

U.N. Secretary General's Visit

- *1266. { Shri A. M. Tariq:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Hem Barua:
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Harish Chandra
Mathur:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware of the visit of U N Secretary General to Srinagar and Kashmir, and

(b) if so, the nature of the visit?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) and (b) Mr Hammarskjöld is making an official tour of several countries in South-East Asia, including India. His proposed visit to Kashmir is in the discharge of his administrative duties connected with the work of the U N Military Observer Group there. He has stated that his visit "has absolutely no relation to the Kashmir question as such"

Calcutta Dock Labour Board

- *1267. { Shri Warior:
Shri Tangamani:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention had been drawn to the Press statement of the Chairman of the Calcutta Dock Labour Board regarding the Dockers' "Go Slow" move;

(b) whether Government had received any representation from the labour of Calcutta Dock Yard; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) Yes

(b) Yes

(c) The main demand of the workers is for payment of wages and

attendance allowance to which they have dis-entitled themselves because of wrongful stoppage of work. Moreover, these payments are regulated under the provisions of the Calcutta Dock Workers (Regulation of Employment) Scheme, 1956. Consequently no action is called for.

Closure of Ilmenite Producing Factory

- *1268. { Shri Tangamani:
Shri A. K. Gopalan:
Shri Kunhan:
Shri Warior:
Shri Kodiyar:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the ilmenite producing factory of Hopkins and Williams Ltd at Manavalakurichi in Madras State closed down from the 9th March, 1959

(b) if so, the reasons therefor,

(c) whether 400 factory workers and 2,500 other workers connected with mines were thrown out of employment, and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government in the matter?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Yes

(b) Messrs Hopkins & Williams informed the Department of Atomic Energy on 6th February, 1959 that they were closing their ilmenite factory at Manavalakurichi with effect from 9th March, 1959 as there was no demand for the grade of ilmenite produced there. They have an unsold stock of about 20,000 tons, equivalent to 18 months' production

(c) 323 workers including about 93 workers employed by Contractors in connection with mining are affected by the closure of the factory

(d) Every possible effort has been made to prevent closure of the factory. Attempts have been made to find a market for this ilmenite in a number of foreign countries, even at a reduced price, if necessary