

(iii) Government have ratified ILO Convention 141 concerning organisation of rural workers. All the States/Union Territories have been urged to take administrative and legislative steps to promote establishment and growth of organisations of rural workers;

(iv) Pursuant to the suggestions made at the Special Conference on Rural Unorganised Labour held on 25-1-1978, States/Union Territories have been urged to provide protection and to look into the cases of victimisation of those who organise rural workers;

(v) A Central Standing Committee on Rural Unorganised Labour, which would advise Government on all matters relating to the service conditions etc. of rural workers, including steps to promote their organisation, is proposed to be constituted shortly. States/Union Territories have also been advised to set up similar advisory Standing Committees at State-level; and

(vi) A Rural Workers' Cell has been set up in the Ministry of Labour, to examine the problems of rural workers, including their organisation, and to provide secretariat to the Central Standing Committee on Rural Unorganised Labour. States/Union Territories have also been advised to set up similar Rural Workers Cells at State-level to initiate and coordinate activities on matters concerning service conditions, etc. and organisation of rural workers, and to provide secretariat to the State-level Standing Committees on Rural Unorganised Labour.

Refugee influx from Bangladesh

1739. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN:

SHRI SWAMI DINESH CHANDRA:

SHRI SYED AHMAD HASHMI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL

AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have ascertained the causes of the influx of refugees from Bangladesh into Tripura, West Bengal and Assam etc.;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what steps Government are taking to check the further influx of such refugees into India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S. KUNDU): (a) and (b) For a variety of reasons, ever since partition, there has been some migration of the erstwhile Pakistani and later Bangladeshi nationals into the neighbouring States of India. Factors responsible for migration are varied. Historical contacts between the people along the border and their ethnic and linguistic similarity has all along been an important factor. Development inside Bangladesh having the effect of generating or accentuating the sense of insecurity of particular sections of the population in Bangladesh, economic distress, employment possibilities, activities of persons who make it their business to lure people out of the country are some of the other causes for such migration.

(c) It is basically the responsibility of the Bangladesh Government to prevent migration outside their country. The Government of India, however, have on a number of occasions and at different levels sought to impress upon them that it is primarily their duty to check or arrest the flow of migration to India. The Government of India, on their part, are maintaining strict vigilance along the border.