

be not necessary? On what basis has the Food Corporation of India come to that conclusion?

SHRI D.L.BHATIA: I have already stated that because our stock level has now depleted land because there is very small stock at places therefore, dehiring had to be done. Hiring of godowns and paying the rent, without any stock to keep, will be a loss to the Government. This is the reason for dehiring.

SHRI E.AYAPU REDDY: It only shows that there is no proper planning on the part of the Food Corporation of India.

MR. SPEAKER: How can they anticipate it?

[*Translation*]

SHRI D.L.BAITHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the off-take was not upto this extent earlier. But, this year due to severe drought and floods, there is so much lifting that the stock level has depleted. This is the reason for dehiring

[*English*]

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: May I know from the Hon. Minister that in view of the deficiency of godowns and for want of the godowns with the FCI and the Government, they are giving lot of amounts hire charges to private persons and also in many areas some foodstuffs are also going waste. What is the programme of the Government so that the requirement of the Seventh Plan to store the foodstuffs may be built up and godowns may not be hired by the Government? What is the programme before the Government for the construction of godowns, how many godowns are under construction and how many are to be constructed and completed by the Seventh Plan period.

[*Translation*]

SHRI D.L.BAITHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, one of our programmes is that the godowns are constructed by the F.C.I. where such a necessity is felt by the F.C.I. Besides, C.W.C. and S.W.C. also undertake construction work of the godowns. We also hire godowns at places where none of these agencies exist. We hire godowns there for a immediate need. It is not economically viable to construct godowns at such places. We hire for the immediate need.

[*English*]

Restructuring of Rural Development programmes

*1015. SHRI T.BASHEER: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to restructure the Rural Development Programmes viz. National Rural Employment Programme, Integrated Rural Development Programme and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) and (b). Review and restructuring of Rural Development Programmes is a continuous process and improvements in the programme content or its operational aspects are attempted from time to time based on field experience.

SHRI T. BASHEER: That is all right. I would like to know what effective steps Government propose to monitor to implement these programmes.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Every month, the Government is receiving reports from the State Government and we are monitoring it from here and if there are any deficiencies, we are bringing it to their notice for effective implementation and we have clearly stated to the State Governments that if there are any deficiencies and if they do not perform in an effective manner, then their further release of resources from the Central Government will adversely affect.

SHRI T.BASHEER: Sir, I have gone through a report yesterday that some of the States in general and especially the Kerala State in particular are diverting this amount for some other purposes because of the financial crisis existing in the State. So, I would like to know the reaction of the Government in this regard. Secondly, if any of the State Governments are diverting this amount for other purposes, in that event what steps the Government of India propose to take?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: The resources are deployed for particular purposes and particular programmes. If the State Governments are going to divert or if the State Government are going to give any other different names, then the resources made available to those programmes will be stopped and the resources will not be given for diverting the funds.

SHRI T.BASHEER: I would like to know specifically whether the State Government of Kerala has diverted the funds and whether it has come to the notice of the Government. If so, what is the reaction?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: We have been receiving complaints from some States that the States are deploying the funds for different purposes and we are also making an inquiry about this. If it is found to be true, then, definitely, the amount will not

be made available for diversification.

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): I would like to make the position clear. As regards the funds allocated to Kerala the percentage of utilization by them is comparatively less than that of the other States. They might have effected savings. The utilization by the other States is more than 100 % whereas the utilization by Kerala is 68.78% out of the allocation made to them. We will get the matter examined and take care to see that funds are not diverted to other purposes.

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI: The objectives of the Government behind the implementation of rural development programmes are the generation of employment potential, the durability and the utility of the works being undertaken. But the problem is that the agencies which are entrusted with these works are also engaged for monitoring purposes. The houses constructed under R.L.E.G.P. collapse within four months of their construction. As regards construction of dams, payment for 18 metres is made whereas the construction completed is only 4 metres. The wheat supplied for the labourers is sold in the market. This is known all the Hon. **Members of this august House.** I want to know if the Hon. Minister will take steps to check such malpractices.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: It is true that the rural development programmes have got twin objectives. One Objective is creation of assets and another objective is the creation of employments. If there are any specific instances brought to the notice of the Government, definitely we are going to look into that. We will monitor from here and I would take personal interest in seeing that these programmes are implemented very effectively.

SHRI ANIL BASU: Sir, the Minimum Needs Programme is one of the most important programme in the rural sector. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister that whether it is a fact that the funds allocated for Minimum Needs Programme in the Seventh Plan Period have not been made available to the State Governments for the implementation of the Minimum Needs Programme. Is it also a fact that only 33 per cent of the funds has been allocated so far? If so, what is the reason behind it? How the Government will fulfill its target during the Seventh Plan Period in respect of the Minimum Needs Programme?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: So far as the Central Government is concerned, the Central fund is made available. But, unfortunately, in the case of some of the States - I do not want to mention specifically - whenever we have made available the funds under NREP, RLEGP, and even for the Rural Water Supply Schemes, the State Governments have not utilised and I have brought it to the notice of the State Governments particularly some of the Opposition-ruled States. I do not want to mention the names now...(*Interruptions*) So far as the Central Government is concerned, the Central Government has made available funds, whether it is under MNP or RLEGP or under NREP.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Amendment of Trade Unions Act

*1000 **SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA:** Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to bring forward an amendment to the Trade Unions

Act, 1926 to improve the industrial relations; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Proposed amendments include, *inter alia*, increase in the minimum membership for registration of a trade union, further restriction on the number of office-bearers from among non-workmen, increase in the payment of subscription by members of trade unions, debarring Ministers from becoming office-bearers of trade unions etc.

Slag Based Cement Plants by SAIL

*1002. **SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India has taken steps to set up some slag based cement plants in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of the States where such plants are proposed to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L.FOTEDAR): (a) to (c) A Statement is given balance

STATEMENT

(a) to (c) In October, 1987, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed by Steel Authority of India Limited with Bihar State Industrial Development Corporation and M/s. Orient Paper Industries Limited for setting up a slag based cement plant in Bihar based on slag available from Bokaro Steel Plant. This plant would initially have an installed