

सूचना तथा प्रसारण मंत्रालय और संसार विभाग में राज्य संत्री (श्री आई० के० गुजराल): (क) और (ख) भारत को किसी भी दूसरे देश में इस प्रकार की सुविधा उपलब्ध नहीं है। न ही हम किसी अन्य देश को यह सुविधा देते हैं।

†[THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b) No such facility is available to India in any other country. Nor do we give this facility to any other country.]

‡TARGET FOR MESTA PRODUCTION

498. SHRI R. P. KHAITAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the target fixed for Mesta production during the Fourth Five Year Plan;

(b) the names of the States where it will be produced; and

(c) the special steps that are being taken to increase the yield of Mesta?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHAB SHINDE) : (a) The mesta production target has been fixed at 17 lakh bales at the end of the Fourth Five Year Plan.

(b) Mesta will be produced mainly in the States of Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Assam and Tripura.

(c) To increase the unit yield of Mesta the following Centrally sponsored schemes are being implemented in the different Mesta growing State:—

(i) Special Package Programme on Mesta wherein subsidised distribution of improved seed and the foliar spray of urea have been taken up along with other improved practices.

(ii) Aerial spraying of urea on mesta.

‡STRIKE BY THE ENGINEERING WORKERS

562. SHRI SALIL KUMAR GAN-GULY : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Engineering Workers of West Bengal observed one-day token strike on September 3, in support of their demands;

(b) if so, the main demands of the workers;

(c) whether Government have considered the demands;

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to meet the demands of the workers; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI D. SANJIVAYYA) : (a) Yes.

(b) The workers' main demands relate to implementation of the Tripartite Engineering Wage Settlement of 1969, categorisation and classification of workers, payment of one month's wage in addition to the bonus payable for this year, re-opening of closed units and withdrawal of lockouts, reinstatement of all retrenched and laid-off workmen with compensation, revision of the existing gratuity scheme, implementation of the award of the Seventh Industrial Tribunal, check on attempts at removal of industrial units or parts thereof from West Bengal etc.

(c) to (e) According to the information furnished by the Government of West Bengal, there were bipartite negotiations between the parties, namely, the two Engineering Associations on the employers' side and five Central Federations of engineering workers on the employees' side, but the parties failed to resolve the issues, particularly the issue relating to bonus. The employers' Associations are since reported to have advised their member units to try and settle, the issue of bonus payable in 1970, in particular, at the unit level. The State industrial relations machinery is also reported to have taken up individual disputes relating to closure and lock-out, and other issues in conciliation with a view to securing an amicable settlement.

‡[]English translation.

‡Transferred from the 19th November, 1970.