

they are not proceeding with because the police is in collusion with the cultivators.

MR. SPEAKER: That is enough.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: Shri Reddy is avoiding to answer to this question in the same way as the State Labour Minister is doing in West Bengal.

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister can throw light on what he has said. One is that the number of agricultural labourers has gone up. Another is that there are vested interests in the Government.

SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY: The statement made by the hon. Member is only an expression of opinion, and there is no question involved in what he has expressed. Nevertheless, obeying your command, I may say that the agricultural workers, who constituted 15.3 per cent of the total workers in West Bengal, rose to 25.7 per cent, according to the 1971 census. Somehow, marginal farmers have also become agricultural workers. Therefore, whatever steps have to be taken by the State Governments, certainly the views given by Shri Indrajit Gupta would be examined and we will discuss them with the State Governments.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: See his attitude.

MR. SPEAKER: You follow his advice also.

SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY: So far as Mr. Bhattacharyya is concerned, according to reports there are 12 trade union organisations each consisting of only 1,000 members. So instead of wasting his time over this question, I would advise him to engage himself in organising them. (Interruptions).

SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO: Will the hon. Minister be pleased to

state whether it is a fact that there is an increase of 2.5 per cent in agricultural labourers out of the marginal and small farmers who give up cultivation every year on account of their uneconomic holdings and, if so, what is Government going to do to meet the situation?

Secondly, the Minister has stated that the earnings of agricultural labour have been on the low side and that for half the period they are idle during the year. Is it a fact that farmers cannot afford to pay the minimum wages fixed by the Government on account of the slump in the prices of agricultural products, and is Government preparing any scheme to subsidise the farmers to enable them to give the minimum wages?

MR. SPEAKER: You can bear his suggestion in mind.

SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY: This is a very wide subject.

MR. SPEAKER: Next question.

#### Measures by Delhi Administration for Family Planning

\*509. DR. RANEN SEN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi Administration has made it compulsory for every teacher to bring five cases for sterilisation before getting his or her salary for the month of March, 1976; and

(b) whether teachers failing to bring five cases for sterilisation will not be given annual increment and will not be given promotion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK): (a) & (b). While efforts have been made to involve teachers in the national family planning programme, it is not true that the Delhi Administration have made

it compulsory for every teachers to bring five cases for sterilization before getting his/her salary for the month of March, 1976 or before earning his/her increment or promotion. No teacher has been denied salary increment or promotion in this connection.

**DR. RANEN SEN:** Off and on for the last few days newspaper reports have been coming in to the effect that there is a Government circular asking the teachers to get five people for sterilisation or else their increment will be stopped and all that. Reports, which perturb us, have also appeared in the newspapers that certain agencies which have nothing to do with this, with either the Delhi Administration or the Health Ministry or any other Ministry, are participating in this campaign among the teachers, doctors and nurses, as a result of which various letters have appeared in the newspapers expressing anxiety over this matter. May I know whether it is a fact that such a circular has been issued by the Delhi Administration asking the teachers? I want a categorical answer.

**CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK:** An appeal was made to the teachers to make a success of the family planning campaign and to approach the families of the school children, their friends and relative and the people under their influence to make this family planning a success, but no compulsion was there to bring five cases or more.

**DR. RANEN SEN:** Mr. Speaker, I draw your attention to the question that I have asked. I had categorically asked whether there is a circular. He refuses to answer that question.

**CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK:** There was an appeal by the Directorate of Education of the Delhi Administration, under the Family Planning campaign, to the teachers. There is a letter issued by the Delhi Administration in the shape of an appeal, but there was no compulsion on the teachers for bringing five cases.

**MR. SPEAKER:** He says it was an appeal and not a compulsion.

**DR. RANEN SEN:** This was also reported in the newspapers and even the names of one or two persons were mentioned—one Mr. Teitlor and one Miss Rexona Singh and others—are making propaganda and as a result of this propaganda, there is panic in the city. It is known to the Minister that the Muslim population is against compulsory sterilisation or family planning. A section of the Hindu community is also raising this question. So, may I know from the Minister whether, in view of the fear created by such an appeal, the Government will give a clear direction to the administration of the State Government as to its policy in regard to family planning?

**CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK:** Family planning is a subject of the State Government and usually the Central Government does not interfere in the measures taken by the State Governments in regard to their subjects.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** May I know from the Minister whether any appeal in the form of a circular or otherwise has been made to other Government employees apart from teachers? And was this appeal that was made to the teachers on the basis that the teachers who will act as procurers of sterilisation cases will get procurement money, as in some other cases?

**CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK:** An appeal to all those who can cooperate in this campaign of family planning was made by the Delhi Administration and a press note was also issued and published in the papers—and, Hon. Members might have read that press report.

**SHRIMATI T. LAKSHMIKANTHAMMA:** The question was specifically about the Delhi Administration

asking the teachers to compulsorily get cases. It is a fact that many teachers have expressed the fear that salary will not be paid to them unless they bring four or five cases for compulsory sterilisation. Will the Minister enquire into it, because it is a fact that it has been said by the teachers that such and such a circular was sent to them that they will not be paid unless they bring such cases. So will he kindly make a further enquiry into the matter to get a real picture of it and in, case the circular exists, will he see that this fear is removed?

**CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK:** If any such case is brought to my notice, I will look into it.

**MR. SPEAKER:** He says he will look into it.

**श्री रामावतार शास्त्री :** अध्यक्ष जी, क्या आज के सत्रवार मे छपी यह खबर सच है कि दिल्ली एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन ने यह तय किया है कि जिन माताओं को तीन से अधिक बच्चे होंगे यानी चौथा भी होगा उनसे प्रतिरिक्त कर वसूला जायेगा और क्या यह बात भी सच है कि दिल्ली प्रशासन इस बात पर विचार कर रहा है कि जिनको दो से अधिक बच्चे होंगे उनका राजन बन्द कर दिया जायेगा, उन्हें राजन कार्ड नही दिया जायेगा ? अगर यह बातें सही है तो आपकी प्रतिक्रिया यानी सरकार की प्रतिक्रिया क्या है ।

**श्रीधरी राम सेवक:** इसके बारे मे एक सर्कुलर जरूर निकाला गया कि जिनके दो बच्चे है उनको तो फ्री मेडिकल हेल्प दी जायेगी लेकिन जिनके दो से ज्यादा बच्चे है उनको सरकार को ओपीडी मे पांच रुपये और इनडॉसमेंट्स वें दस रुपये मेडिकल हेल्प के लिये देने पड़ेंगे । ऐसा सर्कुलर तो है लेकिन जैसा माननीय सदस्य ने कहा वह बात नही है ।

### Sea Zone Pact with Sri Lanka

\*511. **SHRI R. S. PANDEY:** Will the Minister of **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Sea Zone Pact with Sri Lanka has been signed recently; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS):** (a) An Agreement on the maritime boundary between India and Sri Lanka was signed in New Delhi on the 23rd March, 1976.

(b) The Agreement delimited the maritime boundary between India and Sri Lanka in the Gulf of Manaar and the Bay of Bengal on the basis of the principle of median line. The Agreement was accompanied by an exchange of Letters prescribing phase-out period of three years for fishing by Sri Lanka in the Wadge Bank after the establishment of exclusive economic zone by India.

**SHRI R. S. PANDEY:** Since the details have not been given, I would like to know what is the area from the coast which could be considered as Indian territory for fishing or oil exploration.

**SHRI BIPINPAL DAS:** The details of the Agreement were laid on the Table of the House on March 24, 1976.

**SHRI R. S. PANDEY:** What are the details? He can indicate.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The details have already been laid on the Table of the House.

Next Question.