

struction labour had prepared a draft legislation under the guidance of former Supreme Court Judge Shri V. R. Krishna Iyer and submitted to Government;

(b) if so, whether Government now propose to enact a central legislation on those lines for the welfare of construction labour; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The details regarding a Central Legislation for Construction Labour are yet to be finalised.

Development of Pigeonpea hybrid

117. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item entitled 'Pigeonpea hybrid developed' which appeared in the Hindustan Times New Delhi dated the 25th June, 1991, indicating that the world's first hybrid pigeonpea plant, considered a technological break-through because of pigeonpea's structure designed for self pollination bred by scientists at the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) near Hyderabad has been released for use by farmers in central India; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take to propagate use of this hybrid variety by Indian farmers in view of the fact that India has a significant demand supply in pigeonpea which is currently being met by imports?

THE MTNISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Front-line demonstrations have been organised and seeds of parental lines have been made available by ICRISAT to

some State Agricultural Universities and seed companies for seed production. A programme for seed production has been undertaken by the National Seeds Corporation, the State Farms Corporation of India and Seed company.

Mass rapid transport system in the country

*118. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what progress has been made with regard to the growing problem of rail-based mass rapid transit system in urban centres in the country; and

(b) what is the amount allocated during the current year and the expenditure incurred during 1990 on construction, maintenance and operation of rail based urban transport systems indicating the names of the urban centres?

THE MTNISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SMT. SHEILA KAUL): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

PROGRESS OF RAIL BASED MASS RAPID TRANSIT SYSTEMS IN URBAN CENTRES IN THE COUNTRY AND ALLOCATION MADE AND EXPENDITURE INCURRED THEREFOR

Considering the importance and criticality of the problems of urban transport faced by the State Governments the Government of India have played a catalytic role and have financed the suburban and metro rail systems in the four metropolitan cities of Calcutta, Bombay, Madras and Delhi. In Calcutta, 9.7 kms of metro rail has already been commissioned in addition to the circular rail commissioned in June 1990. Work is in process in respect of expansion of lines between Andheri and Bandra and extension of rail line from Mankurd to Belapur in New Bombay. Work is also in progress on the Mass

Rapid Transit System between Beach and Luz in Madras. In so far as Delhi is concerned, a Techno-Economic Feasibility Report for a metropolitan model mass rapid transit system has been prepared by M/s RITES.

Apart from this, the State Governments have prepared or have taken up the work of preparing Techno-Economic Feasibility Report for the introduction of Mass Rapid Transit Systems in Madras (inner circular corridor), Bombay (strengthening of the multi-model urban transport network) and Calcutta (extension of Metro line to Garia) and for introduction of Light Rail Transport System in Hyderabad. Studies have also been taken up by the respective State Governments for improving the existing transportation systems in the cities of Ahmedabad, Jaipur and Bangalore.

During the year 1990-91, a sum of Rs. 100 crores was spent on the construction of Calcutta Metro and a sum of Rs. 10 crores for the construction of Madras Mass Rapid Transit Project.

The expenditure incurred on Operation and Maintenance of the completed portion of the Calcutta Metro System during the same year (1990-91) was Rs. 8.74 crores.

Starvation deaths in Tripura

*119. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the starvation deaths in the rural and hilly interiors of Tripura due to severe food crisis in February, 1991; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what measures have been taken by Government to meet the famine situation in the State of Tripura?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR):

(a) No starvation deaths took place anywhere in Tripura in February 1991.

(b) Does not arise.

New National Wage Policy

*120. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to evolve a new National Wage Policy;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof, and

(c) the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OR THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (IN DEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHRI RAMAMURTHY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Development of water resources in Tamil Nadu

408. SHRI R. T. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of projects for development of water resources in Tamil Nadu severely affected due to Inter-State Water disputes, and

(b) the irrigation and hydro electric potential of these projects project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI V. C. SHUKLA): (a) and (b) A statement indicating the names of projects and their irrigation and hydro electric potential is attached.