

PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD : I am only for the present concerned with the paper part of the question. And I have already said, Sir, that there is a perspective plan before Government for the production of paper. I have made it clear amply. If you want it, I can repeat it. Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Mr. Papi Reddi.

SHRI PAPI REDDI : In view of the shortage of paper production, does the Government think of encouraging the development of handmade paper ?

SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD : I have already said, Sir, that the Khadi and Village Industries Commission are encouraging the production of hand-made paper.

श्री सूरज प्रसाद : श्रीमन्, बिहार के अन्दर काफी पुआल होती है और बिहार की सरकार ने शाहाबाद जिले की डुमरांव नामक जगह पर पुआल से कागज बनाने का एक कारखाना स्थापित करने की बात सोची थी और उसके लिए जमीन भी एकत्रित हो गयी थी और कुछ मशीनरी भी आ गई थी, लेकिन जिसको बनाने का लाइसेंस दिया गया था वह आदमी चला गया है, जमीन ज्यों की त्यों है, बिल्डिंग ज्यों की त्यों है। तो क्या सरकार उस जगह में उस कारखाने को फिर से चालू करने का विचार रखती है ?

श्री० सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद : इस सम्बन्ध में हमारे पास अभी कोई सूचना नहीं है और उस स्थान पर अभी सरकार का कागज का कारखाना लगाने का कोई विचार नहीं है।

SHRI SYED AHMAD : I would like to know if the Government is aware that there is a public sector undertaking paper mill known as NEPA in Madhya Pradesh and that for the last twenty years or twentyfive years this mill has been in a very bad shape and practically there has been no production. And may I know what the Government intend to do to step up production in this mill ?

PROF. SIDDHESHWAR P. PRASAD : The mill to which the hon. Member has referred is not a paper mill ; it is a newsprint mill. I

would like to inform the House that this newsprint mill in N. Panagar is working very satisfactorily and we have recently increased the capacity of this newsprint mill. Previously it was producing 20,000 tonnes and now it is producing almost double that quantity, about 40,000 tonnes.

CHANGE IN PERCENTAGE OF AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN 1971 CENSUS

*359. SHRI SYED AHMAD :
SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : SHRI
KRISHAN KANT : SHRI KOTA
PUNNAIAH : DR. Z. A. AHMAD : SHRI
D. P. SINGH :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the reasons for the change in the percentage of agricultural labour to total workers in 1971 census from that of 1961 census ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN) : The figures of agricultural labourers at the 1961 and 1971 (provisional figures) censuses are not strictly comparable. One of the reasons for the change may be the difference in the concept and definition of 'worker' adopted at the 1961 and 1971 censuses. Detailed tabulation of census economic data has to be awaited in order to draw definite conclusions.

SHRI SYED AHMAD : May I know whether the difference is due to the fact that the rural population is migrating to the cities and if so what does the Government intend to do in order to control this migration from the rural to urban areas ?

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN : As I have already we cannot draw any final conclusions at this moment. The detailed tabulation of census economic data would be available in December 1972 and after that only we can draw some conclusions.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I say, Sir, something is being reported in the various economic journals and they can give whatever is within the knowledge of the Government subject to the final Report. Obviously these are tentative figures.

If the question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Syed Ahmad.

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN : I have already stated that it may be due to the change in the concept and definition of 'worker'. In the 1961 census a person engaged even in seasonal work like cultivation, livestock, dairying, household duties etc. was covered. If the person had some regular work for more than an hour a day for a greater part of the working season he was termed worker but in the 1971 census the classification of worker and nonworker was based on the main activity of the person, how he actually engages himself mostly. A worker is defined as a person whose main activity is participation in economically productive work by his mental and physical activity. Due to the change of the definition some of those who were included as cultivators in the 1961 census might have been included as labourers in the 1971 census.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Give the figure.

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN : The percentage is like this. In 1961 the percentage of cultivators to total workers was 52.78 whereas in 1971 it is 42.87. As regards agricultural labourers the percentage of agricultural labourers to total workers in 1961 was 16.71 while in 1971 it is 25.76.

SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MENON : That is what we want to know.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, a few years back the Home Ministry "got investigated the situation that obtained in rural India. And certain very alarming revelations were made. May I know from the Government whether they have made any fresh attempt to know whether the situation remains the same in rural India, or it has changed for worse or for better ? The Census figure indicates that the alarming trend that was indicated in that Report has turned worse. Has the Government made any assessment on this aspect of the matter ?

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN : For the final assessment it may require some time more as I have already said, and by the end of this year we hope to be able to do so.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : I am asking about some of the factors that have a bearing on their economic condition. I am not asking about these figures. I am asking about a specific report which was made by the Home

Ministry itself—I do not remember the name of the cell—and in that Report they have indicated certain very alarming trends in rural India, that more and more disparities will increase and more and more tensions will increase. In view of that Report and taking into consideration the present Census figures, which also support the same trend, I would like to ask whether the Government of India has thought it proper to go deeper into the malady and try to understand whether the trends indicated in that Report are coming to be true in subsequent years.

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN : We will go into that aspect also.

SHRI KRISHAM KANT : The hon. Minister has evaded the question. The number of agricultural labourers has increased from 15% to 26% and in some States it has gone up to 30% also. The main reason is resumption of lands, eviction of tenants, and sale of small uneconomic holdings to the bigger farmers because the schemes to help the smaller and marginal farmers have not succeeded. Because of these facts the number of agricultural labourers in the country side has increased, which was referred to by Mr. Chandra Shekhar and referred to in that Report of the Ministry of Home Affairs. This is an alarming situation, an alarming trend that is noticeable. And with the white revolution coming, with the rice revolution coming, this number is bound to increase, especially in eastern India. These are the very reasons, because of these their number has increased. I want confirmation of these reasons and then, how do you deal with it.

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN : At the present moment, as I have already said I cannot draw any conclusions or inferences as regards the increase in the percentage of total agricultural labourers but, as I have already said, there is a change in the definition of 'worker' as compared to the 1961 Census.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Definition of 'worker' we have heard, whether we accept it or not ! He has given it. All that Mr. Krishan Kant is asking is whether these are social factors responsible for the percentage increase. He is right. Now it is not repudiated. Mr. Krishan Kant is asking whether it is due to these factors which he has enumerated. Now are we to wait till December 24, Christmas Day, to come to the conclusion ?

SHRI K. C. PANT : May I explain that the so-called report was not a report ? In fact, it was an internal paper produced by the Research Cell in the Home Ministry some time ago. It went into various aspects of the rural situation and, as a matter of fact, as a result of those studies, steps have been taken to reduce the disparities in the rural area, and to reduce the tensions, and the political strategy that we are adopting is with a view to reduce those very tensions which are mentioned and which were revealed. So far as these figures are concerned it is, as my colleague has said, impossible to come to any definite conclusions unless we go further into the matter and see whether the interpretation put on it by my hon. friend, Mr. Krishan Kant, is correct, or whether the interpretation is the other one—that is also possible—namely, that those who had small holdings were included among cultivators previously because part of their time was devoted to cultivation but have now been excluded from cultivators and included among agricultural labourers because the definition of 'worker' has changed. If a man is a part-time cultivator but most of the time he is an agricultural labourer, he is included in the latter category. We have to go further into the matter before we can come to a definite conclusion.

श्री सूरज प्रसाद : क्या यह बात सही है कि देहातों के अन्दर में जो पहले कुम्हार थे वे अब मजदूर बन गये हैं, जो जमीन के मालिक थे वे अब मजदूर बन गये हैं, जो जुलाहे थे वह मजदूर बन गये हैं, जो बटाईदार थे उनकी जमीन छीन ली गई है और वह मजदूर बन गये हैं, जो थोड़ी-थोड़ी जमीन रखते थे, जिनके एक एकड़ या दो एकड़ के खेत थे, उनकी जमीन बिक गई है और इन कारणों से देहातों के अन्दर में मजदूरों की संख्या बढ़ गई है। क्या सरकार इस बात को स्वीकार करती है।

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN : Sir, persons with small pieces of land on which they spent less time than what they were spending as agricultural labourers, were to be recorded as cultivators, but in a similar situation in the 1971 census, if a person engages himself mostly as an agricultural labourer, he will be recorded as an agricultural labourer.

SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MENON : The figure given in the census is not a new thing. Already the National Sample Survey and other surveys by the universities have proved that the number of agricultural workers has increased in the countryside. This is not because of the change in the concept of an agricultural labourer, but it is a fact proved by a number of surveys. This has happened because of the policies pursued by the Government in encouraging what is called the green revolution. That is encouraging capitalism in agriculture. It has led to the eviction of millions of peasants, share-croppers and other people from their land. Secondly, by the introduction of machines in agriculture, it has resulted in the small farms becoming non-competitive with the bigger ones. Therefore, will the Government consider steps to arrest this trend in the countryside and allow the poor peasant to retain his land ?

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN : Various measures have already been taken in this respect. The land reform measure is one in that direction by which surplus land would be made available to agricultural labourers . . .

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : Even the Planning Commission Report says 23 millions acres of land was declared surplus but not much land has been distributed to landless.

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN : This programme will go a long way in enabling agricultural labourers to get land.

DR. V. B. SINGH : It is not a question of figures, but the practical approach to the problem that matters. Unless there are valid reasons, the Government should not change the definition from one census to another, because it makes comparison impossible.

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN : It is a suggestion, but it was thought that the present definition would give the correct figure. A man who spends most of his time as an agricultural labourer would be "practically an agricultural labourer". We thought this to be a proper and better definition.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Shri Sitaram Kesri.

डा० भाई महावीर : दूसरा अगला प्रश्न लेना चाहिये ।

श्री सीताराम केसरी : क्या यह बात सही है कि जब से लैंड रिफार्म करने के लिये...

SHRI SHYAMLAL GUPTA: You are purposely allowing more time. Why not call the next question ?

श्री सीताराम केसरी : उपसभापति जी, मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहूंगा कि जब से लैंड रिफार्म करने के लिए लैंड सीलिंग की योजना बनाई है और इसको क्रियात्मक रूप देने के लिये कदम उठाया है तब से क्या कम जमीन वाले जमीन बेचने की ज्यादा भावना रखते हैं या जमीन खरीदने की । इस बात की खबर सरकार को है या नहीं कि जमीन बेचना चाहते हैं न कि जमीन खरीदना चाहते हैं ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

छोटी कार बनाने की अनुमति

*360. श्री ओउम् प्रकाश त्यागी :

श्री पीताम्बर दास :

डा० भाई महावीर :

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव :

श्री मान सिंह धर्मा :

श्री प्रेम मनोहर :

श्री ना० कृ० शेजवलकर :

क्या औद्योगिक विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या किसी पक्षकार ने छोटी कार के निर्माण का सवाल हाल में दिल्ली उच्च न्यायालय में उठाया था ; और क्या उस पक्षकार को कार बनाने का लाइसेंस स्वीकृत कर दिया गया है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो किन शर्तों पर ?

PERMISSION TO MANUFACTURE SMALL CAR

♦360. SHRI O. P. TYAGI :
SHRI PITAMBER DAS :
DR. BHAIMAHAVIR : SHRI J. P.
YADAV : SHRI MAN SINGH
VARMA : SHRI PREM MANOHAR
: SHRI N. R. SHEJWALKAR :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any party had recently raised the issue of small car manufacture in the Delhi High Court ; and whether a car manufacturing licence was granted to that party ; and

(b) if so, what terms?]

औद्योगिक विकास तथा विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री (श्री सी० सुब्रह्मण्यम) : (क) और (ख) सभा-घटन पर एक विवरण रखा जाता है ।

विवरण

(क) और (ख) अगस्त, 1966 में दिल्ली के श्री एस० पी० रेखी ने (साझेदार-हिन्दुस्तान आटो प्राइवेट्स) वार्षिक 25,000 यात्री कार बनाने का औद्योगिक लाइसेंस की स्वीकृति हेतु एक आवेदन पत्र दिया था । कारों की निर्माण सम्बन्धी अतिरिक्त क्षमता के सृजन के सम्बन्ध में नीति विषयक निर्णय लिए जाने तक और दूसरे 9 आवेदन पत्रों के साथ-साथ इनका आवेदन पत्र भी अनिर्णीत रहा । अगस्त, 1970 में सरकार ने एक नीति विषयक निर्णय लिया कि निजी क्षेत्र में वे पार्टियां जो बिना विदेशी सहयोग अथवा बिना पूंजी गत सामान पुर्जों, कच्चे माल के आयात के कारें बना सकती हैं उन्हें बनाने की अनुमति दी जाये । चूंकि श्री रेखी की योजना में विदेशी सहयोग तथा विदेशी मुद्रा का खर्च निहित था, वह इस नीति के अनुकूल नहीं थी । तदनुसार, 3 दिसम्बर, 1970 को उन्हें एक कारण बताओ नोटिस दिया गया कि उनका आवेदन पत्र क्यों रद्द न कर दिया जाये । कारण बताओ नोटिस के प्रत्युत्तर में दिये गये उनके अभ्यावेदन के संबंध ।

[J English translation.