

this behalf; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN):

(a) The percentage of women farm labour in India excluding Assam is 37.42 according to 1981 Census.

(b) State Government have been advised to enforce minimum wages in agricultural occupations and periodically revise the same. Besides, various schemes are being implemented under anti-poverty programme such as IRDP and Jawahar Rozgar Yojna which are aimed at ameliorating the lot of the poorest section of the community which include the bulk of agriculturual labour includingn women farm labour.

(c) There is not such proposal before the Government.

(d) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Manufacturing of Catechu

8916. SHRI SANTOSH KUAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether adulterate Catechu is being manufactured in the country; and

(d) if so, its, effect on health and the action proposed to be taken to check it?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). Samples of various articles of food including Catechu are regularly drawn by the States/Union Territories from various manufacturers/distributors and dealers under the povisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act,

1954 and the rules made thereunder.

On analysis, if a sample is found adulterated on any account, appropriate legal action is taken against the offenders.

Harmful effects on human body due to consumption of adulterated catechu depends upon the quainty and type of adulteration.

[*English*]

Demands Accepted on the Eve of Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar's Birth Centenary

8917. SHRI VAMANRAO MAHADIK: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether on the eve of late Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar's Birth Centenary Government have decide to accept some demands of the people;

(b) if so, the details of the demands accepted and how these are going to be implemented; and

(c) whether the benefits will be awarded on the caste recognition or on the basis of economic slab (Income Group)?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN):

(a) to (c). Government have decided to observe Baba Saheb Dr. B.R. Ambedkhar's birth Centenary from 14th April, 1990 to 14th April, 1991 in a befitting manner.

Government is finalising various programmes which would be appropriately implemented during the Centenary Celebrations.

Liquor Advertisement in Newspapers

8918. SHRI A. VJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the indirect methods by which liquor advertisements are carried in newspapers;

(b) whether liquor advertisements are indirectly given in the name of soda and snacks;

(c) whether guidelines regarding such advertisements are not followed strictly; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to stop such practices?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid in the House.

New Transport System in Cities

8919. SHRI PRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government is considering the proposal to make partly over-ground and partly under-ground system on railways in a number of States;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted in his regard;

(c) to what extent Government propose to introduce these new systems of transport in various cities, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) As on date only two systems namely the Calcutta Metro System and the Madras metropolitan Transport system are under construction. A portion of the Calcutta metro system which is mostly underground has already become operational. The Madras mass rapid transport system has both the elevated and at-grade components.

(b) Some of the State Governments and local bodies have got feasibility study reports prepared, for introducing mass rapid transport systems in their cities. For example, cities like Bangalore, Hyderabad, Secundrabad, Ahmedabad etc. have been taken up for such studies, in addition of the Calcutta Metro Railway from Tollyganj to Garia and the extension of the Madras Beach-Luz line from Luz to Taramani and from Taramani to Villivakkam.

(c) Since the mass rapid transport systems are highly capital intensive, the implementation of such systems require participation from the Government of India, State Governments and local bodies. Depending upon the availability of resources with the various agencies including the Government of India, depending upon the urgency and priority these schemes would be considered at appropriate time by State Governments. Also the implementation would depend upon the allocation of funds for urban transportation projects during the Eight Five Year Plan.

[*Translation*]

Irrigation Facilities to Backward and neglected Districts

8920. SHRI RAM SAJIWAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Working Group constituted by the Planning Commission has submitted any interim report about providing irrigation facilities to the backward and neglected districts of Bundelkhand region in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if not, whether the group is likely to be asked to do so immediately?