

their subscription for at least three months during the period of six months immediately preceding the reckoning.

- (3) A union may claim to be recognised as a representative union for an industry in a local area if it has a membership of at least 25% of the workers of that industry in that area.
- (4) When a union has been recognised, there should be no change in its position for a period of two years.
- (5) Where there are several unions in an industry or establishment, the one with the largest membership should be recognised.
- (6) A representative union for an industry in an area should have the right to represent the workers in all the establishments in the industry, but if a union of workers in a particular establishment has a membership of 50% or more of the workers of that establishment it should have the right to deal with matters purely local interest such as, for instance, the handling of grievances pertaining to its own members. All other workers who are not members of that union might either operate through the representative union for the industry or seek redress directly.
- (7) In the case of trade Union federations which are not affiliated to any of the four central organisations of labour, the question of recognition would have to be dealt with separately.
- (8) Only unions which observed the Code of Discipline would be en-

titled to recognition.

### **Scheduled Caste Status to Christian Dalits**

**453. SHRI RAMESHWAR PRASAD:**  
Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for denying the Scheduled Caste status to the christian dalits even though they are as much oppressed as New-Baudh dalits are;

(b) whether Government have any proposal to extend Scheduled Caste status to the christian dalits; and

(c) if so, the details thereof;

**THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN):**  
(a) According to the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950 amended upto date "no person who professes a religion different from the Hindu, the Sikh or the Buddhist religion shall be deemed to be a member of Scheduled Caste". In view of this Christian converts cannot be treated at par with Neo-Buddhists.

(b) and (c). Further action, if any, could be taken only after examining all the issues involved.

[English]

### **River Water Share for Punjab**

**454. SHRIMATIBIMAL KAURKHALSA:**  
Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of river water available to Punjab before the reorganisation of the State of Punjab in 1966;

(b) the details of the availability of water