

Manpower

Essential Labour in Agriculture

Government recognized need to maintain labour on farms by measures for stabilization of employment in agriculture announced on March 24 of last year.

So far as military training and service is concerned effectiveness of measures can be illustrated by figures.

Before the stabilization order was passed, only 63% of requests for postponements by farmers and agricultural workers were granted; since the order was passed over 93% have been granted and less than 7% refused.

Increasingly stringent control is being exercised over the granting of permits to farmers and agricultural workers to seek employment outside agriculture. All but a very small number of the permits granted have been of a temporary nature and for seasonal employment in essential primary industries.

Government recognizes that stabilization measures only conserve existing labour and do not provide additional help which may be needed.

Shortages bound to occur in agriculture as in other activities, because of magnitude of manpower mobilized for armed forces and war industries.