

(d) Two statements indicating the minimum rates of wages fixed in respect of agricultural workers for various States/Administrations and the number of agricultural labourers according to 1981 census are appended. [See Appendix CXXVI Annexure No. 25]

Winding up of Dandakaranya Development Authority

580. PROF. SOURENDRA BHATTACHARJEE:

SHRI MAKHAN PAUL:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decision has been taken by Government to wind up the Dandakaranya Development Authority and hand it over to respective State Governments;

(b) if so, whether the decision is based on the assumption that the D.D.A. has accomplished tasks assigned to it; and

(c) whether the recommendations of the Estimates Committee of the Lok Sabha made in 1978 regarding the work of the D.D.A. were taken into account while taking a decision in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) and (b) No, Sir. A decision has been taken to transfer the assets and institutions created by Dandakaranya Project in three out of four zones to the respective State Governments for future maintenance because the work of rehabilitation of displaced persons in these three zones is more or less complete. The deficiencies identified in some of the assets are to be made good by the State Governments with the funds to be provided by the Government of India. The fourth one, namely, Malkangiri Zone, the Project Headquarters, Zonal Headquarters and some central institutions will remain with the Dandakaranya Project for some time.

(c) The Estimates Committee made certain recommendations for all round development of the area covered by the Dandakaranya Project, implementation of Rural Electrification Programme, issue of patkas to displaced persons and completion of certain residual works etc. The decision to transfer the assets and institutions of Dandakaranya Project in 3 zones to the respective State Governments for future maintenance was taken after taking into consideration the objectives which were to be achieved by the Dandakaranya Development Authority, its actual achievements and the shortfalls still to be made good.

Rehabilitation of Displaced Persons from Bangladesh

581. PROF. SOURENDRA BHATTACHARJEE:

SHRI MAKHAN PAUL:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of West Bengal have submitted a memorandum detailing the case for and estimated expenses for proper rehabilitation of displaced persons from erstwhile East Pakistan, now Bangladesh; and

(b) if so, what decision Government have taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) We have received a copy of the report of the Refugee Rehabilitation Committee appointed by the State Government in which a demand of Rs. 750 crores has been made.

(b) The demand has several items. Each one is being examined. A view on which item should be funded by us and to what extent will be taken shortly.