

I have said in the main part of the Question, that there is no such thing.

It may be in their exploratory talks, the talk amongst themselves, but they have not said anything formally to us. The point is whenever they meet in their Council of Ministers of European Economic Community, they think of many things. They think of standards much more than for themselves; that, we do not know. In this particular case I have said in reply to the main part of the question that in the exploratory talks they talked among themselves but nothing was formally told to us. Therefore, we cannot say anything on presumption. As regards such part of the question which is relevant to me, that is, about the Conventions—that also, not directly on this question—I have already said that Conventions are there which countries are ratifying; we have also ratified 34 Conventions. That is all I can say.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: The question is whether, due to demand, preferences have been affected or reduced during trade negotiations. The Labour Minister may not answer that question, but the Commerce Minister ought to answer the question. It is inter-linked.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: I have said that they have not made any reference. If the reference had been made, naturally the Commerce Minister would have replied to that. What can we do about it? There is no reference to us about that.

श्री एम. राम गोपाल रेड्डी : ई० ई० सी० के मॅम्बर यह समझते हैं कि सारे जहाँ का दर्द उनके जिगर में है। लेकिन उनके जिगर में कुछ नहीं है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : पूरा शेर पढ़िये। शेर की टांग क्यों तोड़ते हैं ?

श्री एम० राम० गोपाल रेड्डी : ये यह समझते हैं कि पूरी हमदर्दी उनकी लेबर क्लास के साथ है जो सरासर गलत है।
I want to know from the hon. Minister

whether he is averse to all sorts of non-sensical questions.

MR. SPEAKER: Next Question. Shrimati Mohsina Kidwal.

Assurance of supply of cement to all States

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*545. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:

SHRI JAYANTI PATNAIK:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the cement manufacturers have met him to assure that they will supply more cement to all States and regions as compared to the supplies last year;

(b) if so, the nature of the assurances given by the manufacturers; and

(c) the nature of arrangements made by Government to see that cement reaches the poor people in time and at proper rates?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) and (b). The representatives of Cement Manufacturers' Association had met and assured the Government that the cement industry would maintain supplies of cement from the non-levy quota to all areas in the country including deficit pockets at the least upto the same level as obtained in 1981 irrespective of the transport costs.

(c) State Governments|Union Territories have been advised to provide adequate quantity of levy cement for meeting the requirements of socially oriented schemes like rural housing, housing for slum dwellers, Harijans, Adivasis and other poorer sections of the society from the quarterly allocations of levy cement.

श्रीमती मोहसिना किदवाई : सीमेंट की पार्शल डीकंट्रोल की पालिसी के तरह बहुत से शुबहात, बहुत सी शंकायें और बहुत से डर गरीब तब के जो लोग हैं और जिन को

सीमेंट की ज्यादा जरूरत रहती है, उनको है कि उनको ठीक दाम पर सीमेंट मिल सकेगा या नहीं। सीमेंट मैन्युफैक्चरर एसोसिएशन के अध्यक्ष हैं उन्होंने वादा किया है, यकीन कहानी की है कि हम उतना सीमेंट देंगे जितना 1981 में दे रहे थे और उतना सीमेंट लोग पाते रहेंगे। अब आप देखें कि डोमेस्टिक प्रोडक्शन 1981 में जो सीमेंट का था वह 20.1 मिलियन टन था और इससे अलावा 1.7 मिलियन टन सीमेंट इम्पोर्ट किया गया। इस तरह से कुल मिलाकर 21.8 मिलियन टन सीमेंट 1981 में अबलेबल हुआ। अब यह 20.1 मिलियन टन किया जाएगा और उस में कुल मिला कर जो 4.8 मिलियन टन की कमी पड़ती है इसके लिए सरकार क्या इंतजाम कर रही है? क्या हमारा डोमेस्टिक प्रोडक्शन इतना बढ़ जाएगा कि यह 4.8 मिलियन टन का जो गैप है वह पूरा हो जाएगा, उसको पूरा किया जा सकेगा? या कुछ सरकार इम्पोर्ट करने का इरादा रखती है, उसके बावजूद भी इस कमी को कैसे पूरा करेगी? साथ ही यह भी जानना चाहता हूँ जो आपने अर्रेंजमेंट किये हैं मैं जानना चाहता था यूनियन गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स को यह कहा गया है, जैसा कि अभी मंत्री जी ने बताया, कि छोटे लोगों को जो छोटे प्लांट्स ले कर मकान बनाना चाहते हैं, हरिजन है या सोशल बैकवर्ड लोग हैं, उसका इंतजाम खुद सरकार यहाँ से क्या कर रही है कि वह सही दाम में उनको पहुंच सके, इस बारे में आप क्या कर रहे हैं?

श्री नारायण दत्त तिवारी : अध्यक्ष जी, जो मोहतरमा मेम्बर साहिबा ने सवाल पूछा है मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि जो नई पालिसी है इसके तहत जो गरीब तबके का है उसको सीमेंट मुनासिब कीमत पर लेवी कीमत पर मिल सके यह हमारी नई सीमेंट नीति की बुनियाद है, और इसीलिए उसमें साफ कहा गया है कि जो लेवी सीमेंट मिलेगा वह इन्हीं तबकों को मिलेगा जिनका जिक्र मैंने अपने जवाब में

किया। और जाहिर है कि जो हम 800 स्वबायर फीट तक के मकानों के लिये ही लेवी सीमेंट देते हैं तो वह गरीब तबके के ही लोगों को जायगा चाहे वह देहाती इलाक के हों या शहरी इलाके के हों।

दूसरा सवाल उन्होंने पूछा कि सीमेंट की कमी कैसे पूरी होगी? यह जो हमारी नई सीमेंट पालिसी है इसी कमी को बहुत हद तक दूर करने के लिये है। उन्होंने जो आंकड़ें दिये वह करीब करीब सही थे कि 21 मिलियन टन इस साल सीमेंट की बगमद होगी कारखानों के जरिये। और अगले साल के लिए हमारा मनसूबा यह है कि 28 मिलियन टन मिल सके। यह इस तरह होगा कि जो इस समय ऐग्जिस्टिंग कैपेसिटी है अगर उसकी 75 परसेंट कैपेसिटी को भी प्रोडक्शन में ले तो 22 मिलियन टन सीमेंट इस साल मिलेगा, और 4 मिलियन टन हम उम्मीद करते हैं कि जो नई कैपेसिटी मुत्तखिब की जा रही है उसके जरिये पैदावार आमद होगी और बाकी 2 मिलियन टन इम्पोर्ट की हमने गुंजाइश रखी है। जैसा माननीय सदस्य ने कहा इम्पोर्ट की हमने छूट दी है कि चाहे स्टेट की कारपोरेशन कां उनको भी इजाजत दी है कि वह भी यूजर्स के लिए इम्पोर्ट कर सकती हैं। तो 2 मिलियन टन इम्पोर्ट का मनसूबा हर साल करते ही रहे हैं। इस प्रकार उम्मीद है कि 28 मिलियन टन सीमेंट अगले साल मिलेगा इस तरह 7 मिलियन टन अधिक सीमेंट 1982-83 में मिल सकेगा और उससे सीमेंट की कमी बहुत हद तक पूरी हो सकेगी, ऐसी हमारी आशा है।

श्रीमती मोहसिना फिदवी : जो एसोसिएशन के अध्यक्ष ने सरकार को यकीन दिलाया है कि रीजनेबल प्राइस पर सीमेंट मिलेगा, अभी तक वह प्राइस तय हुई कि नहीं? और यह भी कहा गया है कि हर स्टेट में वहाँ की हालत के मुताबिक तय हो। तो रीजनेबिल प्राइस का

मतलब क्या है, और किस तरह से तम्र की जाएगी, कौन देखेगा कि रीजनेबिल प्राइस है कि नहीं? आपने यह भी कहा है कि जो ट्रांसपोर्टेशन के चार्जेज होंगे उसको इनक्लुड करते हुये वहां पहुंचायेगे। लेकिन स्टेट तक तो आप पहुंचा देंगे, पर कंजूमर तक सही दाम पर कैसे पहुंचायेगे? एक जगह उन्होंने कहा है कि इम्पोर्टेड सीमेंट की कीमत ज्यादा होगी और यहां के बने हुये सीमेंट की कीमत कम होगी। लेकिन उसमें कितना फर्क होगा यह सारी डिटेल्स सामने आनी चाहियें? और किस तरह से गवर्नमेंट आफ इंडिया जो मन-सूबा है सही है उसी मकसद के लिए पोलिसी बनायी गई है, लेकिन उसका इम्प्लीमेंटेशन भी उन्हीं भावनाओं के तहत हो सकेगा, यह मैं जानना चाहती हूं? मंत्री महोदय ने बताया है कि 800 स्क्वेयर फीट के लिए लेवी सीमेंट दी जाएगी। कोई भी इन्सान जब घर बनाता है तो एक ही दफे बनाता है और वह चाहता है कि अच्छा घर बनाये। दिल्ली में कुछ ऐसी शिकायतें मिली हैं और आनी शुरू हुई हैं। 860 स्क्वेयर फीट के लिए लेवी की सीमेंट दी जाने की घोषणा अथोरिटी की तरफ से की गई है। इसके साथ ही साथ यह भी शिकायत आई है कि अगर कोई कुछ ज्यादा कवर्ड एरिया लेना चाहता है तो उसको कहा जा रहा है कि आप अपने एप्रूव्ड प्लान्स को फिर से बनाइए और उसके तहत लाइये, तो मैं समझती हूं कि यह उसके साथ ज्यादाती होगी इसको मंत्री महोदय देखें और इसके तहत जो शिकायतें या चीजें आने वाली हैं, उसकी तरफ ध्यान दें।

श्री नारायण दत्त तिवारी : मेम्बर साहेबा ने यह सवाल किया जो कि इसकी कीमत एसोसिएशन की ओर तय हुई है, यह मुनासिब है या नहीं, इसको कौन देखेगा? इसको हमारा ब्यूरो आफ

इंस्ट्रुमेंटल कास्ट एंड प्राइसेज देखेगा जिसको पूरी तरह से मान्यता प्राप्त है और उसकी अपनी धाक भी है। उसके तहत जो उन्होंने प्रासेसिंग को है कीमत कम करने की इम्पोर्टेब सीमेंट की पालिसी में यह बात भी रखी गई है कि जो सीमेंट इम्पोर्ट करेंगे उसकी कीमत भी फ्री मार्केट प्राइस को रेगुलेट करेगी। अगर कोई ज्यादा कीमत बढ़ाना चाहेगा तो हम लोग भी देखेंगे कि ज्यादा दाम न बढ़ें। दूसरे जब उत्पादन ज्यादा होगा, 7 मिलियन टन ज्यादा होगा तो उसका भी असर फ्रीमार्केट प्राइस पर भी पड़ेगा। इस समय दिल्ली में जो सीमेंट की कीमत रखी गई है, वह 65 रुपए 13 पैसे है और हमने उनसे कहा है कि इसको और कम करें।

अभी पालिसी घोषित किये हुये कुछ ही समय हुआ है। मैं चाहूंगा कि कुछ समय और मिले ताकि नई पालिसी का पूरा असर हमारे सामने आ सके। जहां तक लेवी सीमेंट का ताल्लुक है, पहले से ही राज्य सरकारों की मशीनरी बनी हुई है, ब्लाक लेवल और जिला लेवल पर राज्यों में मशीनरी बनी हुई है। उसमें हम पूरी देखभाल करेंगे और लेवी की सीमेंट राज्य सरकार द्वारा उनके रूल्स के तहत मुहय्या करायेगे।

जहां तक दिल्ली का सवाल है, यह बात सही है कि कुछ बड़े मकान बनाने में लेवी का सीमेंट हीं मिल सकता है लेकिन अगर कुछ सही मार्जिनल केसेज हैं तो मैं मेम्बर साहिबा से दरख्वास्त करूंगा कि मेहरबानी कर के मेरे पास भेज दें तो मैं उनको लिखवा लूंगा।

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Sir, my supplementary is related to part (c) of Shrimati Mohisinaji's question. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whe-

ther he is aware of the fact that the Public Accounts Committee of Karnataka Legislature....(Interruptions)

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: You cannot allow this.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Is Karnataka unparliamentary?

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: They cannot encroach upon the State.. (Interruptions) This should not be allowed.

MR. SPEAKER: Let him put the question. I shall see whether it is relevant....(Interruptions)

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: How can you allow this question? (Interruptions) This is a verification campaign. It should not be allowed.

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot decide anything until I have heard him.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: How can the State's Public Accounts Committee Report be raised here? It cannot be raised. (Interruptions)

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: It can be raised. (Interruptions)

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: It cannot be raised. Show me the rule. Let him quote the rule. (Interruptions)

SHRI ATAL BEHARI VAJPAYEE: You allow him to complete the question and then you will decide. (Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: You given your ruling and I will abide by it. Why should he try to heckle me?

(Interruptions)

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: They cannot take us for a ride in Parliament. How can he raise the question on the report of the State's Public Accounts Committee?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Give your ruling and I will abide by it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is my permanent standing order that when a Member

is allowed to speak then every word of his should be on the record but when I do not allow then nothing should go on record.

Hon. Members I do not know why this heat is generated. Until and unless I hear something I cannot just presume that somebody has said something. I am not going to reach a foregone conclusion. I would like to listen and then give my ruling accordingly whether it is in order or not in order. How can I say whether it is relevant or not relevant without hearing it? I can over-rule Prof. Dandavate if he is not relevant and pertinent to the question.

(Interruptions)**

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI INDRA GANDHI): Sir, your word is final and I agree with what you say but why some of our hon'ble Members have got agitated is that when we happen to mention West Bengal then the opposition always shouts. This is the only reason.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, their strategy is to kill time. I will have my say. My question is related to Center and I will start with this thing. The Public Accounts Committee has said something about Government of India's rules regarding distribution of cement given by the Centre and the violation of the Central rules. I want to know whether it is a fact and whether the Government's attention has been drawn to the fact that the Public Accounts Committee have already..

MR. SPEAKER: This has already been discussed on the floor of the Karnataka Assembly.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I am not referring to that. For instance, if anything is referred to in which the Central Government is actually involved or Central Government's rule are violated, I can refer to that. In the past we have done it. In this House we have done it.

MR. SPEAKER: If it is something Central you can go on....

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: That is what I am pointing out. The Public Accounts Committee has said that the Government of India rules regarding the distribution of Central quota of cement have been violated in case of Karnataka and, therefore, they have demanded...

MR. SPEAKER: This is not within the ambit of the present question. You can come under some other question.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Sir, it is related to part 'C'. (Interruption)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Sir, you please read part (c) of the question. It says..

AN HON. MEMBER: It is very important.

MR. SPEAKER: I will read it out for you. It says:

"(c) the nature of arrangements made by Government to see that cement reaches the poor people in time and at proper rates."

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Yes, it says 'in time and at proper rates.' It is relating to distribution of cement. Sir, you cannot shut me down.

MR. SPEAKER: No, no. I am not going to shut it out. I have only to see whether this question which you are raising pertains to this.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I am referring to that only. I started by saying that my supplementary is on Mohsinaji's part (c) of the question.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUB-BAIAH): It is a question of State. The report of the Public Accounts Committee is placed on the Table of the Assembly and it is for the State Assembly to take it up. (Interruption)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Shall I conclude my supplementary question. (Interruptions) Sir, I am not yielding. May I say this? (Interruption)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I can put my question. If you want, you may later rule it out. Please listen to my supplementary. You can rule it out. I will re-frame my question. Sir, the Government of India have formulated certain rules regarding the distribution of Cement so that, in terms of part (c) of the question of Mohsina ji, 'at proper rates, in proper quantity' it will be possible for the Centre to reach the poor people and the common people and institutions. Sir, I want to know whether it has been brought to the notice of the Government that these Central rules about distribution have been violated through corruption, irregularity and misuse on the part of the Centre, and in addition to that, whether it is true that Mr. Lentin, one of the judges of the Bombay High Court, has given a judgment in which he has said that there has been a nexus between those donors who have donated donations to the Indira Gandhi Pratibha Pratisthan and the distribution of cement, whether they have taken proper note and whether suitable distribution was ensured. That is my question.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: I rise on a point of order.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: He has not said anything. What has he said? Please sit down.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: You must listen to our point of order....

MR. SPEAKER: He has not said anything. I know it. I am not allowing it. There is no point of order. Please sit down.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: There are two parts of the question.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Tiwari.

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI: I have already substantially answered that question in my original reply. And, there are no set rules prescribed by the Central Governments have been given the general guide-lines. It is for the State Governments who are mainly responsible for the distribution of cement at the grass-roots level to formulate their own rules and regulations and procedures.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: No, no. My specific question is this. There is a specific judgment of the Bombay High Court saying 'Nexus between the donors and the distribution'.

MR. SPEAKER: Please come under some other thing. Not like this.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Second part of my question is..

MR. SPEAKER: He has answered your supplementary question.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: No, no. I asked about this. There is a nexus between the donors and Indira Gandhi Pratibha Pratisthan and the distribution of cement.

MR. SPEAKER: Not here. That is the business of the State. Not here.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I am talking about Central quota.

MR. SPEAKER: That was in the High Court, and now in the Supreme Court.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: No. It is Central quota which is being misused.

MR. SPEAKER: He has said about it..

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: No. no. He has never said it.

MR. SPEAKER: Whatever they gave to the State, it is the State which should do it.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: He has not said. How are you able to hear? None of us has been able to hear. How are you able to hear?

MR. SPEAKER: He has told us, I heard. It is the Centre which is giving the cement, and the guidelines, distribution is done by the States.

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI: Yes.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I have referred to the nexus between the Indira Gandhi Pratibha Pratisthan and the Cement distribution. (Interruption).

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: What is objectionable in my question? How does it come into the distribution system?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It has gone to the High Court.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: How does it come here. You look into the question (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will read out the relevant rules:

"41(xxii) it shall not ordinarily ask about matters pending before any statutory tribunal or statutory authority per formin gany judicial or quasi-judicial functions or any commission or court of enquiry appointed to enquire into.."

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Sir, that was my point of order. (Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: He has not replied to my question. I have talked about the nexus between the donation and distribution. If they are feeling embarrassed in answering this question, there is nothing... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There is no question of that I am trying to go according to the rule.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: If you give the ruling, it will bind the future Lok Sabha.

MR. SPEAKER: I have not given any ruling. I have only read out the rules.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: You forget about the Court. What about the nexus between the donation and distribution of cement? I am asking that question.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: That is what he has said.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: He has not said that. Let him say it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: How can you allow him? They are violating the rules.

MR. SPEAKER: I have not allowed you. I am not violating the rules. But you are violating the rule now.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Tiwari, you can explain the same thing a second time.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: What is the special privilege that he has got?

MR. SPEAKER: Who are you to say that?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There is nothing wrong about it. Why should you be agitated over it?

(Interruptions)

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI: I have said that I have already substantially answered the question in my original reply to part (c) of the question. It is for the State Government to frame the rules and the specific guidelines at the grass-root level for the distribution of cement.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Let him say that there is no quota of cement from the Centre for distribution. Are there any guidelines at the Central level?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There are no Central rules. That is what he has said.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI: There are Central rules.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: He has said that there are not guidelines. But there are guidelines.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It has gone on record. You can verify it.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Let him say that for the distribution of cement, there is no Central guideline.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: We have got the record and we can verify what has been said.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: There are guidelines. He is misleading the House. There are guidelines, I know.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Sir, he has said that there are no guidelines.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no need to be so vociferous about that. We have got the record here and we can verify what he has said.

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY: He has said that there are no guidelines.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: But there are certain guidelines.

MR. SPEAKER: We have got the record....

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: When we are sitting in the House, we are not supposed to see to the record: we are supposed to look to the Minister and the Speaker....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: We have got the record; whatever is there will remain on the record.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I want the Minister to admit that there are Central guidelines, and he has said that...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Whatever has been said in the property of the House. We shall not change it.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Manufacture of Health Foods

*543. **SHRI SKARIAH THOMAS:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) the names of foreign companies manufacturing health foods in the country and their annual turnover;

(b) whether it is also a fact that they are hampering the growth of indigenous manufacturers of health foods in the country; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to help the domestic manufacturers

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) There are no precise specifications as to what constitutes "Health Foods". However, high protein and milk and malted food are popularly treated as health foods. M/s. Glaxo Laboratories (India) Limited is the only FERA Company engaged in this line and its value of production for the year 1981 of these items was Rs. 411.50 lakhs.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Uranium Deposits in U.P.

*546. **DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is true that huge Uranium deposits have been located in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) and (b). No, Sir. However there are indications of the presence of uranium in the following areas which will have to be explored further:

1. Tamil and adjoining areas in Saharanpur District.

2. Brijrani Gad-Dhargaon in Tehri District.

3. Sonrai-Pisnari area in Lalitpur District.

Legislation for Agricultural Workers

*547. **SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJ-PAYEE:**

SHRI SURAJ BHAN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) the salient features of the draft legislation for agricultural workers that was considered at the Conference of State Labour Ministers held on August 4 and 5, 1981;

(b) details of decision of the Working Group which later on studied the matter in depth; and

(c) views of State Governments in this regard and progress made so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BHAGAWAT JHA AZAD): (a) The salient features of the draft Central Agricultural Workers Legislation are payment of minimum wages, security of employment, setting up of Agricultural Welfare Fund, regulation of Working hours, setting up of tribunals to settle disputes and setting up of Statutory Employment Guarantee Boards.

(b) In view of the divergence of opinions expressed, the Working Group could not reach any consensus.

(c) Difficulties in the implementation of a uniform legislation have been expressed