered in Labour Ministers Conference in 1981, but as no final decision was reached, a working group was constituted. That group also failed to reach to any unanimous decision. In September 1982, the Ministry of Labour advised the State Governments to make laws in consonant with the local situation so as to safeguard the interests of the agricultural labourers. In pursuance of this advice, Tripura Government enacted a law in 1986. Except Tripura and Kerala, no other State Government has made any law in this regard, though the number of such agricultural labourers, including the marginal farmers, in the country is about 16 crores. Last year, after having visited eight States, the sub-group of Labour Advisory Committee unanimously made recommendations to enact a Central law.

Therefore, I demand from the hon. Minister of Law that the Central Government should enact a law in regard to agricultural labourers as early as possible to safeguard their interests.

[English]

- (iii) **Need to construct the building of Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bhanjanagar (Orissa) and also implement the training scheme meant for cultivations**

SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska): Sir, though the Krishi Vigyan Kendra at Bhanjan-

agar in Orissa was established more than two years back, no training worth the name is imparted to the cultivators of the area. Although the Revenue Department has given land for the construction of the buildings, and there are road communications to the site too, construction of the building has not yet been taken up. Two years have already passed out of the 5 years period in which, the programme is to be implemented. I, therefore, urge upon the Union Agriculture Minister, to start the construction of building immediately and implement the scheme in right earnest.

- (iv) **Need to expedite sanction to the Wasteland Development Project in Indira Gandhi Canal area**

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer): Sir, in a meeting presided over by Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India on 20th April 1987 it was decided that National Wasteland Development Board would finance a wasteland development project in Indira Gandhi Canal area. Accordingly, a project amounting to Rs. 12 crores was prepared and sent to N.W.D.B. in May, 1987.

The project envisaged afforestation, pasture development and sand dune stabilisation over 25000 hectares in Indira Gandhi Nehar Project area at an estimated cost of Rs. 12 crores.

National Wasteland Development Board asked the Rajasthan Government for certain clarifications which have also been sent to them in June, 1988. Sanction of the project has not been received so far.

It is, therefore, requested that the Union Government may expedite sanction so that work on the project may be started on war footing.

- (v) **Need to take suitable measures for development of agriculture in Orissa**

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, considering the