

mittee that the hon. Member has referred to, I must say that a committee was set up and, later, after a full-fledged conference on the problems of rural and unorganised workers, a Standing Committee was set up. This Committee has got three sub-committees. One deals with the problems of bonded labour and the others with different aspects of labour in the rural and unorganised sector. These committees are standing committees and, therefore, in their case there is no question of a date by which they have to submit a report. They constantly study and review the problems and make proposals to the Government.

श्री रामानन्द यादव : वर्मा जी, कुछ ता प्रोजेन आपके पास दिवा होगा ।

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: One of the committees deals with the question that my hon. friend, Mr. Sinha, referred to, which I could not answer because there was a long list of questions and I could not get down to the one which was there at the bottom, i.e., about Central legislation on the model of The Kerala Act. One of the standing committees has been set up to deal with this question. Its proposal have not yet come before the Government. This question has been engaging the attention of the Government for a long time, and the Government is keen that there must be some kind of a Central guidance, some kind of a Central legislation or a model on which all States can take steps to deal with the problems that the legislation is expected to deal with. Then, Sir, about the memorandum submitted by the INTUC's agricultural workers organisation in September, I must say that I do not have with me a copy of the memorandum here. If the hon. Member wants to raise a separate question, I shall certainly give a summary of the demands in the memorandum. At the moment I can only say this that we are giving the fullest consideration to

the points raised in the memorandum because we know that when trade union organisations bring up such questions they have to receive the attention that they deserve, which they do not otherwise sometimes get. Here I must refer to what Mr. Dhabe said, namely, that the guarantee, success and efficacy of implementation lie in the efficacy of the organisation of rural workers. This aspect has to be dealt with by voluntary organisations, including trade unions, and not the Government.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Shri Nanda.

SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD NANDA: Sir, the hon. Minister has stated...

SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHAPATRO: Sir, you do not look at me. You look at Mr. Dhabe and others only. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI S. W. DHABE: My name was in the list.

SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD NANDA: There is no need to amend the Minimum Wages Act so as to provide for an implementation machinery at block level and village level for Minimum Wages notifications, prescribing minimum wages for rural labour because such a provision already exists there. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the implementation machinery has already been set up at block level and rural level in pursuance of the Minimum Wage Act.

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: Sir, the implementation machinery consists of three elements. One is the enforcement of provisions regarding the maintenance of registers and records. The second is the appointment of an inspecting authority for inspections. And the third is the claims authority. Almost all the States have reported that they have taken steps to set up these different elements of the implementation machinery. The question really is, how far the implementation is effective and to ensure effective implementation, it has been

suggested that a committee should be set up at various levels which would include representatives of the workers who can bring the claims and the situation that exist, in the area to the notice of the committee. In some States, such committees have been set up, while in other States they have not been set up. Even as late as August-September, 1978, again the Central Government has written to the State Governments asking them to take steps to see that the machinery is streamlined and made more effective.

श्री अनन्त प्रसाद शर्मा: सभापति महोदय क्या माननीय मंत्री जी को यह मालूम है कि इस प्रकार के जितने विवाद ब्लॉक लेवल पर या जिला स्तर पर या गांव के स्तर पर पैदा होते हैं वह कानून और व्यवस्था का रूप पकड़ लेते हैं और अधिकतर उन में स्थानीय अधिकारियों को हस्तक्षेप करना पड़ता है। तो क्या यह ठीक नहीं होगा कि जो मजदूरों के विवाद हों उन को भी तय करने के लिए उन अधिकारियों को ही अधिकार दे दिये जायें ?

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: If I understand the hon. Member correctly, and I have some trepidation in saying that I understand him correctly, he suggested that the law and order machinery should be empowered to enforce the Minimum Wages Act...

SHRI ANANT PRASAD SHARMA: No, I said that in most of such cases where there is a labour dispute in the villages, it becomes the question of law and order and ultimately the law and order machinery intervenes. Therefore, would it not be proper that the law and order machinery should also be entrusted with the job of settlement of such disputes on wages between the workers and the employers?

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: This proposal has far-reaching consequences. If the law and order machinery is to deal with the industrial disputes, then I do not know whether the result

will always be in the interest of the workers.

SHRI ANANT PRASAD SHARMA: When I said law and order machinery, I meant the block officers and the revenue officers.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has understood it.

SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHAPATRO: Sir, in the first answer that the hon. Minister gave to the question of Mr. Sinha, he said that he did not say that this law did not require an improvement; rather he was of the opinion that it required improvement. As you know, Sir, from time to time, people who are concerned with this particular law, or the implementation of it have been pointing out to the Government the various defects in the law. So on that basis, may I know from the hon. Minister what at the moment are the different aspects of this law that he has under consideration for improvement?

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: Sir, as the hon. Member said, there are many proposals which have been made and the standing committee is considering the various suggestions that have been made. Therefore, I do not know whether it will be right or appropriate on my part at this stage to give the list of proposals that are under consideration.

SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHAPATRO: Sir, what are the proposals that have come to him? He may take a decision later; the proposals may be rejected or accepted. But what are the proposals?

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: I have indicated that some proposals relate to the reduction of the intervals for periodical wage revision; some relate to the method of revision of wages, cutting short the procedure that has been laid down in the Act and some relate to the imposition of penalties, for violation of the provisions of the Act.

श्री सदाशिव बगईतकर : सभापति महोदय, मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि खेतीहर मजदूरों के सवाल को लेकर उस का जो सामाजिक अंग है उस को ध्यान में रखते हुए क्या सरकार यह नहीं सोचेगी कि खेतीहर मजदूरों के लिए क्योंकि वह संगठित नहीं हैं सामाजिक दृष्टि से और वह ऐसे तबके से आते हैं कि जिन की कोई हैसियत नहीं होती है, इस बात को ध्यान में रखकर कानून में ऐसा परिवर्तन करने की बात सरकार सोच रही है कि जिस मशीनरी का जिक्र किया है आप ने जिले और ब्लाक लेवल पर उन पर यह ज़िम्मेदारी डाली जाए कि वे खुद-ब-खुद सूझो मोटो उनकी शिकायतों पर ध्यान देने की और कार्यवाही करने की बात में पहल करें ?

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: I think, I have already answered this question.

SHRI SADASIV BAGAITKAR: I am sorry, the hon. Minister has not understood me. I will put it in English. Sir, my simple question was whether, in view of the fact that the agricultural labour comes from the lowest strata of the society and in view of the present condition in the rural social set up, Government would consider the proposal for amendment of the Act whereby the local authorities, which he has already mentioned, would, *suo motu*, take cognisance of the complaints of these agricultural labour.

AN HON. MEMBER: It was only a translation of Hindi.

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: This is just to make the point that I do not understand Hindi.

Sir, the inspecting authority has the responsibility to inspect and in some States, a certain number of inspections have been made obligatory. The purpose of the inspection is to, *suo motu*, take action by looking at the

records, first of all, checking whether the records are kept, secondly, by looking at the records, and, thirdly by ensuring payment to take *suo motu* action on the part of the Government. That is why I said that this question has been answered earlier.

श्री कल्प नाथ राय : क्या मंत्री महोदय यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या कारण है कि गांव में मिनिमम वैजिज कानून लागू नहीं हो पाता है ? क्या इसका कारण गांव की भयंकर गरीबी है ? दूसरी बात, आज इस मुल्क में बन्धुवा मजदूर जिनकी संख्या बीस से पच्चीस मिलियन है, तो जब तक बन्धुवा मजदूरों को मुक्ति नहीं दिलाई जाती है तब तक क्या मिनिमम वैजिज का सिद्धांत लागू हो पायेगा ? क्या इन सारे प्रश्नों की जांच करने की सरकार कृपा करेगी ?

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: Poverty is not the only reason not even the main reason why minimum wages are not paid. There is an effort in every field to escape the law. In a far-off area where it is difficult to detect, there are some instances where effort* are made to escape the law and it becomes easy for such persons to escape the law when, specially, when the administrative authority is not present or vigilant or an organisation of workers is not present with the quantum of force that is necessary to ensure implementation.

पटना, बिहार में केन्द्रीय सरकार के कर्म-
चारियों के लिए केन्द्रीय स्वास्थ्य सेवा
श्रीषधालय

* 344. श्री योगेन्द्र शर्मा : क्या स्वास्थ्य
और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा
करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पटना में
केन्द्रीय स्वास्थ्य सेवा श्रीषधालयों में व्याप्त
कुप्रबन्ध तथा भ्रष्टाचार के कारण वहां के
केन्द्रीय सरकार के कार्यालयों में काम करने
वाले कर्मचारियों में भारी असंतोष है ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि 30 जनवरी, 1979 को केन्द्रीय सरकार के बहुत से कर्मचारियों ने पाटलीपुत्र स्थित कार्यालय तथा कार्यभारी चिकित्साधिकारी के निवास स्थान पर प्रदर्शन किया था ;

(ग) क्या कर्मचारियों की ओर से कार्यभारी चिकित्सा अधिकारी को कोई ज्ञापन दिया गया था ; और

(घ) यदि हाँ, तो इसका व्योरा क्या है और सरकार ने इस सम्बन्ध में क्या कार्यवाही की है या करने का विचार रखती है ?

tCCG.H.S. Dispensary for Central Government employees at Patna, Bihar

*344. SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is grave dissatisfaction among the employees working in the Central Government offices at Patna due to mismanagement and corruption prevailing in the C.G.H.S. dispensaries there;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a large number of Central Government employees had staged a demonstration on the 30th January 1979, at Patliputra Office and at the residence of the concerned medical officer in-charge;

(c) whether any memorandum was submitted to the Medical Officer in-charge on behalf of the employees; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and what action Government have taken or propose to take in this regard?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री
(श्री रवि राय) : (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) जो हाँ ।

(ग) जी हाँ ।

(घ) इस ज्ञापन में केन्द्रीय सरकार स्वास्थ्य योजना, पटना के काम-काज के विरुद्ध कुछ शिकायतों की गयी थी जिनकी जांच की गई और जहाँ आवश्यक हुआ उपचारी उपाय किए गए ।

[THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RABI RAY):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Certain grievances against working of the CGHS, Patna were voiced therein which were looked into and remedial measures taken wherever necessary.]

श्री योगेन्द्र शर्मा : मान्यवर, माननीय स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री महोदय ने जो जवाब दिए हैं

रेल मंत्री (प्रो० भद्रु दण्डवते) : लाजवाब है ।

श्री योगेन्द्र शर्मा : लाजवाब नहीं है, परस्पर विरोधी है क्योंकि उन्होंने हमारे इस प्रश्न का कि क्या पटना स्थित केन्द्रीय सरकार के कर्मचारियों ने वहाँ पर सी० जी० एच० एस० में जो व्याप्त भ्रष्टाचार के खिलाफ जो असंतोष है, इसके उत्तर में उन्होंने कहा है 'नहीं'। लेकिन (ख) जो हमारा प्रश्न है जिसमें हमने यह कहा है कि क्या वहाँ प्रभारी मैडिकल अफसर के खिलाफ उन कर्मचारियों ने कोई प्रदर्शन किया, तो उन्होंने कहा 'हाँ'। फिर उन्होंने यह भी स्वीकार किया है कि उनको उन्होंने अपनी शिकायतों का स्मारक पत्र भी दिया । फिर उन्होंने यह भी स्वीकार किया है कि उन की शिकायतों को दूर करने के लिए उन्होंने उपचार भी किए हैं । तो, यदि कोई असंतोष नहीं था तो फिर प्रदर्शन की बात क्यों हुई, स्मारक पत्र देने की बात क्यों हुई, शिकायतों की बात क्यों हुई ? तो ऐसे