

Minister expressly denied that Pak-istan was engaged in manufacturing an atom bomb.

Road length area in States and Union Territories

507. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD
MATHUR:
SHRI SUNDER SINGH
BHANDARI:
SHRI HARISHANKAR
BHABHRA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be Pleased to state:

(a) what are the latest figures in percentage, of road length per hundred square kilometer area and the percentage of national highways thereof in each Union Territory and State; and

(b) what steps are being taken to remove the imbalance in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b) A statement is attached. [See Appendix CXV, Annexure No. 43] The National Highways are declared keeping in view certain criteria prescribed for the purpose and the requirements of the country as a whole and not on any State or regional basis.

Red Cross relief goods

508. SHRI SUNDER SINGH
BHANDARI:
SHRI HARISHANKAR
BHABHRA:
SHRI JAGADISH PRASAD
MATHUR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the press reports to the effect that Red Cross relief goods worth Rs. 18 lakhs in Bahadurgarh Red Cross Stores and worth many

more at Red Cross stores in Birati-Cal-cutta Depot including milk powder, milk food, baby food and sugar and fish tins, all imported from foreign countries, have become unfit for consumption due to their having been kept for too long; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to ensure that the present unfit Red Cross relief goods do not find way to markets creating a serious health hazard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) A news item appeared in the Indian Express dated the 5th July, 1980 alleging that huge Red Cross stocks were rotting in stores. This has been contradicted by the Indian Red Cross Society which was published in the Indian Express in its issue of 11th July, 1980.

(b) Does not arise.

Welfare for agricultural workers' force

509. SHRI SUNDER SINGH
BHANDARI:
SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD
MATHUR:
SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the agricultural workers force was about 19.2 crores as on 31st March, 1978; if so, what was its strength on the 31st March 1979 and 31st March, 1980, respectively;

(b) whether Government are aware of their problems of job security, payment of minimum wages, fixing of working hours, workers welfare fund, minimum medical facilities and debt malpractices; and

(c) if so what steps Government have taken or propose to take to solve these problems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH):- (a) On the basis of the actual increase of the agricultural workers force between the Census of 1961 and 1971, the projected estimate of the agricultural work force as on 31st March, 1978 was about 19.2 crores and has been further projected to estimate about 19.7 crores as on 31st March, 1979 and 20.1 crores on 31st March, 1980.

(b) and (c) The problems of agricultural labour have been under Government's consideration for some time,

A number of employment | beneficiary oriented programmes like the Small Farmers Development programmes, the Drought Prone Areas Programmes, the Integrated Rural Development Programmes, the Desert Development Programme for increasing the employment level of agricultural labour were being implemented in addition to the stricter enforcement Of the Minimum Wages Act. Side by side, self-employment promotion and entrepreneurship development programme, the Food for Work Programme, the rehabilitation programme for bonded labour, Operation Flood II Programme, training programmes for rural youth, etc. are some of the other steps being taken to improve the living conditions of agricultural labour.

Recently, the Central Standing Committee on Rural Unorganised Labour, approved a draft legislation for Agricultural Workers. The State Labour Ministers' Conference held on 19th-20th July also recommended the speedy introduction of a Central Legislation for Agricultural Workers. The Draft Central Legislation is under examination of Government.

भारतीय सीमा में घुसपैठ

510. श्री रामानन्द यादव :

श्रीमती कुमुदबेन माणेशकर जोशी :

श्री प्रकाश मेहरोत्रा :

क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पड़ोसी देशों की वर्तमान स्थिति के कारण हमारी सीमाओं पर घुसपैठ काफी बढ़ गई है तथा इससे देश की सुरक्षा खतरे में पड़ गई है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो पाकिस्तान तथा बंगलादेश से लगने वाली सीमाओं पर सैनिक घुसपैठ में कितनी वृद्धि हुई है तथा घुसपैठ को रोकने के लिए सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है ।

Infiltration on Indian border

510. SHRI RAMA NAND YADAV;

SHRIMATI KUMUDBEN: MANI

SHANKAR JOSHI: SHRI

PRAKASH MEHROTRA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that infiltration on our borders has considerably increased due to the existing conditions in neighbouring countries and thereby the security of the country has been endangered; and

(b) if so, what is the extent of increase in the military infiltration on the adjoining borders of Pakistan and Bangladesh and what action the Government of India have taken to check the infiltration?]

विदेश मंत्री (श्री पी० वी० नरसिंह राव) : (क) बंगलादेश से अवैध घुसपैठ एक ऐसी प्रक्रिया है जो बराबर चल रही है । कभी-कभी इस प्रकार की घुसपैठ बर्मा से भी हुई है । लेकिन इस प्रकार की घुसपैठ में वृद्धि का कोई साक्ष्य नहीं है ।

† [] English Translation.