

mittee, average rural labour wage for men is Rs. 3.26 per day and for women is Rs. 2.28 per day and also that 55 per cent of their households are in debt and average debt per household is Rs. 605;

(b) if so, Government's reaction to the conditions of rural labour and specially towards discrimination in payment of wages to women as viewed under provision of Article 39 (d) of the Constitution;

(c) the State-wise estimated number of such households as are under debt; and

(d) the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) Yes Sir. However, the report of the Rural Labour Enquiry (1974-75) refers to 'earnings' and not "wages".

(b) The minimum wages notified by Government are the same for men and women. The need for revision of minimum wages more frequently and their effective enforcement has been stressed on the State Governments.

(c) The number of rural labour households all over the country was 24.8 million in 1974-75. Sixty five per cent households are reportedly under debt. State-wise break-up is not readily available.

(d) Various agencies of the State Governments and the Central Government are involved in the efforts to improve the lot of rural workers. The Sixth Five Year Plan is designed to provide further impetus to these efforts.

#### Hardships of Chakma Buddhist tribals

\*813. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a memorandum has been submitted by the leaders of Chakma Buddhist tribals of Mizoram regarding the hardships experienced by them in

Lunglei region in the first week of March, 1981;

(b) if so, the main demands contained in the memorandum;

(c) whether Government have examined them;

(d) if so, the action taken on these demands; and

(e) if not, the time by which the demands would be examined and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) to (e). Statement indicating main points of the representation submitted on behalf of Chakmas of Mizoram in March, 1981, is laid on the Table of the House.

The matter has been taken up with the Government of Mizoram.

#### Statement

##### Main demands of Chakmas of Mizoram

(I) Integration of all Chakma inhabited areas of Mizoram under the jurisdiction of one District Council for providing the Chakmas a safeguard against domination by the Mizo majority.

(II) Discrimination against the Chakmas by the majority tribe in the developmental fields like education, employment, medical facilities and communication should be removed.

(III) Revocation of the order constituting Dampa Wild Life Sanctuary and the order reserving Chakma inhabited areas for forest plantation for ensuring availability of adequate cultivable land for Chakmas and for retaining their cultural identity.

(IV) Recognition of Chakma areas as "Most Backward Zone".

(V) Allotment of Pattas in the areas where wet rice cultivation is being carried out.