

Government is constructing so many houses for low income group, middle income group people and the weaker sections of the society. So far as I think the remedy of this problem lies in bringing a legislation on ceiling of urban property. So, if the Government is really interested to solve this problem may I know whether Government is bringing forward any legislation to put a ceiling on urban property?

[*Translation*]

SHRI DALBIR SINGH : Due consideration will be paid to the suggestion given by hon. Member. The Government makes announcements for the economically weaker sections from time to time and fulfills them too.

[*English*]

SHRI CHINTA MOHAN : The Minister in his reply has said that they undertake regular check-ups and spot inspections. I would, however, like to bring to his notice that in the Kashmiri Gate area, about 30,000 slum dwellers and labourers sleep on the pavements by paying Rs. 2 per day to the DDA officials. What concrete and specific action, do the Government propose to take to help these poor people?

[*Translation*]

SHRI DALBIR SINGH : This problem is not confined to Kashmere Gate alone, this is being faced everywhere and we admit it and we are paying proper attention to it. D.D.A. and our Department are dealing with this problem.

MR. SPEAKER : The foreign countries are adopting the latest technique under which houses can be constructed speedily. Why don't you adopt that technique? It will be cheaper too.

[*English*]

Are you contemplating something like that? By that, construction can be stepped up.

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOR):

You are right, Sir. Tenders for the construction of 12,000 houses have been invited and a high power committee for this purpose has also been constituted which is considering the construction of pre-fabricated houses speedily, as stated by you. The tenders are expected to be finalized within a week's time and the work is being entrusted to the big builders like N.B.O., C.P.W.D., etc. Not only this, after the tender is accepted, we shall invite those also who have not filled up the tender because the problem of housing is a gigantic problem.

MR. SPEAKER : I have seen in other countries that very good houses are constructed through this technique.

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOR : Yes, Sir, we are taking steps in that very direction.

Recruiting agents under Emigration Act

*415. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether after enforcement of the Emigration Act, 1983 Government published a directory of the registered recruiting agents; and

(b) the number of recruiting agents registered for carrying on the business of recruitment of Indian workers for the purpose of employment in foreign countries who were found guilty of entrapping people in their clutches and exploiting them after the enforcement of this Act?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Directory of registered recruiting agents (in two volumes) has been published and the same has been placed in the Library of the House.

(b) Irregularities such as forgery of papers, substitution of contracts, extraction of money, forgery of visa, recruitment without proper documents, etc. were noticed to have been committed by 22 registered agents. In accordance with the provisions of the Act, registration certificates have

been suspended in 20 cases and in two cases the certificates have been cancelled. As soon as irregularities are noticed, the matter is taken up with the police authorities, Indian Missions abroad and also with the parties concerned.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I invite your particular attention to the reply given to part (b) of the question which reads :

[*English*]

“Irregularities such as forgery of papers, substitution of contracts, extraction of money, forgery of visa, recruitment without proper documents etc. were noticed.”

Are these irregularities? These are illegalities and not irregularities. Let the Minister tell this House, whether these are irregularities or illegalities?

[*Translation*]

I do not know what reply has been prepared by the Secretary.

MR. SPEAKER : Do you think that the Secretary has prepared the reply and not the hon. Minister?

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : I did not say so. Whatever work the hon. Minister does is good, but he simply reads out the reply handed over to him for he is a disciplined and nice man. Are these irregularities or offences?

[*English*]

These are offences committed by these people and you say that these are irregularities.

[*Translation*]

I have not received reply to my question.

MR. SPEAKER : First you get reply to that point.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : All right. The Agriculture Minister is giving

assistance. You should endeavour to grow more food.

MR. SPEAKER : There also, the labour is needed.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : I had asked as to when the Directory was compiled by you. At the same time, I had also asked the number of recruiting agents who were awarded punishment and those who were challaned for entrapping people in their clutches and extracting money from them, committing excesses and indulging in exploitation of those people? This was my question and you kindly reply to it. If you are unable to reply to it today, you can do so later on.

MR. SPEAKER : That is enough.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, will you not give me protection?

[*English*]

SHRI P. A. SANGMA ; Sir, this word ‘irregularity’ has been used because unless we inquire into the allegations and unless it is proved beyond reasonable doubt, we cannot call it ‘illegal’. That is why the word ‘irregularities’ is deliberately used. This is so far as the registered firms are concerned. As far as the specific question that the hon. member has put regarding the number of individuals, as on 30.6.1985 (which is the only figure I have got), 223 complaints have been received against individuals, out of which 204 have already been acted upon.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : You have already answered earlier on 23rd August, 1985 that 143 recruiting agencies are under inquiry since the enforcement of the Emigration Act, 1983. 1008 recruiting agencies have been registered so far and inquiry is held when serious complaints are received.

[*Translation*]

In reply to a supplementary, you had given an answer that since 30.12.83, 143 cases had been registered under this Act. It is now more than two years, please tell me what happened to those cases.

(*Interruptions*)

This has been published in *Hindustan Times*.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Dagaji, you put your question.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : I want to know what has been the result of inquiry instituted against 143 Recruiting Agents since 30.12.83?

MR. SPEAKER : You have put the question, let him reply now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : You will simply say that you have already put the second supplementary, and I know the mind of your goodself, you are always kind to treasury benches.

[English]

Over one thousand cases of fraud and cheating have been registered for the past 3 years against recruiting agencies who have been exploiting innocent and illiterate labourers seeking jobs abroad, mostly in the Gulf countries and the details of these things have appear in '*Hindustan Times*', dt. 27.10.1984.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : The House is of the view that I am, particularly, more kind of Shri Dagaji. They are saying why don't you stop him. What should I do? Whom should I accept as right—you or them?

(Interruptions)

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : It is your kindness that I am asking the question.

(Interruptions)

You are talking about thousands of people.

[English]

Where are those cases pending?

[Translation]

Who are the people whom you have awarded imprisonment. What has been

the progress of the inquiry that is going on for the last two years?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The question itself is lost. What can I do to help Dagaji ?

SHRI P.A. SANGMA : Sir, the hon. members should go by the figure which I have furnished to the hon. House and not by what has appeared in the '*Hindustan Times*'. I stand by the figure that I gave to the House and not by what has appeared in the '*Hindustan Times*'. The hon. member has asked about the results of these investigations. I can only say that investigations are in progress.

AN HON. MEMBER : For the last three years.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Sir, when permission was given to the recruiting agencies to recruit labourers to be sent abroad, one of the conditions is that they cannot recruit the workers through sub-agents,

Is there any information with the Government that some of these recruiting agencies have engaged sub-contractors, collected huge amounts and some of them were sent abroad and some were not? So what action the Government is going to take against them ?

MR. SPEAKER : And ask them why this delay of three years also? Why didn't you ask that question ?

SHRI P.A. SANGMA : There are construction agencies who have their own construction projects overseas. They used to recruit their manpower through sub-agencies which are not registered with us and because, they are not registered with us, some of the workers were cheated. These were brought to our notice and the hon. Member had himself brought one case to our notice. We have now decided and we have banned the recruitment by those agencies through sub-agencies

AN. HON. MEMBER : Why there is three years' delay ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: May I know from the hon. Minister, in view of the policy of the Government of India today to treat such kind of elements like the labour students and other activity workers engaged in various fields as a part of the human resources and the entire scheme in terms of sending them to Gulf areas and to help them to get jobs, etc. which is a partial export of human resources, whether the Government is receiving complaints year after year about the fraud, cheating, etc. Mr. Speaker, Sir, in my constituency, nurses were recruited in the Gulf countries. Ten were recruited by sub-agents and five were not deported back at all. They were sold somewhere for immoral traffic.

Now, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, in view of that, whether the Government will totally abolish this system and should appoint a sort of National agency, monitored by the Government itself to channelise the whole system to send people abroad for partial or casual employment to these countries? That is precisely my point.

SHRI P.A. SANGMA : Sir, we are aware of these problems and in fact, in future our attempt is to have the export of manpower from the Government to Government basis. We have a written agreement with the Government of Qatar. We are also negotiating with other countries and once we reach a bilateral agreement, these Governments will place the requirements with the Government and unless the importing countries agree, we cannot impose on them. That is my answer.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: How does this bilateral agreement come into the picture?

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.A. SANGMA : I am coming to that point. Therefore, once this comes to us we will give it to the State Government Corporations. We have these six State Government Corporations all over the country at the moment in Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Punjab, Hariana and Orissa. So, we will in future try to channelise export of our manpower

through the State Government Corporations.

MR. SPEAKER : It is all right now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SARAT DEB : I want to ask you what is the difficulty in formulating a national agency?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : They want to have a national agency. Can you do something about it?

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.A. SANGMA : I will be very frank. It appears to be a very good idea to have a national agency for the export of manpower. But export is such a thing, and due to my background in the Commerce Ministry, I can say something about that. This exporting business is not an easy job. One has to take lot of initiatives. One has to have lot of contacts outside. And it is not such an easy job. Therefore, we just want to experiment first.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I would like to say this. I am also very much seized of the situation. I will like Shri Sangma to take some more active steps regarding this problem. Otherwise, it will be too late before we do something about it. There is a couplet in Urdu.

*"Mana ke tagaful na karoge lekin.
Khak ho jayenge hum tumko khabar
hone tak."*

It is something which has to be tackled on a war footing. There are some complaints to me also, and I have sent them to various agencies. These people are being defrauded to the extent of lakhs of rupees. Poor and innocent people sell their land; they come and get cheated. There has to be some action on a war footing, to take care of this.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: Thank you, Sir.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I know. We shall have a half-an-hour discussion. We shall have a discussion on this. (*Interruptions*) I will have a discussion on it. This needs some more probing. I think Mr Sangma is an energetic man. He will look into it with his full energy.

Now Question No. 416—Mr. Yashwantrao Gadakh Patil is not present. Next question—Mr. Banwari Lal Bairwa.

[*Translation*]

Consultancy and other services rendered by National Buildings Organisation

*417. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIKWA : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of designs available with the National Building Organisation for the construction of houses in urban areas as well as in rural areas;

(b) whether Government agencies like the Delhi Development Authority/CPWD etc. obtain models, designs etc. of houses or take some other help from the N.B.O.;

(c) whether the programmes of the N.B.O. are to be confined only to rural areas; and

(d) the organisations/bodies to whom the N.B.O. has rendered consultancy or other kind of services during the last ten years and what remuneration was received by it in lieu thereof ?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) 166 different designs of houses for urban areas and 81 different designs of low cost houses for rural areas are available with the National Buildings Organisation.

(b) N.B.O. being a research support organisation in the field of low cost housing and building technology, its advice is sought by Government agencies whenever

felt necessary.

(c) The programmes of the National Buildings Organisation cover both rural and urban areas.

(d) The National Buildings Organisation does not take up consultancy work. It provides technical advice and guidance free of charge.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIKWA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in his reply, the hon. Minister has stated that the N.B.O. has prepared 247 designs of houses. I would like to know from the hon. Minister the number of designs the Central Government have recommended to the State Government of Rajasthan, how many of them have been used by the State Government and to what extent they have been successful or unsuccessful ?

Sir, my second supplementary is whether the hon. Minister has got a survey conducted as to how many people are working in construction industry permanently and temporarily separately. It is a type of industry where maximum number of workers are employed. Also what would be the design of the houses for those workers who undertake construction work in their own villages in the wake of natural calamities like drought and flood.

SHRI DALBIR SINGH : Hon. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has been informed about the number of designs N.B.O. has recommended for Rajasthan. So far as our new technology is concerned, N.B.O. conducts research from time to time and suggests what type of low cost houses can be constructed whether it is in rural areas or in urban areas. For this purpose, the N.B.O. has produced a documentary film last month in regional languages which educates the people, whether they are in urban areas or in rural areas, about the technique to be adopted for constructing durable houses at low cost. N.B.O. has covered under its research not only ecology and weather but also the natural surroundings obtaining in a particular area and it tells the people how cheap and durable houses can be built. As regards the hon. Member's