

WE WORKED A LOT.....DIDN'T RECEIVE EVEN A SINGLE PIE

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Every where gathering of people.....eagerly waiting for wages.....searching for pay slips..... gauru yadamma didn't get her pay slip. She got anger. She seriously said, "no money for food. Should we die like this if we believe government.." midde suramma questioned strongly, "no food, nothing....didnt get result of our hard work what should we eat?" other women also expressed their sad feelings. Tjhey started revealing their sorrows. "I worked for 30 days. I borrowed thousand rupees from the provisions shop. They are scolding me."- explained Bayikodi Yadamma. "I also borrowed thousand rupees from shop. Didn't get even a single pie. Debt is as it is." Dasli. Meanwhile kurra raju came forward and said , "we ran like anything thinking that we can get money. They didn't pay even after seven months. You would have come in the early morning. The road was jammed in front of this house." He explained very clearly how hundreds of people gathered there that morning for receiving their pay slips. This is the experience faced by the people of Loyapalli village of Manchala Mandal in Ranga Reddy District on 6th. This is the seen in front of the house of Mr.Venkatesh, field assistant of Employment Assurance Scheme. The Programme Officer Mr. Suribabu conveyed on the day before that the payments of wages were over in manchala mandal. But, loyapalli village workers were saying evidently that "he is not telling the truth." Loyapally.....is the village which is having the maximum number of job card holders in the manchala mandal. This is the village having 90%of workers. In this village 1375 families had job cards. Over 1100 workers constructed 15000 banks in 4000 acres of land. They were subjected to great negligence while receiving the fruit of their hard work. According to national rural employment assurance scheme, wages should be paid to the labour within one week from the date of completion of work. In any circumstances payment of wages should not exceed 15 days. But in this village wages were not paid even after seven months. These workers not known that according to Wages Payment Law -1936(4 of 1936), they can get compensation for the delay of payment of wages from the date which has been mentioned in the scheme. In this connection the workers who are not able to get their wages within the mentioned time are facing so many troubles. In the ending of the last month hundreds of such workers, belonging to loyapalli and other such villagers went on a strike in front of Mancala Mandal Office under Governance of Andhra Pradesh Agricultural Workers Union. They restrained for two hours. May be due to these all activities, on January 5th the authorities have deposited the wages of 500 workers belonging to loyapalli. Also they have sent pay slips to field assistant. The next day morning on a large scale the village workers rushed to field assistants house for collecting their pay slips. They came to know that pay slips were not been sent for about 300 workers. Once again they were disappointed. According to the latest details conveyed by the field assistant on 25th the authorities have sent the pay slips of third phase. But this time also they disappointed 88 workers by

exempting them from giving wages. The situation in the remaining villages of manchala mandal is not as bad as loyapalli. But in that villages also wages were not paid with in time. In dadpalli village, the workers who worked in the month of September, didn't receive their wages till January. G.Srinivas, belonging to the same village said " we didn't receive our wages till January while we were expecting them in the month of October. According to the field assistant, Mr.Ravinder of Japala Village the workers in self assistance groups were not showing interest towards these works. They were not abloe to pay their weekly installments of their savings as their wages were delayed.

Mr. Ravinder said, "according to Law wages should be paid within fifteen days. But due to work pressure, it is taking 15 days only for sending wages details to mandal office. In addition to this, only two technical assistants are available in the mandal instead of three. Only one computer operator is available while two are required. Such factors are becoming reasons for delay payments of wages." P.O said, " payment of wages only through one post office, and lack of experience are also the causes for delay. When loyapalli case is taken, that village is under marriguda postoffice of nalgonda District. He explained that this is also a cause for the delay payment of wages. In this connection the arrangements have been made to pay the wages through grameena bank in bodakonda.

Whatever may be the causes for the delay of payments of wages, this is throwing the workers in terrible financial problems. It is drowning them into debts. In this scenario, at somanuy places in the district the workers protested in different ways under the governance of Agricultural Labour Union. According to the details revealed by the state secretary of the union Mr. Nune Venkata swamy, so many agitations were went at different places in the state. The similar circumstances can be seen in Adilabad district, which has a great fame that it is the one of the district among the four districts where the Employment Assurance Scheme has been implementing successfully. Mr.Ashok, the secretary of Adilabad district Agricultural Labour Union conveyed "in Kogdur of Bela Mandal wages were not paid for six months. In bela mandal and also in adilabad mandal agitations for wages were not been avoided. The authorities are not able to digest this situation. Ashok was telling that the authorities were thinking this is making as a political issue. Mandal Development Officer suspended Mr.Venkatesh, the field assistant of loyapalli village, thinking that he is responsible for the agitations. On the other hand the dishonest people are showing their anger on union members,as these members were looking after and trying to obstruct the shortcomings in implementing the scheme. For obstructing these short comings in damacharla mandal of nalgonda district, the division leader Mr.Dhiravat Bhima Nayak was stabbed by the ruling party activists. They demolished his house. In addition to this, the heads in the villages were thinking that they are loosing their authority on labour due to this scheme. This type of challenges are quiet common in the trials of protecting the survival of labour and the country. For the proper implementation of the employment assurance scheme, it is necessary to overcome this type of challenges. In this connection the labour should be energized to great extent. This will make the employment assurance scheme a grand success. The p[roper implementation of the scheme will lead to the development of the villages. The

daily needs of the labour will be fulfilled, and at the same time social wealth can be increased. So it is necessary for the organizations, which desire the development of the country to unite the labour. We should appreciate the organizations such as Agricultural Labour Union for conducting such a great programme.

“AGITATION AS WEAPON.....”

The state secretary of Agricultural Labour Union Mr.Nune Venkata Swamy is telling, “ agitations are unavoidable in order to get implement the Employment Assurance Scheme. Not only for the sake of the wages, but also for the work agitations are to be started.” He is supervising the union activities in ranga reddy district. He is participating directly in different agitations that were gone. According to the details conveyed by Mr. Venkanta Swamy In Chiriala village of Keesara Mandala of ranga reddy district the workers didn't receive their wages for which they work under “Food for work Scheme”. Due to this they are not showing interest “Employment Assurance Scheme”. The field assistants who cannot understand this matter of saying that applications are not coming for the workers. In this connection last year in a month of May the labours attacked the chiriala panchayat office. They demanded for conducting the village conference and for showing the work to agricultural labour. But till now village conference is not conducted . Work are not running. Ravalkot village is a major panchayat in Medchel Mandal . Here the workers are showing their interest towards the Employment Assurance Scheme works. But the village secretary is discouraging them by telling that they could not get morethan forty rupees of day. The authorities promised that they will take action on such a secretary . But there is not evidence of fulfillment of their promise. In the west regions of ranga raddy district severe agitations were gone for the sake of wages. The workers conducted a strike infront of M.P.D.O. office in Puduru. In Dandu Mailaram they blockaded Z.P. Chariman . Loyapalli workers conducted a strike infront of M.P.D.O. office for not getting wages even after six months. Such type of agitations are going on at other places in the state. In K. Samudram of Warangal district 2,500 workers surrounded M.P.D.O. office for the sake of their wages.