

LOK SABHA DEBATES

Tuesday, 8th April 1958

Second

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(8th April to 22nd April, 1958)



FOURTH SESSION, 1958

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**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Tuesday, 8th April, 1958

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Trade with Russia

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*1515. { Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
 Shri Heda:
 Shri Daljit Singh:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the import and export trade of India with Russia recorded an upward trend during 1957-58; and

(b) the names of the Communist countries with which India is having unfavourable balance of trade?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) U.S.S.R., Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Poland, Hungary, Albania, North Korea and Mongolian People's Republic. The trade with the latter two countries is negligible.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: What are the main articles imported and exported in 1956-57 as far as U.S.S.R. is concerned?

Shri Kanungo: Imports have been largely of iron and steel and machinery. Exports have been of the order of about 23 items coffee, cashew, tea, spice, shellac, hides, hardware, jute manufactures and so on.

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Shri Rameshwar Tantia: Are there any special trade agreements with U.S.S.R.?

Shri Kanungo: There are no special trade agreements; we have the usual trade agreement with them as we have with other countries.

Shri Heda: In view of the rather stable trade with the Iron Curtain countries, may I know whether Government are thinking to have a sort of ratio fixed between our currency and their currency?

Shri Kanungo: The trade is not stable as yet, because the balance position is against us.

Shri Kumaran: Is it not a fact that the balance of trade with the U.S.S.R. during the year 1956-57 was in our favour, and the unfavourable trade balance during the year 1957-58 is due to large import of iron and steel products comprising nearly 80 per cent of Soviet imports into this country?

Shri Kanungo: When the trade was small the balance was in our favour, and when the trade increased the balance went against us because the value of imports was much higher.

Shri Damani: What is the total amount of purchases made from Russia on the deferred payment basis?

Shri Kanungo: I have no information at present.

Shri Kasliwal: In reply to part (b) of the question, the hon. Minister has given the names of a number of countries with which we are having unfavourable balance of trade. May I know what steps Government are now proposing to take to turn that unfavourable balance into at least a parity basis trade or a favourable balance of trade?

Shri Kanungo: That is what we are always trying. As we have explained before in this House, as a result of negotiations and visits of trade delegations from their countries as well as ours, we hope that when we are able to export more the position may be balanced.

Shri Ranga: Is it a fact that our trade with these countries is on a Government-to-Government basis or with some organisations set up by the Government on their side, whereas those Governments insist upon dealing not only with our State Trading Corporation but also with our private trade?

Shri Kanungo: We do not restrict it to a Government to Government basis only, but the other countries restrict it entirely to their governmental organisations. In India, private parties are also welcome to have negotiations if they like.

Shri Ranga: Is it not a fact that our own State Trading Corporation suggested to them that they should purchase only through the State Trading Corporation just as we are purchasing through the governmental agencies on the other side?

Shri Kanungo: No. We do not insist on that.

Shri Goray: Could the hon. Minister name a few private agencies with which these countries are having trade in India?

Shri Kanungo: I have not got that information here.

Shri Tyagi: May I know how many of these eastern countries are having trade with us on the rupee exchange basis?

Shri Kanungo: I have not got the exact break-up, but most of the countries have rupee agreements with us.

Industrial Estate, Batala (Punjab)

*1516. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the progress made

so far in the Industrial Estate at Batala in the Punjab State?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): A piece of land measuring about 90 Bighas (351 Kanals) has been selected and steps for its acquisition are now being taken by the Punjab Government. The work of construction of industrial units, roads, drainage, etc., is proposed to be taken in hand during the current financial year.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know by what time this Industrial Estate will be an accomplished fact?

Shri Manubhai Shah: By the end of this year.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know whether any phased programme of spending money on this Industrial Estate has been taken up; and, if so, what is the nature of that programme?

Shri Manubhai Shah: There is no phased programme; the whole Estate will come up all at once. The land has been acquired, construction contracts are being given and the entrepreneur class and all that are being invited. When all the common facilities are ready the whole Estate will go into production.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know what particular industries are going to be located there?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Generally, it will be light engineering, knitting, hosiery and all those which are well developed in that place.

Prices of Cement

*1517. **Shri V. C. Shukla:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the particulars of the retail consumer's price for cement obtaining in the country in the years 1954 and 1955; and

(b) the price which the consumer was required to pay in the period after the State Trading Corporation

of India (Private) Ltd. took over the distribution of cement?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 1].

Shri V. C. Shukla: From the statement it appears that the retail price of cement was increased by Rs. 4.25 per ton when the State Trading Corporation took over distribution of cement. May I know what percentage of the price increase goes to make the net profit of the State Trading Corporation?

Shri Manubhai Shah: This matter has been debated and discussion in the House several times that Rs. 4, which has now been transferred to the excise pool, was a part of increase due to import programme. Once the import programme was given up, we immediately brought down that figure and shifted it to the excise pool. The hon. Member will see from the statement that under item 4 it is clearly mentioned that from Rs. 97.50 it was again brought back to Rs. 93.50, and Rs. 4 transferred to the excise pool by raising the excise duty from Rs. 20 to Rs. 24.

Shri V. C. Shukla: May I know what is the quantum of profit that the S.T.C. is getting by the business of cement distribution?

Shri Manubhai Shah: It has been given to the House from time to time. No separate accounting is kept, but about Rs. 35 lakhs to Rs. 40 lakhs seem to be the profit from cement.

Shri Dasappa: May I know whether it is only the commission that the State Trading Corporation gets out of this deal or, is it that they have got some higher margin as they had last time?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The present position has been the same as it was in the past. Equalised price is charged by the State Trading Corporation and whatever losses or gains are there on any particular transaction are all borne by the S.T.C. So, at the end of the year the whole deal will give

out whether profit has been there or loss has been there.

Shri Dasappa: Sir, my question has not been answered. I wanted to know whether the S.T.C. gets only the commission.

Shri Manubhai Shah: There is no separate commission as such. There are different incidental charges like freight charges, transport charges etc. which are all to be borne by the S.T.C. About 12 annas or so at one stage has been reserved per ton for the so-called commission purposes, but that also is not a separate commission charged. It is a part of the price. The entire expenditure is borne by the S.T.C. and the entire realisation also goes to the S.T.C.

Shri Joachim Alva: When cement has been imported from abroad especially from socialist countries at a cheaper rate, why is the consumer not being given benefit of the lower prices?

Shri Manubhai Shah: My hon. friend is perhaps rather mis-informed. No countries, whether socialist or otherwise, have cement cheaper than ours. As far as the imported prices are concerned, it was as a result of the difference of about Rs. 40 to Rs. 50 between our prices and the imported prices that the prices had to be put up during the last 1½ years.

Shri Goray: What useful function is the State Trading Corporation discharging so far as cement is concerned?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Transport of cement has been rationalised. Previously, as I have told the hon. House from time to time, from Saurashtra cement had to go to Punjab and from Madras it had to go right to the east of India. Now we have been able to make smaller circles and as far as possible beyond 300 miles we do not allow cement to go out. The second advantage has been that the offtake of cement from any particular factory is now much better regulated than it was when there was free trade.

Shri Ranga: Has any effort been made in this direction? Is it the intention of the Government to make every effort to reduce the price of cement, when it is said that we are producing more and that we are no longer in need of costlier imports?

Shri Manubhai Shah: There is no such intention. As a matter of fact, if the hon. Member remembers, he will recollect that recently we put up the excise duty by Rs. 4, and this is a soare commodity. A slight amount of increased production has yet not satisfied the national demands.

Shri V. C. Shukla: May I know what is the specific nature of services which the STC renders to the consumer of cement?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The STC renders services just as the normal trading agents do. More than that, there is rationalised transport. As I said just now, wherever the factories are finding it difficult and the consumer is not getting cement in time, this particular agency, by co-ordinating the entire movement between the supplier and the purchaser, facilitates the distribution of cement very considerably.

Displaced Persons from East Pakistan

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*1518. { **Shri D. C. Sharma:**
 { **Shri Muhammed Elias:**
 { **Shri Kalika Singh:**

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the number of displaced persons from East Pakistan who crossed the frontier into India during the period from 1st September, 1957 to 31st March, 1958;

(b) the number of persons who went from India to East Pakistan during the same period;

(c) whether the influx of displaced persons from East Pakistan has increased or decreased as compared to the preceding six months of 1957; and

(d) if there is an increase, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) 2602 persons migrated to India from East Pakistan during the period from September, 1957 to February, 1958. Figures for the month of March, 1958 are still awaited from the State Governments.

(b) 167.

(c) The influx of migrants from East Pakistan has decreased.

(d) Does not arise.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if the decrease in the influx is due to the tightening in the obtaining of migration certificates?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: The migration procedures have been revised, but I do not think the decrease is due to the tightening of migration certificates.

Shri Mahanty: May we know if this influx is on account of economic reasons or for communal reasons?

Mr. Speaker: A little louder.

Shri Mahanty: May I know if this migration is on account of economic hardships in East Pakistan or on account of communal reasons? If it is on account of economic hardships, may we know whether it is the policy of the Government to mitigate the economic hardships of the minorities of other countries?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): I suppose it is a mixture of causes—those that the hon. Member mentioned, and may be other causes too. It is pretty difficult to analyse these psychological and economic urges in regard to groups of people.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: May I know how many applications for migration were outstanding during this period and how many were actually granted?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: The number of applications pending on the 1st March, 1958, is 34,858.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: How many have been granted?

Seth Govind Das: Is the hon. Minister aware that the persons who come from East Pakistan are generally in the Sealdah station at Calcutta and their number is sometimes even up to 12,000 to 14,000, there is a big crowd there, and that there is dirtiness there? Is any effort being made to rehabilitate these persons who come from East Pakistan to Calcutta?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: May I say something about it? What the hon. Member says is largely correct. It is most unfortunate. On several occasions, in the past years, Sealdah station has been cleared and these people were taken to camps, etc. The last time it was cleared—I am not sure of the date—was, I think, in November last. Subsequently it was filled up, and then cleared. It has not been filled up again. But ever since November, the rate of refugees coming from Pakistan is relatively low. I should think that the number was much because of the others who have gone there. A census was taken one, some kind of census, of people there. It appeared that 56 per cent of those at Sealdah station then were not refugees at all. Most of the others were refugees who had been taken away sometimes to camps, sometimes to other places, and they had come back. It is a mixture. This is the difficulty to be faced, when non-refugees come. We removed them at every time and put them in camps. So Sealdah station becomes a kind of way, a camp, for doles for all kinds of people, even for those who are not refugees. This is the difficulty.

Mr. Speaker: Shri D. C. Sharma.

Raja Mahendra Pratap: May I know from the hon. Prime Minister—

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Member must observe the rules of procedure here.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if any meetings at ministerial level have been held in order to discuss this problem of exodus and, if so, when was the last meeting held?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: There have been several meetings previously, but I do not think there has been a meeting in the last year and a half or more, maybe a year and nine months. But so far as the exodus question is concerned, the hon. Members would have noted that the actual exodus has fallen much below the previous figures.

Raja Mahendra Pratap: Is the hon. Prime Minister aware—

Mr. Speaker: Next question. I have allowed a number of questions on this.

Shri Jadhav: It is very difficult to catch your eye on this side.

Mr. Speaker: A number of Members catch my eye on this side also.

Government Hostels

*1519. **Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large amount of rent due from the residents of the Government hostels maintained in New Delhi is in arrears since long;

(b) if so, the extent of such arrears;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps that have been taken by Government to realize them?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) and (b). The amount due for recovery at the end of December 1957 was Rs. 96,994. As the average of monthly assessment totals Rs. 41,045 and the dues for one month are recovered in the succeeding month, the real arrears may be reckoned as Rs. 55,949. Arrears to the extent of Rs. 39,299 relate to the years 1955-56 and 1956-57 and the rest to earlier years.

(c) The bulk of the arrears are in fact paper arrears because intimation of recovery by the Accounts Officers of the respective Government allottees have not been received by the Estate Office.

(d) Department-wise lists of arrears are being prepared and an officer has been placed on special duty to have details of recovery noted by personal contact with the Departments concerned.

Shri Sanganna: May I know what methods have been adopted by Government to recover these arrears—whether they are penal or otherwise?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: If you scrutinise, the arrears are not really of a very big nature. During the last six years, the total rents came up to a little over Rs. 29 lakhs, and the collection was Rs. 28,20,000. If you leave out one month's rent, the arrears come to about Rs. 55,000, that is, less than two per cent. We have appointed a Special Officer who is making personal contact with the various Ministries so that the arrears may be expeditiously recovered.

Shri Liladhar Kotoki: May I know whether these arrears are good debts or bad debts, that is whether there is any difficulty for their realisation?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: Actually, they are not real arrears. We think so as most of them are because of paper adjustments not having been made yet.

Sholapur Spinning and Weaving Mills, Ltd.

*1520. **Shri Goray:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 2 on the 11th February, 1958 and state whether the Committee appointed to inquire into the affairs of the Sholapur Spinning and Weaving Mills Ltd. and some other mills have since submitted its report?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): No, Sir.

Shri Goray: Is it a fact that the Somani Committee which was appointed in September last year has not yet found time to visit Sholapur?

Shri Kanungo: I do not know. They are expected to submit their report by the end of this month. It is not necessary to visit Sholapur for investigation.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: Is not the Government loan to this particular mill outstanding for a considerable time, and may I know what steps the Government have taken to realise it and what are the chances?

Shri Kanungo: The company has paid the interest up-to-date. The total outstanding debts stand there, and we stand in the same position as any other creditor.

Shri Goray: In view of the fact that the Government have extended Rs. 1 crore to this company and also in view of the fact that about Rs. 50 lakhs from the provident fund of the workers was not deposited in the Government treasury in time according to the rules, may I know what steps Government contemplate to take against this company?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): The condition is fairly bad in so far as this mill is concerned in every respect and I would like the House to wait for a little time more. That committee would be submitting its report by the end of this month. There are complicated problems and it would be advisable to wait for the report; then we will gladly take the House into confidence.

Shri Goray: Have the Government received any representation or any scheme from the workers themselves?

Shri Kanungo: The Bombay Government is considering certain schemes.

Shri Heda: Under the new arrangement, a successful mill-owner from Bombay was put in charge of this mill. May I know whether Government have assessed his working and what is their assessment?

Shri Kanungo: We have no information about what the hon. Member says.

Mat Industry in West Bengal

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*1521 { **Shri Subodh Hansda:**
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Mat Industry in West Bengal is in a dying condition; and

(b) if so, what are the main causes?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The question does not arise.

Shri Subodh Hansda: If the industry is not in a dying condition, may I know what steps Government propose to take to improve the mat industry in West Bengal?

Shri Manubhai Shah: That is precisely the question put by the hon. Member and we have gone into this matter. This is really not in that condition. However, it may be that in a particular place it is not thriving as much as it should. I will be obliged to the hon. Member if he makes a pointed reference to such cases and we will certainly look into them.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is it a fact that artisans who were manufacturing fine mats in West Bengal are taking over to other professions, because their products are not finding market?

Shri Manubhai Shah: There may be other reasons why they are diverting their energies. But as far as improving the technique is concerned, we have established a research centre. We have a design centre and we are strengthening the co-operative societies. So, by and large, the industry is not in a bad condition. If there are individual cases, as I

have said just now, we will certainly look into them.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: May I know whether Government have offered any facilities to enable the artisans to market their products?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Yes; all these efforts of the different boards and different corporations are aimed at creating markets for them both internally and externally. Several Government departments are also purchasing them.

State Trading Corporation of India (Private) Ltd.

*1522. **Shri Damani:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the efforts made by the State Trading Corporation of India (Private) Ltd. to know the habits and tastes of the foreign consumers for our indigenous products meant for exports especially shoes, handicrafts etc. with a view to popularise them abroad?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): The State Trading Corporation is endeavouring to export indigenous products like shoes, handicrafts, etc. mostly to the East European countries, where trading is a State monopoly. The Corporation is in constant touch with the trade representatives of the East European countries in India. It also receives, from time to time, delegations of the import organisations in those countries.

In addition to the above steps taken by the Corporation, Government of India's Commercial Representatives in foreign countries keep the Corporation informed through the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, from time to time, of the possibilities of developing export trade with those countries.

Shri Damani: May I know what has been the total quantum of the orders booked by the S.T.C. for handicrafts and shoes during 1957-58

and what portion of them has been exported?

Shri Kanungo: I have not got the separate break-up for handicrafts and shoes, but the total orders booked will run into several crores. As a matter of fact, in the trade fairs, we have been able to book orders exceeding Rs. one crore. The total would run up to Rs. 5 crores.

Shri Liladhar Kotaki: May I know the items of these exports and the amounts thereof?

Shri Kanungo: It is a long list; I will place it on the Table of the House.

Shri Thimmiah: May I know whether the Government would open an emporium for these handicrafts in all the foreign countries which are friendly to India?

Shri Kanungo: It is not necessary at all, because the trade is a monopoly in the countries mentioned here.

Shri Panigrahi: May I know whether any complaint has been received by the State Trading Corporation from these countries with regard to the delay in the export of the handicrafts?

Shri Kanungo: There have been occasional difficulties mostly due to shipping and all that.

Jute Goods

*1524. **Shri Heda:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Jute Mills Association has fixed minimum prices for jute goods; and

(b) if so, what are its effects on our exports?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is too early to assess the ultimate effects, but, so far, no adverse feature is noticeable.

Shri Heda: May I know whether it is in the observation of the Government that whenever there is a buyers' market, the raw jute exporters suffer because of the internal competition?

Shri Kanungo: That is exactly what this measure of the I.J.M.A. is designed to protect.

Shri Heda: May I know whether the Government think that the step taken by the Jute Association is adequate or are Government going to take a few other steps in this regard?

Shri Kanungo: At the moment, this is found adequate.

Shri Kasliwal: May I know whether this Jute Mills Association fixed this minimum price after consultation with the Government or on their own initiative?

Shri Kanungo: This has been done on their own initiative. This is a voluntary act of the Jute Mills Association.

Shri Ranga: Is it in any way related to the supplementary steps that are to be taken like assurance of a fixed minimum price for raw jute to the jute producers?

Shri Kanungo: There is no statutory fixation of price for jute, but the ratio of the price of jute products to the price of raw jute which was envisaged by the Jute Commission is fairly maintained.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: As raw jute is being sold at much cheaper rates compared to the price of the manufactured goods, may I know whether the Government is advising the mills to buy raw jute at a minimum price?

Shri Kanungo: The ratio of raw jute price to the price of manufactured goods which was envisaged by the Jute Commission is fairly maintained.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: May I know whether there is a recommendation from the Agriculture Ministry to fix minimum price for jute?

Shri Kanungo: While the Jute Commission's report was discussed and resolution was passed, it was found that it was not necessary to do so.

Indian Detenus in Pakistan

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*152% { **Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:**
 Shri Raghunath Singh:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India's attention has been drawn to a statement reported to have been made by the Minister for Interior of Pakistan before the National Assembly at Karachi on March 5, 1958 to the effect that there were two Indian nationals under detention under the Security of Pakistan Act;

(b) if so, what are the actual facts about this matter; and

(c) the steps so far taken to secure the release of these two Indian nationals?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There are three persons in detention in Pakistan namely Sarvashri Beli Ram, Lal Chand and Ajudhiya Nath.

Sarvashri Beli Ram and Lal Chand joined the D.A.V. College Transit Camp, Lahore for evacuation to India in June 1953. They were arrested by Pakistan Police on 22nd October 1953 on a charge of spying and they have since been under detention in Pakistan under the Security of Pakistan Act.

Government of India got information from Shri Ajudhiya Nath's wife in March, 1957 that he was under arrest in Pakistan.

(c) Our High Commission at Karachi took up Shri Ajudhiya Nath's case with the Government of Pakistan but that Government asked for information about the place and the District where Shri Ajudhiya Nath was reported to have been arrested or de-

tained. Efforts to obtain this information from his wife did not prove fruitful. Our High Commission in Karachi are taking up the matter again as it is now confirmed in the statement made by the Pakistan Minister for the Interior that Shri Ajudhiya Nath is in detention in Pakistan.

Our Deputy High Commissioner at Lahore took up the case of Sarvashri Beli Ram and Lal Chand with the West Pakistan Government in March, 1955. He was informed that due consideration had been given to their cases but that it had been decided to continue them in detention.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: May I know if we have any information as regards the treatment in Pakistan jail, because Press reports have said that treatment in Pakistan jails is not at all what it should be?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: We do not have any more information than what has appeared in the Press about the treatment in Pakistan jails.

Shri Hem Barua: The hon. Deputy Minister has just now stated that the Pakistan Government has informed us that they are being detained. Has the Pakistan Government given us the reasons for their decision to detain these people?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: It is already stated in the answer that they have been detained for alleged spying.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: May I know whether our High Commissioner in Karachi has gone into the grounds of detention and whether he at least is satisfied that there are some grounds on which detention can be made?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): I imagine not; it is not right. The High Commissioner concerned can draw their attention to these matters. But he cannot compel the Pakistan Government to show him all the papers and other things. It is a matter of courtesy.

Verification of Claims

*1526. **Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) how many persons who were mortgagees in possession of land for more than 60 years and whose claims were not at first entertained have got their claims verified subsequently; and

(b) how many claims for rehabilitation grants under the provisions of Rule 96 (2) (i) and (ii) of the Displaced Persons (Compensation and Rehabilitation) Rules, 1955 have been verified?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri P. S. Naskar): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: May I know whether any compensation has been paid to any of the persons mentioned in (a) and (b)?

Shri P. S. Naskar: As I said, the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House. Hon. Member can give notice after that.

Export of Coffee

*1257. **Shri Jinachandran:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the export price of coffee has gone down considerably and that only very small quantity could be sold during the second half of 1957;

(b) what steps Government are going to take to arrest this fall in price in view of the repercussions it will have on the internal market; and

(c) whether Government have any new proposal under consideration to change the present mode of export trade of coffee?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) Export prices of coffee went down during the second half of 1957 and small quantities only were sold during the first two export sales in February 1958.

(b) Prices secured in export sales follow the trend of prices in the world market. Efforts are made to obtain as good a price as possible by judicious releases and acceptance of offers considering the world price at the time of sale.

(c) Proposals are under consideration for new methods of export sales so as to obtain better prices for coffee.

Shri Jinachandran: In view of the steep fall in the export price of coffee, will the Government consider giving a rebate of duty on coffee to enable the industry to have fair competition in the foreign markets?

Shri Kanungo: It is not as bad as that. We believe that by the new methods which we are contemplating, the export taking will rise, considering the continual lowering of prices in other countries.

Shri Ayyakannu: May I know whether the Government has considered the question of reducing the export price of coffee in the contracts entered into by the Coffee Board, as recommended by the Plantation Enquiry Committee?

Shri Kanungo: The Plantation Enquiry Committee has not exactly advised that way. But, as I said, we are considering various modifications in the export sales organisation. The actual sales, both internal and external, are controlled by the Board.

Shri Shivananjappa: May I know whether it is a fact that a particular firm in Madras enjoys a monopoly of the coffee export, about 75 per cent?

Shri Kanungo: No, that is not correct. But the exporters who offer bids are limited. Therefore, we are trying to induce other exporters to enter the auction.

Shri Achar: Is the Government considering the question of sending a delegation of coffee interests to foreign countries to explore new markets?

Shri Kanungo: Our portion of the export is only 0.27 per cent of the world market. So, there is no point in sending a delegation.

River Feni

*1530. **Shri Bangshi Thakur:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement has been reached between India and Pakistan regarding river Feni; and

(b) if so, the details of the agreement?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Bangshi Thakur: Is it not a fact that during Maharaja's rule Tripura was enjoying the right over the river Feni in matters of export, import navigation, fishing etc. and the only condition was that the duties on exports, either from Tripura State or from Chittagong Hill Tracts should be divided between Tripura Government and British Government in the ratio of 10 annas and 6 annas in the rupee respectively? Does it exist even now? If not, why not?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: This question relates to an agreement regarding the boundary. This has nothing to do with export, import or price.

Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya: The question is whether the Government of India is maintaining the rights that were enjoyed by the Tripura State over this river.

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: That is the matter under dispute. That was the boundary before the partition. Midstream was regarded as the boundary between Chittagong Hill Tracts and Tripura. We claim midstream as

the boundary, whereas the Pakistan Government claims that the whole river is the boundary.

Shri Bangshi Thakur: Was not that right being enjoyed by the Maharaja from time immemorial?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: That is exactly what we say. But the Pakistan Government does not admit it

प्रधान मंत्री की तिब्बत यात्रा

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*१५३३. { श्री भक्त दर्शन :
 { श्री रघुनाथ सिंह :

क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि चीनी गणराज्य की सरकार ने उन्हें तिब्बत घाने का निमंत्रण दिया है ; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो क्या यह निमंत्रण स्वीकार कर लिया गया है ?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):

(a) Yes.

(b) Yes. But the date for the visit to Tibet has not been fixed as yet.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : क्या तिब्बत यात्रा में केवल लामा जाने का निमंत्रण मिला है या कैलाश मानसरोवर तथा तिब्बत के दूसरे भागों में भी जाने का विचार है ?

प्रधान मंत्री तथा वैदेशिक कार्य मंत्री (श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू) : हम मिलमिले में कैलाश मानसरोवर की कोई चर्चा नहीं हुई है।

श्री भक्त दर्शन : अभी कुछ दिनों पहले प्रधान मंत्री जी ने एक पत्रकार सम्मेलन अर्थात् प्रेस कांफरेंस में यह बताया था कि इस देश के कार्य भार में वे कुछ थिथिन हों रहें हैं। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या तिब्बत यात्रा का एक उद्देश्य यह भी है कि भारत की गर्मी से बच कर तिब्बत की ठंड में जा कर कुछ दिन विश्राम किया जाय ?

Shri Panigrahi: May I know whether there is any proposal for our Prime Minister paying a visit to Sikkim and Bhutan on his way to Tibet?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not quite understand the question. Sikkim is not a foreign country. I sometimes go there. I was there too once before. Obviously, when I go to Tibet, if I go by road, the only way is by Sikkim. It is on the way. So far as Bhutan is concerned, I have had for the last four years an invitation from the Maharaja to go there and I very much like to go there. But the journey takes much longer than the tour round the globe by air. It takes so much time because there are no roads and no air fields. It will take at least three weeks to go there and come back, without going into the far interior. I am unable to find that time. I hope to go there one day.

श्री बजरज सिंह : तिब्बत यात्रा में कितने दिन ठहरने का कार्य क्रम बनाया गया है ?

श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू : कोई कार्यक्रम नहीं बना है, लेकिन खयाल था कि शायद सात घाट या दस दिन वहाँ लग जायें ।

Handicrafts in Himachal Pradesh

*1536. **Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have a proposal to extend any financial aid to Himachal Pradesh for the development of Handicrafts during the Second Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the total money proposed to be allotted in this regard during the same period?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) An amount of Rs. 3 lakhs has been allotted to Himachal Pradesh for this purpose.

Shri Daljit Singh: May I know the details of the scheme for development of handicrafts in Himachal Pradesh?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The schemes are for basket-ware, potteries, wood work etc. There are very many difficulties. So far as our experience goes, it will be correct to say that the pace of development of handicrafts in Himachal Pradesh is not as fast as we desire it to be.

Allotment of Flats in Jungpura

*1538. **Shri Yajnik:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations from the local Shopkeepers Association against allotting some flats built on the shops in the Jungpura Extension to persons other than shopkeepers;

(b) how many of these flats have been allotted to such persons;

(c) how many flats still remain to be allotted; and

(d) whether these flats will be allotted to the owners of the shops on which they are built?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri P. S. Naskar): (a) Yes.

(b) Only two.

(c) Eleven.

(d) The flats will be allotted to such allottees of the shops below as have either no residential accommodation allotted to them or if they have been already allotted some residential accommodation elsewhere are prepared to surrender it.

Shri Yajnik: May I know if the occupant of one of the shops, who has not been given the flat above it, has a very large family of about thirteen persons, while the person, who has been given the flat above that shop,

has a very small family and has other shops and flats?

Shri P. S. Naskar: The fact is that 38 flats were available in Jangpura area. Two shopkeepers were found ineligible for allotment of the flats as one of them had sublet a shop and his allotment has been cancelled and the other had residential accommodation somewhere else. Unless he surrenders the other residential accommodation, we cannot allot him flat above the shop which he occupies.

Shri Yajnik: It is understood that in the allotment of these flats if a person has a very large family—in fact, much larger than six or seven persons—he is given another flat and that the man, who has actually been given the flat, owns many other shops and flats though he has a small family.

Shri P. S. Naskar: We are giving accommodation to individual families. The hon. Member is asking for multiple allotment which is not possible.

Shri Yajnik: Is the Government aware that quarrels have taken place between the people, who have been allotted the shops, and the people, who have been allotted the flats above them, and that some of these cases have gone to the courts? The law and order position in this regard should be seriously examined in order to obviate all these quarrels and troubles that are taking place.

Shri P. S. Naskar: We have no such information.

Shri Vajpayee: Is it a fact that flats have been allotted to such persons who have no shops in the market while the claims of these shopkeepers have been ignored?

Shri P. S. Naskar: The original decision related to Jangpura and two or three other areas. If the hon. Member has any particular case in view, he may let us know and we will look into it.

Indians in Burma

*1539. **Shri Ramanathan Chettiar:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian Nationals affected by Land Nationalisation Act in Burma; and

(b) the total compensation due to Indian Nationals under this Act?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) Exact figures in respect of Indian Nationals affected by the Land Nationalisation Act in Burma are not available, as the Land Nationalisation Department of the Government of Burma does not maintain separate records in respect of Indian Nationals.

(b) The total compensation due to Indian Nationals under this Act is estimated to be 4.6 crores Kyats.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: How much of the 4.6 crores Kyats, that is due as compensation to Indian nationals under this Act, has been paid so far?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: Our Embassy in Rangoon has been unofficially informed by the Chief Compensation Officer, Land Nationalisation, that compensation for nationalised lands amounting to 2,72,526 Kyats was paid to 168 Indian nationals till the 13th September, 1957.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: In view of this Act having been passed ten years ago in view of the distressing conditions of Indian nationals affected by this Act, what steps will Government of India take to see that the Burma Government consider the question of paying compensation at the earliest possible time to Indian nationals?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): The only step that we can take is to bring the matter courteously and politely to the notice of the Burma Government.

Shri Jalpal Singh: If I heard the hon. Deputy Minister correctly, in reply to (a) she said that a separate list

of Indian nationals has not been kept. Then how is it that she arrived at the figure in (b)?

Mr. Speaker: She has already said that they have been informed unofficially.

Shri Jaipal Singh: The figure of the amount due is given as a definite figure. If there is no figure for the first there can be no figure for the second.

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: We have got the figure of land belonging to Indians which has been nationalised.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The figure mentioned in (b) has been given in a Press Note of the Burma Government.

Shri Jaipal Singh: My point is totally different. I am sorry if the Leader of the House has....

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister has said that they have got a list of holdings of land acquired. Therefore irrespective of the number of persons affected—this is a different matter—compensation goes along with land. That is what the hon. Minister meant.

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: We have got the figures of the total acreage of land owned by the Chettians, which has been nationalised. On that basis we have calculated the prices.

Shri Hem Barua: Does the amount of compensation just now quoted by the hon. Deputy Minister cover only the compensation paid to Indian nationals whose lands were nationalised in 1953-54 and 1954-55?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member wants to know whether this amount relates only to acquisitions made in 1953 and 1954 or later acquisitions also. He does not want details of the land.

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: Applications are called for in respect of lands which have been nationalised during 1954-56 and 1956-57.

Mr. Speaker: What he wants to know is whether the figure of four crores and odd Kyats, which has been given by the hon. Deputy Minister, includes acquisitions made during 1953-54 only or of a later years also, i.e., 1956-57.

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: That figure covers the period till 16th March, 1957.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: These figures that we are giving have been supplied to the Press by a Minister of the Burmese Government. The Press statement was issued on the 16th March, 1957. So, presumably it deals up to that date and gives the details of the total agricultural land to be nationalised, the compensation involved, the total acreage owned by the Chettians and the total amount of compensation due to the Chettians and so on and so forth.

Shri Palaniyandy: In view of the fact that a section of the people in Madras State is affected by this nationalisation, will the hon. Prime Minister use his good offices to expedite the matter urgently?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I have already answered that question. There are many people affected by this including the section to which the hon. Member has referred.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: What is the total acreage of paddy land owned by Indian nationals which is affected by this Nationalisation Act?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: 23,43,755 acres approximately.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:...owned by Chettians.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: I want the total acreage of land owned by Indian nationals.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The figure, as given by my colleague, relates to the total land owned by Chettians. Whether it is all paddy land or not, I cannot say. Mostly it must be paddy land.

Export of Chrome Ore

*1540. **Shri V. C. Shukla:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the new markets which have recently been developed for the export of Chrome ore?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): The new markets which have recently been developed for export of Chrome ore are China, Norway and Switzerland.

Shri V. C. Shukla: What is the total value of chrome ore exported to these new markets?

Shri Kanungo: I have not got the value with me, but I have got the quantity, which works out at 10900 tons.

Shri V. C. Shukla: What is the total amount of chrome ore, which was exported before these new markets were developed?

Shri Kanungo: It was 48,000 tons. in 1955, 42000 in 1956 and 17000 in 1957 (Jan.-Aug.)

Landscape Committee Report

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*1542. { **Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:**
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Tangamani:
Shri Prabhat Kar:
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:

Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Landscape Committee set up by the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply has submitted its report;

(b) if so, its main recommendations; and

(c) whether a copy of the report will be laid on the Table of the House?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) The Landscape Committee set up by the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply is a Standing Advisory Body which meets from time to time and makes recommendations. The question of its submitting a report, therefore, does not arise.

(b) The Committee has had a number of meetings and made several recommendations in the matter of improving Government nurseries, planting of trees in the various Government colonies and their outskirts, replacing of unsuitable trees by better varieties, improving gardens, the Central Vista, the Children's Park near India Gate, etc.

(c) In view of (a) above, the question does not arise.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: Considering what has appeared in the papers, is this Committee only going to deal with improving Delhi or other cities in India as well?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: It deals only with New Delhi and its suburbs.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : क्या इस कमेटी के सामने कुछ ऐसे तथ्य व आंकड़े रखे गए हैं कि दिल्ली के कोन से इलाके ज्यादा बदमूरत हैं, ज्यादा गन्दे हैं ताकि वे पहले खूबसूरत बनाये जायें ?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: Since most of the Members of the Committee are connected with the C.P.W.D., I am sure they are aware of this.

Shri Dasappa: May I know who presides over this committee and whether he is an expert in landscape gardening or terrace gardening or things of that sort?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: The Chairman of the Committee is the Secretary of the Ministry.

Shri Dasappa: May I know whether he has any qualification in landscape gardening?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: There are several Members in the Committee who are amateur horticulturists and have considerable experience of gardening.

Shri Dasappa: Who are those members who are qualified in this business?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: They have not passed any examination. So, I cannot say that they are technically qualified. **Shri C. D. Deshmukh** is a member of the Committee; **Kunti Batra** is a Member; **Shri Randawa** of the I.C.A.R. is a member of the Committee.

Shri Dasappa: One simple question: whether there is anybody who is qualified.

Mr. Speaker: This is too small a question.

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri K. C. Reddy): The answer is, yes.

Mr. Speaker: Four questions have been allowed. Next question.

Indians in New Zealand

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*1542. **Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:**
{ **Shri N. R. Munisamy:**

Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indians residing in New Zealand;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Government of New Zealand had decided to permit 100 Indians to migrate into country this year and a similar quota next year;

(c) whether this permit to migrants is mutual and under what terms and conditions;

(d) whether the existing Indians now residing in New Zealand are subjected to colour prejudice;

(e) whether Indians there maintain the standard of living expected of them in that country; and

(f) whether facilities to the migrants for acquisition of citizenship in New Zealand will be afforded after a couple of years?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):

(a) 1800

(b) and (c). The Government of India have no information.

(d) There is no discrimination against Indians in New Zealand.

(e) Yes.

(f) Does not arise in view of answer given to parts (b) and (c) above.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: May I know, with 100 migrants that New Zealand may allow, if there is any special kind of people who will sponsor trades in New Zealand to these migrants?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: I have already said that there is no question of 100 people being allowed because the Government of India have no information about any proposal for 100 Indians to migrate to New Zealand.

Seth Govind Das: Is it fact that in New Zealand and in its neighbouring country Australia, the density of population is only 4 to 6 per square mile while in India it is more than 300. In these circumstances, when all these countries are in the Commonwealth, is any effort being made to negotiate so that our greater population may go and settle in New Zealand and in Australia?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): The hon. Member's information in the first part of the question is correct. As for any efforts being made to create different balances, we are not aware of any such efforts.

Seth Govind Das: I wanted to know, when all these countries are in the Commonwealth, whether any negotiation is possible for our greater population to go there and settle in those countries.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: This has nothing to do with the Commonwealth. They are independent countries that deal with each other. The fact of being in the Commonwealth or not being in the Commonwealth has no

relevance to this question. We may deal with each other on any question or not according to circumstances.

Shri Jaipal Singh: May I know why the hon. Member from Jubbulpore who did go to New Zealand, did not remain there?

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

श्री भक्त बर्षा : अभी हाल में न्यूजीलैंड के प्रधान मंत्री भारत आए थे । क्या उनके साथ वहां रहने वाले भारतीयों की समस्याओं के सम्बन्ध में परामर्श हुआ और क्या उन्होंने आश्वासन दिया है कि उनकी हालत दुस्त की जायगी ?

श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू : किस बात का आश्वासन ?

श्री भक्त बर्षा : क्या उन्होंने न्यूजीलैंड में रहने वाले भारतीयों की स्थिति में सुधार करने के सम्बन्ध में कोई आशा दिलाई है ?

श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू : भारतीयों की स्थिति वहां बहुत अच्छी है । आश्वासन किस बात का दिलायें वह ?

Mr. Speaker: He has already said that they are maintaining high standards.

Industrial Training in Delhi

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- *1544. { **Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:**
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Tangamani:
Shri Prabhat Kar:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a scheme for enlarging the scope for industrial training in Delhi has been finalised by the Government of India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri L. N. Mishra):

(a) Yes,

(b) Under the scheme for the expansion of facilities for industrial training under the Second Five Year Plan, sanction has been issued for an additional 192 seats at the Industrial Training Institute, Pusa, New Delhi. Proposal for twentyfour more seats to be provided in Delhi is being awaited from the Delhi Administration.

In addition, sanction has also been accorded for the introduction of 100 seats for the training of Industrial Workers in Evening Classes in Delhi.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: When will the work of re-organising the six work-cum-training centres taken over from the Rehabilitation Ministry, be completed?

Shri L. N. Mishra: We have recently taken them over from the Rehabilitation Ministry.

Mr. Speaker: The Questions are all over.

There are five minutes more. Members who are absent: I will call them again. **Shri Nardeo Snatak,** **Shri Tangamani,** **Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi,** **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao,** **Shri Halder,** **Shri Nagi Reddy,** **Shri N. R. Munisamy,** **Shri S. M. Banerjee.**

Shri Panigrahi: Can we have an answer, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: No. Hon. Members are not present. It becomes a premium on their absence.

Shri Ranga: 1534, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: No.

Shri N. G. Goray rose—

Mr. Speaker: I won't allow any question which stands in the name of any other hon. Member because, whether they are present or absent here, they get an opportunity to have their question answered on the floor of the House. They have not cared to authorise another Member to put the question on their behalf. I have given this indulgence too often. Hereafter I won't give it. Now, the

House will proceed with the other work. It is easy to send a chit authorising other Members to put the questions.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

आकाशवाणी में नये कलाकार

*१५२३. श्री नरदेव स्तालक : क्या

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) आकाशवाणी के विभिन्न कार्यक्रमों में नई प्रतिभाओं को लाने के लिये क्या प्रयत्न किये गये हैं ; और

(ख) इस विषय में गैर-सरकारी संस्थाओं, समाचार-पत्रों तथा पत्र-पत्रिकाओं से कहाँ तक लाभ उठाया गया है ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (डा० केश-कर) : (क) और (ख). एक विवरण सभा की मेज पर रखा जा रहा है। [देखिये परिशिष्ट ७, अनुबन्ध संख्या २]

Core of the Second Five Year Plan

*1528. **Shri Tangamani:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to lay on the Table a statement showing:

(a) whether Neiveli Thermal Station, Neiveli Fertiliser Factory and Neiveli Briquette plant are included in the core of the Plan;

(b) if not, whether they will be completed during the Plan period;

(c) what progress has been made so far; and

(d) the amount allotted to each for the year 1958-59?

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 3].

Unauthorised Refugee Occupants

*1529. **Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an announcement was made on the 9th March, 1958 at Ambala that the possession by the unauthorised refugee occupants of evacuee property before December 31, 1955 would be regularised on the condition that all dues are paid; and

(b) if so, whether this concession will apply throughout the Punjab?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri P. S. Naskar): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

Singareni Colliery Workers' Union, Kothagudium

*1531. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has since been taken on the application of Singareni Colliery Workers' Union, Kothagudium, Andhra Pradesh for reference to an Industrial Tribunal, the introduction of gratuity scheme and grant of conveyance allowance to the employees of Singareni Collieries Company Ltd.,; and

(b) if so, the nature of the decision arrived at?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) and (b). No. The Conciliation Officer has reported that an amicable settlement could not be effected. His report was received in the Ministry on the 31st March 1958 and is under consideration.

Match Factories Association of South India

*1532. **Shri Halder:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Match Factories Association of South India has decided to close down 75 factories;

(b) whether it is a fact that nearly 50,000 workers will be unemployed as a result of this closure; and

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) to (c). Full details have been called for.

Controller of Imports and Exports

*1534. **Shri Nagi Reddy:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to have a separate office of the Controller or the Deputy Controller of Imports and Exports for the Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, when it is going to be implemented?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) and (b). An office of the Controller of Imports and Exports is already functioning at Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh since August, 1956.

Racial Discrimination in South Africa

*1535. **Shri N. R. Munisamy:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that new measures of racial discrimination have been introduced in South Africa by the South African Government; and

(b) if so, the nature thereof?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadat Ali Khan): (a) and (b). The introduction of new measures of discriminatory nature appears to be a continuing process in South Africa. According to reports, the South African Government have now decided to reserve all skilled jobs in the clothing industry for White Workers.

Stock of Cloth

*1537. { **Shri S. M. Banerjee:**
Shri Tangamani:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether 80,000 bales of cloth are lying unsold in various Mills of Kanpur; and

(b) if so, the steps taken for the disposal of this huge stock?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) The stocks of cloth with Kanpur Mills stood at 71,492 bales on March 15, 1958.

(b) (i) From the 14th December 1957, the excise duty on medium cloth was reduced by 3 N.P. From 18-3-58, a further reduction in excise duty on all varieties of cloth has been announced. It is hoped that this measure will reduce the stocks held by the Mills.

(ii) U. P. Government has also taken steps for disposal of stocks by liberalising licensing of cloth and yarn by reduction in the licensing fee, and allowing free movement of cloth.

Manufacture of Phosphorous Bacterine

*1541. **Shri Rameshwar Tantis:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to set up a plant for the manufacture of phosphorous bacterine with the Soviet co-operation; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the project?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b). The Leader of the Soviet Parliamentary Delegation, Monsieur R. P. Lobanov (who is also the Chairman of the Academy of Agricultural Science in the U.S.S.R.) when he was in India recently, made certain proposals for the setting up of a pilot scale factory for preparation of Phosphoro Bacterine

Products. These proposals are under consideration and no specific scheme has so far been drawn.

केन्द्रीय रेशम बोर्ड

२१२०. श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : क्या बाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि केन्द्रीय रेशम बोर्ड के सचिवालय में प्रचार शाखा खोलने में क्या प्रगति हुई है तथा रेशम उद्योग के बारे में उसके द्वारा अब तक क्या साहित्य प्रकाशित किया गया है ?

बाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री (श्री लाल बहादुर शास्त्री) : केन्द्रीय रेशम बोर्ड की प्रचार शाखा मई, १९५७ से चल रही है। इस शाखा द्वारा प्रकाशित किये गये साहित्य में ये चीजें शामिल हैं:—रेशम सम्बन्धी मासिक चिट्ठी जो अब मुद्रित होती है और जिसमें भारत तथा विदेशों के रेशम उद्योग में हुई महत्वपूर्ण गतिविधियों की जानकारी होती है, एक विशेष लेख जिस में उद्योग की १९५७ में हुई प्रगति का सिंहावलोकन और बाजार के रुख का विश्लेषण किया गया था और जो बंगलौर के "डेकन हरेल्ड" तथा बम्बई के "कामर्स" नामक पत्रों में छपा था ; और भारत की राष्ट्रीय अर्थ-व्यवस्था में रेशम उद्योग के स्थान पर एक विशेष लेख जो कि न्यूयार्क में अक्टूबर, १९५७ में हुई अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय रेशम कांग्रेस के लिये तैयार किया गया था यह शाखा रेशम उद्योग पर त्रैमासिक बुलेटिन, पुस्तिकाएँ, पैम्फलेट, पर्चे तथा प्रेसनोट भी प्रकाशित करती है। इनके अलावा यह बंगलौर के रेशम बाजार के मूल्य सम्बन्धी रूखों आदि की दैनिक, साप्ताहिक, मासिक और वार्षिक मार्केट रिपोर्ट भी प्रकाशित करती है। इस शाखा के कार्यक्रम में रेशम उद्योग की एक डाय-रेक्टरी तथा भारत में रेशम उद्योग के विकास से सम्बन्धित वह रिपोर्ट प्रकाशित करना भी शामिल है जो जापानी प्राणि शास्त्री डा०

ताजीमा ने दी थी जो १९५७ में इस देश में आये थे।

कास्टिक सोडा का उत्पादन

२१२१. श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : क्या बाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) कितने कारखाने बिजली (इलेक्ट्रो-लिसिस) से कास्टिक सोडा तैयार करते हैं ;

(ख) उनकी उत्पादन क्षमता कितनी है और उसे बढ़ाने के लिये क्या उपाय किये जा रहे हैं ; और

(ग) क्या उन कारखानों को सस्ते दाम पर बिजली देने की कोई योजना है ?

बाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री (श्री लाल बहादुर शास्त्री) : (क) तैरह। लेकिन एक फर्म इलेक्ट्रो-लिसिस तथा कैमीकल दोनों प्रणालियां काम में ला रही है।

(ख) इनकी उत्पादन क्षमता ४४,४७५ टन प्रति वर्ष है। इलेक्ट्रो-लिसिस प्रणाली से उत्पादन करने के लिये १९७३० टन की अतिरिक्त क्षमता स्थापित करने के लाइसेंस दिये जा चुके हैं।

(ग) जी, नहीं। बिजली के दाम स्थान स्थान पर अलग-अलग होते हैं और कुछ कारखानों के तो बिजली पैदा करने के अपने स्टेशन हैं। कुछ कारखाने जल विद्युत स्टेशनों के पास हैं, जहां बिजली की दरें कम हैं।

कई मंजिला भवन

२१२२. श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : क्या निर्माण, आवास और संभरल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) किंग एडवर्ड रोड और क्वीन विक्टोरिया रोड पर बनाये गये कई मंजिलों वाले भवनों में बिजली की लिफ्टें और ऐयर कंडीशनिंग प्लांट कब तक चालू हो जायेंगे ; और

(ख) उपरोक्त भवनों में इस काम की क्या प्रगति है ?

निर्माण, आवास और संभरण मंत्री (श्री क० ज० रेड्डी) : (क) और (ख). किंग एडवर्ड रोड और क्वीन विक्टोरिया रोड पर कई मंजिलों वाले दोनों भवनों में दस दस लिफ्टें लगाने का सुझाव है। पहले भवन में ६ लिफ्टें चालू हैं, ३ लिफ्टों की मई, १९५८ तक तैयार हो जाने की आशा है और शेष एक लिफ्ट जुलाई, १९५८ तक तैयार हो जायेगी। क्वीन विक्टोरिया रोड वाले भवन में ४ लिफ्टें चालू हैं, एक की अप्रैल में, २ की मई में और एक एक जून, जुलाई और अगस्त, १९५८ में चालू हो जाने की आशा है।

विदेशी मृदा की कमी के कारण इन भवनों में सेन्ट्रलाइज्ड ऐयर कंडीशनिंग (Centralized Air Conditioning) लगाने के सुझाव को स्थगित कर दिया गया है। परन्तु कुछ कमरों में कई छोटी ऐयर कंडीशनिंग मशीनें लगा दी गई हैं।

सरकारी भूकान

२१२३. श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : क्या निर्माण, आवास और संभरण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वैंस्टर्न कोर्ट. कास्टीट्यूशन हाउस, पटौदी हाउस और रायसीना रोड होस्टल में कितने लोगों के लिये स्थान है ;

(ख) इनमें से प्रत्येक में अभी कितने आदमी रहते हैं और उनसे कितना किराया वसूल होता है ;

(ग) इन होस्टलों में सफाई, नौकरों तथा फर्नीचर आदि पर सालाना कितना खर्च किया जाता है ;

(घ) इन होस्टलों से सरकार को प्रति वर्ष कितना लाभ या हानि होती है ;

(ङ) इन होस्टलों में सरकारी कर्मचारियों के प्रतिरिक्त कितने व्यक्तियों को आवास-स्थान दिया गया है ; और

(च) किस आधार पर ऐसे व्यक्तियों को जो सरकारी कर्मचारी नहीं हैं वहां आवास-स्थान दिया गया है ?

निर्माण, आवास और संभरण मंत्री (श्री क० ज० रेड्डी) (क) से लेकर (ग). सभा की मेज पर विवरण रख दिया गया है [विलिये परिशिष्ट ७, अनुबन्ध संख्या ४]

(घ) १९५६-५७ में ३,६७,१८७ रुपये खर्च हुये और निर्धारित धन राशि ५,३४,८६८ रुपये थी।

(ङ) ६२।

(च) गैर सरकारी कर्मचारियों के वर्गीकरण से खुद बखुद कारण का पता चलता है। इन निवासियों में संसद् सदस्य और सरकारी अफसरों के अतिथि, प्रान्तीय स्वायत्त संस्थाओं के कर्मचारी या अर्ध सरकारी निकायों के कर्मचारी, विदेशी विद्यार्थी, विदेशी दूतावासों में नियुक्त अधिकारी, प्रेस सम्वाददाता, अफसर जो कि अलाटमेंट हो जाने के बाद रिटायर हो चुके हैं आदि शामिल हैं।

भवन निर्माण के बारे में गवेषणा

२१२४. श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : क्या निर्माण, आवास और संभरण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) विभिन्न अनुसन्धानशालाओं द्वारा भवन निर्माण के विषय में गवेषणा के लिये जो समस्याएँ चुनी गई हैं वे किन किन विषयों पर हैं ;

(ख) इस विषय में अब तक क्या प्रगति हुई है ; और

(ग) किन संस्थाओं द्वारा इन समस्याओं पर गवेषणा की जा रही है ?

निर्माण, आवास और संभरण ३ पमंत्री (श्री अनिल कुं० चन्दा) : (क) उन ३२ समस्याओं का विवरण, जिनमें से कि १६ कार्यवाही के लिये चुनी जा चुकी हैं सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है । [द्विज्ये परिशिष्ट ७, अनुबन्ध संख्या ५]

(ख) और (ग) एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है [द्विज्ये परिशिष्ट ७, अनुबन्ध संख्या ५]

सरकारी प्रतिष्ठि शाला

२१२५. श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : क्या निर्माण, आवास और संभरण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) कोटा हाउस की सरकारी प्रतिष्ठि शाला में १९५६ में कितने व्यक्ति ठहराये गये ;

(ख) सरकार ने उन पर कितना खर्च किया ;

(ग) सरकार को किराये आदि से कितनी आय हुई ; और

(घ) भोजन के लिये क्या व्यवस्था है और उन का क्या मूल्य रखा गया है ?

निर्माण, आवास और संभरण मंत्री (श्री क० ख० रेड्डी) : (क) २७२ । इस संख्या में सरकारी कर्मचारी शामिल नहीं हैं जिन्हें प्रतिष्ठि-शाला में उस समय ठहरा दिया जाता है जब सरकारी मेहमानों के लिये स्थान की आवश्यकता नहीं होती ।

(ख) ७,५६२।१२- रुपये सरकारी मेहमानों के भोजन पर ।

(ग) सरकारी मेहमानों से भोजन का मूल्य और निवासस्थान का किराया नहीं लिया जाता । ऊपर (क) में बताये गये सरकारी कर्मचारियों से वसूल की गई रकम १५,०६५ रुपये थी ।

(घ) भोजन का प्रबन्ध प्रतिष्ठि शाला का कैंटर (Caterer) करता है

डोलोमाइटिक चूने का निर्माण

२१२६. श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : क्या निर्माण, आवास और संभरण मंत्री यह बातने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) डोलोमाइटिक चूने के निर्माण में अब तक क्या प्रगति हुई है ;

(ख) इस के लिये प्रयोगात्मक केन्द्र की स्थापना के बारे में क्या प्रगति हुई है ;

(ग) डोलोमाइटिक चूना किन किन वस्तुओं से तैयार किया जाता है और क्या वे वस्तुयें देश में पर्याप्त मात्रा में उपलब्ध हैं ;

(घ) वह चूना तैयार करने के लिये कौन सी मशीनों अथवा किस प्रकार की भट्टियों की आवश्यकता होती है ; और

(ङ) क्या इस के लिये कोई वस्तु अथवा उपकरण विदेशों से आयात करने पड़ेंगे ?

निर्माण, आवास और संभरण मंत्री (श्री क० ख० रेड्डी) : (क) भारत में अभी तक डोलोमाइटिक चूना नहीं बनाया जाता है ।

(ख) इस मामले में सलाह देने के लिये टेक्निकल कोपोरेशन मिशन के द्वारा एक विदेशी विशेषज्ञ की सर्वसिद्ध प्राप्त करने के लिये कार्यवाही कर रही है । विशेषज्ञ की रिपोर्ट के आधार पर प्रयोगात्मक केन्द्र स्थापित करने के प्रश्न पर विचार क्या जायगा ।

(ग) डोलोमाइट्स और मैग्नेशियम लाइमस्टोनस । यह दोनों वस्तुयें भारत में काफी मात्रा में उपलब्ध हैं ।

(घ) और (ङ) केवल विशेषज्ञ की रिपोर्ट के आधार पर ही इन मामलों पर विचार किया जा सकता है ।

खादी की खरीद

२१२७. श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी :
क्या निर्माण, आवास और संभरण
मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) संभरण तथा उत्सर्जन महा-
निदेशालय द्वारा १९५७-५८ में मिल के
बने कपड़े के स्थान पर कितना खादी का
कपड़ा खरीदा गया ; और

(ख) गत वर्ष की तुलना में इसकी
स्थिति क्या है ?

निर्माण, आवास और संभरण मंत्री
(श्री क० ख० रेड्डी) : (क) १-४-५७ से
लेकर ३१-१-५८ तक ५६.६ लाख रुपये
कीमत पर २६,५८,४८६ गज खादी का
कपड़ा और ५,८०,००० अन्य खादी की
वस्तुयें जैसे चादरें, तौलिये आदि खरीदी
गई हैं। यह अन्दाजा है कि इसके अलावा
लगभग १५ लाख रुपये कीमत की मांगें
जो कि मिल चुकी हैं, मार्च, १९५८ के अन्त
से पहले पूरी की जायेंगी।

(ख) १९५६-५७ में ६९.१ लाख
रुपये कीमत पर २८,६९,७०७ गज खादी
का कपड़ा और ८,१०,२२३ अन्य खादी
की वस्तुयें खरीदी गईं। आशा है कि आर्थिक
वर्ष १९५७-५८ में खरीदारी की कुल कीमत
पिछले वर्ष की खरीददारी की कीमत से कुछ
अधिक होगी।

इंडिया सप्लाई मिशन, वाशिंगटन

२१२८. श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी :
क्या निर्माण, आवास और संभरण
मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) इंडिया सप्लाई मिशन, वाशिंग-
टन में १९५६-५७ में कितने कर्मचारी
काम करते थे ;

(ख) इन कर्मचारियों के पद, वेतन
और कार्य क्या हैं ; और

(ग) क्या भारतीय राजदूत का उन
पर कोई नियंत्रण रहता है ?

निर्माण, आवास और संभरण मंत्री
(श्री क० ख० रेड्डी) : (क) ६५, एक
इंटरमीडिएट क्लर्क के अतिरिक्त जिस की
केवल ३ महीने के लिये रखा गया था।

(ख) विवरण, जिसमें इन कर्मचारियों
के पद और वेतन दिये गये हैं सभा पटल पर
रख दिया गया है [वेब्लिय परिशिष्ट ७,
अनुबन्ध संख्या ६] इ. कर्मचारियों में से,
एक राजपत्रित अफसर, ५ क्लर्क और एक
आशुलिपिक प्रशासन के कार्य के लिये नियुक्त
हैं। शेष कर्मचारी भारत सरकार की ओर से
सामान और अनाज प्राप्त करने तथा उसे
जहाज द्वारा भेजने और टेक्निकल कोऑरेशन
कार्यक्रम, पब्लिक ला (Public Law)
४८० तथा अन्य अमेरिका सरकार के सहायता
समझौतों के अन्तर्गत खरीदारी करने से
सम्बन्धित कार्य को कर रहे हैं।

(ग) जी, हां।

खान विभाग में निरीक्षक

२१३०. श्री स० ला० द्विवेदी :
क्या धन और रोजगार मंत्री यह बतने
की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) खान विभाग में निरीक्षकों की
जो कमी है उसे दूर करने के लिये क्या कार्य-
वाही की जा रही है ; और

(ख) योग्य उम्मीदवार न मिलने के
कारण स्वीकृत ४३ निरीक्षकों के स्थान पर
केवल २२ निरीक्षक नियुक्त किये गये थे
और इस प्रकार जो शेष स्थान रह गये हैं
उनकी पूर्ति के लिये क्या व्यवस्था की गई
है ?

धन उपमंत्री (श्री आबिद अली) :

(क) और (ख). शेष स्थानों को भरने के
लिये यूनिवर्सल पब्लिक सर्विस कमीशन योग्य

उम्मीदवारों को चुनने की कोशिश कर रही है ।

राजस्थान के लिये खान श्रमिक कल्याण निधि सलाहकार समिति

२१३१. श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : क्या श्रम और रोजगार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या राजस्थान में खान श्रमिक कल्याण निधि सलाहकार समिति का पुनर्गठन हो चुका है ।

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसका संगठन किस प्रकार का है और इस समिति के सदस्य कौन कौन हैं ; और

(ग) यदि प्रश्न के उपरोक्त भाग (क) का उत्तर नकारात्मक हो, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

श्रम उपमंत्री (श्री आशिष घली) :

(क) शायद अश्रमिक खान श्रम कल्याण फंड सलाहकार समिति से मतलब है । यदि हां, तो उत्तर 'ना' में है । मामला विचाराधीन है ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

(ग) समिति उन कई सम्बन्धित वर्गों की सलाह लेकर बनाई जानी है जिन्हें कि उसमें प्रतिनिधित्व देना है ।

बाल-मंदिरों में काम करने वाले कार्य-कर्ताओं का प्रशिक्षण

२१३२. श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : क्या श्रम और रोजगार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) कोयला खानों के बाल-मंदिरों में काम करने वाले कार्यकर्ताओं को किन किन विषयों की शिक्षा दी जाती है ; और

(ख) उन्हें कितना वेतन तथा भत्ता दिया जाता है ।

श्रम उपमंत्री (श्री आशिष घली) :

(क) शिक्षा निम्नलिखित विषयों में दी जाती है :—

(१) प्रारम्भिक शरीर विज्ञान आदि ।

(२) पथ्य (उपयुक्त भोजन)

(३) घर की सफाई

(४) घरेलू कार्य ।

(५) माता-पिता के प्रति व्यवहार ।

(६) सामान्य बच्चों का विकास और विभिन्न अवस्थाओं में उसकी जरूरतें ।

(७) नवजात शिशुओं की देखभाल ।

(८) बच्चों की उस अवस्था में देखभाल जब वे घुटनों के बल चलने लगते हैं ।

(९) प्रारम्भिक मनोविज्ञान ।

(१०) प्रथम सहायता और शिशु पालन आदि ।

(११) बच्चों की छोटी-मोटी बीमारियाँ, बीमारी की जांच और इलाज ।

(१२) सांसारिक और संक्रामक रोग ।

(१३) किडरगार्टन सामान ।

(१४) शिशु-गृह का सामान ।

(१५) शिशु-गृह कार्यक्रम ।

(१६) औद्योगिक स्वास्थ्य विज्ञान ।

(१७) रिकॉर्ड रखना, रिपोर्ट लिखना और हिसाब रखना ।

व्यावहारिक शिक्षा और प्रदर्शनों का प्रबन्ध किया जाता है ; और ऐसी दूसरी संस्थाओं में, जैसे जल्वा और बच्चा कल्याण केन्द्र अस्पतालों, दवाखानों, बच्चों के माता-पिता के घरों में जाने का प्रबन्ध भी किया जाता है, ताकि उनकी कार्यदशाओं का अध्ययन किया जा सके ।

(ख) प्रशिक्षण काल में प्रत्येक प्रशिक्षार्थी को प्रतिमास ४० रुपये का वजीफ़ा दिया जाता है।

बाल-मंदिर

२१३३. श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : क्या अम और रोजगार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) अब तक कितनी खदानों में बाल मन्दिर बनाये जा चुके हैं ;

(ख) इन बाल-मन्दिरों से कितने बच्चों को लाभ पहुंच रहा है ;

(ग) इन पर कितना व्यय किया जाता है; और

(घ) इन बाल-मंदिरों में किस प्रकार का कार्य किया जाता है ?

अम उपमंत्री (श्री आबिद अली) :

(क) ३३०।

(ख) १६२१५।

(ग) शिशु गृहों की व्यवस्था की कोयला खदान मालिकों की कानूनन जिम्मेवारी है। इसलिये सूचना प्राप्त नहीं कि उन पर कितना व्यय किया गया है।

(घ) जब मातायें काम पर रहती हैं तो छै वर्ष से कम उम्र के बच्चों की देख-भाल की जाती है। उन्हें खाना खिलाया जाता है और विभिन्न अवस्थाओं पर उन के स्वास्थ्य तथा विकास की जांच की जाती है। बच्चों और उन की माताओं की जांच कोयला खानों के चिकित्सा अधिकार करते हैं और उन के इलाज का खर्च कोयला खान अधिकारियों द्वारा किया जाता है।

कोयला खानों में स्नानागार

२१३४. श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : क्या अम और रोजगार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) कितनी कोयला खानों में स्नानागार बनाये जा चुके हैं;

(ख) इन में कितने मजदूरों के स्नान का प्रबन्ध है;

(ग) इन के बनाने पर कितना व्यय हुआ है; और

(घ) इस व्यय में से सरकार ने कितना धन दिया है और खदान मालिकों ने कितना ?

अम उपमंत्री (श्री आबिद अली) : (क) १८३ कोयला खानों में स्नानागार बनाये गये हैं।

(ख) लगभग २ लाख।

(ग) कोयला खानों में स्नानगृह बनाना कोयला खदान प्रबन्ध-वर्ग की कानूनन जिम्मेवारी है। सूचना प्राप्त नहीं कि उन के बनाने पर कितना धन खर्च हुआ।

(घ) कोयला खान अम कल्याण फंड से १,०६,७२३ रुपये की सहायता दी गई।

बिहार तथा आंध्र के कोयला क्षेत्र में मलेरिया

२१३५. श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : क्या अम और रोजगार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) बिहार तथा आंध्र के कोयला क्षेत्र में मलेरिया की रोकथाम के लिये क्या सुरक्षात्मक उपाय किये गये हैं;

(ख) इस कार्य के लिये कितने कर्मचारी रसे गये हैं ;

(ग) उन पर कितना धन व्यय होता है, और

(घ) वर्ष १९५६-५७ और १९५७-५८ में इन क्षेत्रों में कितने मजदूर मलेरिया से पीड़ित हुए ?

धन उपमंत्री (श्री भाबिह अली) :

(क) मलेरिया फैलने के मौसम में याने हर साल जून से नवम्बर तक कोट नाशक दवा छिड़की जाती है। बाकी महीनों में मच्छरों के बच्चों को मारने की कार्यवाही भी कुछ सीमा तक की जाती है। बिहार कोयला क्षेत्रों में मजदूरों को प्राफैक्टिस दवा पैनाइलिन के साथ दी जाती है।

(ख) बिहार कोयला क्षेत्र के लिये १४६ मलेरिया क्षेत्र कार्यकर्ता नियुक्त हैं। आन्ध्र प्रदेश में मेसर्स बिगरेनी कॉलियरीज कम्पनी आवश्यक है कर्मचारियों और सामान का प्रबन्ध करती और मलेरिया नाशक कार्यवाही उनकी देख रेख में की जाती है। इस के लिये कोयला खान श्रमिक कल्याण फंड संस्था केवल कोट विनाशक दवाइयां देती है।

(ग) १९५६-५७ में २,५३,०३५ रुपये।

(घ) १९५६-५७ १९५७-५८
११,६७३ ६,४०६ (३०
नवम्बर, १९५७ तक)

Faridabad Development Board

2136. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount so far spent on the Faridabad Development Board;

(b) whether money has been advanced on any security; and

(c) the legal status of the Faridabad Development Board?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri P. S. Naskar):

(i) Loans

Rs. in lakhs

| | |
|--|---------------|
| For construction of township | 293.86 |
| for industrial development and provision of employment | 134.64 |
| Total | 428.50 |

(ii) Grants

| | |
|--|---------------|
| For medical and educational facilities | 59.15 |
| for recurring expenditure of the township other than establishment | 86.39 |
| for establishment | 13.06 |
| for relief to aged and infirm | 37.28 |
| Total | 195.88 |

(b) Under the terms of the sanctions, the loans are a first charge on the assets of the Faridabad Development Board.

(c) The Board as at present constituted is an ad hoc autonomous body with a majority of official members.

Industrial Undertakings

2137. **Shri Ram Krishan:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of new industrial undertakings licensed under the

Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, which have been established during 1957-58 Industry-wise; and

(b) the total number of industrial undertakings expanded during the same period, Industry-wise?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 7].

Uranium Ores

2138. Shri P. G. Deb: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the steps Government have taken to tap uranium ores within the country;

(b) the details of special instruments which are either manufactured in India or imported from abroad; and

(c) whether there is any scheme before Government to announce rewards to quicken the findings and the survey programme in the country?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) A detailed and systematic survey and prospecting work for location of deposits of uranium ores in the country is being carried out by the Atomic Minerals Division of the Department of Atomic Energy since 1950. 6 Geological Field Parties and 11 Drilling Units are at present engaged on this work in different States. Preliminary mining has also been undertaken in areas where commercially recoverable quantities of ore have been proved to exist by drilling and other methods.

Private prospectors and mine owners are also being encouraged to help in the search for atomic minerals, including uranium ores, by the free loan and servicing of geiger muller counters, assay of samples sent by them and free technical advice in connection with suitable deposits.

(b) Almost all instruments required for the work, such as, radiation survey meters, counting rate meters, scaling units, power supplies, pulse height, geiger muller tubes, logging and radio-assay equipment, etc., are made in India in the laboratories under the Department of Atomic Energy.

Most high quality components, valves and transistors required in the construction of these instruments and scintillation crystals, testing instru-

ments, such as test meters, oscilloscopes, measuring bridges and dosimeters, etc., are imported from abroad. Components made in India are being used progressively to a greater extent, and Indian manufacturers are being encouraged to improve their quality.

(c) Rewards ranging from Rs. 100-00 to Rs. 10,000-00 according to the grade and size of the ore deposits discovered have already been announced by Government. Copies of two Press Notes issued in this connection are laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 8].

Match Production

2139. Shri Tangamani: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of matches during 1956-57 and 1957-58 from the 8 A Class Power driven match factories;

(b) the total production during 1956-57 and 1957-58 from the factories in the Cottage Sector;

(c) the production in Cottage Sector for each of the Classes A, B, C, D; and

(d) the total number of factories in each category during the current year?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 9].

Evacuee Property

2140. Shri A. K. Gopalan: Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending for decision by the Custodian General under Section 27(1A) of the Administration of Evacuee Property Act, 1950; and

(b) how long will it take to decide such cases?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri P. S. Naskar): (a) 13 cases were pending on the 31st March, 1958.

(b) In 10 cases dates for hearing have been fixed and these cases are expected to be disposed of within the next two or three months. 3 cases are sub-judice in the Supreme Court.

Evacuee Property

2141. Shri A. K. Gopalan: Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state the number of cases pending for decision under Section 54 of the Administration of Evacuee Property Act, 1950?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri P. S. Naskar): Nil.

Tea Gardens of Assam

2142. Shri B. C. Prodhan: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state the number of families from Orissa State working in Tea Gardens of Assam and the number of such families who were discharged from duty in the year 1957?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): In 1957, 2302 workers were recruited from Orissa for the tea gardens in Assam and 6017 persons (including those recruited earlier) were repatriated. Information regarding the number of families is not available.

Textile Machinery

2143. Shri V. P. Nayar: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the value of the imported material required by the Textile Industry during 1957-58?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): The total value of the import of Raw Cotton, Cotton, Rayon, and Woollen Manufactures and Textile Machinery etc. from the beginning of 1957 to the end of September 1957 is Rs. 9174.32 lakhs. More up to date information is not available.

Manufacture of Pharmaceuticals

2144. Shri V. P. Nayar: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the steps taken by Government subsequent to the submission of the report of the Pharmaceutical Enquiry Committee to reduce the dependence on foreign firms in the manufacture of pharmaceuticals and the revision of agreements of collaboration between Indian and foreign firms to reduce such dependence?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): Since the submission of the report of the Pharmaceutical-Enquiry Committee, series of steps have been taken to develop the pharmaceutical industry in India:

1. Existing manufacturers are being encouraged to undertake production from intermediates near to basic chemicals.

2. New manufacturers are being permitted to get into the field on the basis of their undertaking production of basic drugs as soon as possible and according to programmes approved by Government.

3. Establishment of a plant to meet the requirements of intermediates of not only the existing units but also of new units more satisfactorily is being planned for implementation during this Plan period.

4. Steps have been taken to expand the manufacture of penicillin at Pimpri and also to set up a unit for Streptomycin in that place as soon as possible.

5. Based on expert studies undertaken by suitable agencies, steps are under consideration for the establishment of manufacture of Synthetic Drugs, additional quantities of Antibiotics, etc. from basic stages in the most suitable manner.

In regard to revision of agreements of collaboration between Indian and foreign firms, whenever such agreements come up for revision or new agreements are presented for approval.

al, care is taken to ensure that the terms conform to the recommendations of the Pharmaceutical Enquiry Committee as far as possible.

Coal-tar Products

2145. Shri V. P. Nayar: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the present position of the manufacture of coal-tar products giving the details of the installed capacity and the actual production of each product in 1957-58?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):
Crude Coal Tar which is obtained

as a byproduct during the carbonisation of coal carried out primarily to produce coke/coal gas, is further subjected to distillation to recover more valuable products such as Creosote, Napthalene, Road Tar and Pitch.

Production of these items is linked with the availability of Tar for distillation. Supplies of Crude Tar are limited mainly on account of the steel companies using more and more of the tar as a fuel for their steel furnaces.

The various coal tar distillation products produced during the year 1957 were as follows:—

| Item | Production in 1957 |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| (i) Creosote Oil (Light) | 529,927 gallons |
| (ii) Creosote Oil (Heavy) | 705,908 " |
| (iii) Road Tar | 26,895 tons |
| (iv) Pitch | 4,240 tons |

(There are no separate figures for installed capacity as the production is linked with the availability of Crude Coal Tar for distillation.)

| Installed Capacity | Production in 1957 |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| (v) Refined Napthalene | 1,428 tons 816 tons. |

• Printing Industry

2146. Shri V. P. Nayar: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated number of employees in the Printing Industry in India and the capital invested so far;

(b) the annual requirements of the Printing machinery imported for the Industry; and

(c) the total value of the manufacture of Printing machinery in India in 1957-58?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):

(a) The Printing industry includes printing units of the Central and

State Governments as well as the private sector. Precise information regarding the number of employees and the capital invested in this industry is not available.

(b) The annual requirements of machinery for this industry have been assessed at Rs. 3 crores approximately, during the second Plan period.

(c) The value of printing machinery manufactured in India during the year 1957 is Rs. 1,48,000 approximately. However efforts are being made to get more schemes started to produce a bulk of these machinery in the country. A few schemes have already been received and are under consideration.

Manufacture of Aromatic Chemicals

2147. Shri V. P. Nayar: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is manufacturing any of the aromatic chemicals required for cosmetics and other industries;

(b) if so, the total value of such manufactures; and

(c) the total value of imports of aromatic chemicals in 1956-57 and 1957-58?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):
(a) Yes, Sir. A statement of such chemicals manufactured in the country is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 10].

(b) Rs. 28,50,000.

(c) Aromatic Chemicals were not shown specifically in the Import Trade Classification which was in force till December, 1956. As such, it is not possible to furnish import figures prior to January, 1957. The total value of imports of such chemicals during January—September, 1957 was Rs. 1,32,71,000.

Drug and Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Units

2149. Shri V. P. Nayar: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the state at which the proposal to set up three Drug and Pharmaceutical manufacturing units is at present;

(b) which are the countries from which financial or technical aid is expected; and

(c) what are the proposals, if any, for the extraction of Alkaloids for the Pharmaceutical Industry?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):
(a) to (c). The matter is still under negotiation and it is too early to give any indications of the position that may finally emerge.

Drug and Pharmaceutical Plants

2150. Shri V. P. Nayar: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments have been requested to express their views on the location of the proposed Drug and Pharmaceutical plants in the Public Sector;

(b) if so, which of the States have requested for the Units being located in their respective areas; and

(c) the factors on which Government propose to decide the question of location?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):
(a) to (c). This scheme is in a preliminary stage of consideration and it would be some time before the question of location can be taken up.

**Hindustan Antibiotics (Private) Ltd.,
Pimpri**

2151. Shri V. P. Nayar: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any programmes on hand for the manufacture of any of the antibiotics other than Penicillin and its derivatives at the Hindustan Antibiotics (Private) Ltd., Pimpri; and

(b) if so, the targets laid down for Tetracyclins?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):
(a) Negotiations with foreign firms are in progress for the manufacture of streptomycin and Dihydrostreptomycin.

(b) The targets for tetracyclins have not been finalised yet.

Hindustan Antibiotics (Private) Ltd., Pimpri

2152, Shri V. P. Nayar: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the requirements in value of the imported raw materials for the Hindustan Antibiotics (Private) Ltd., Pimpri in the years 1956-57 and 1957-58;

(b) the total sales turn over of the factory in each of the above years; and

(c) the quantity of production of each of the important items in each of the above years?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):

(a) Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha.

(b) 1956-57 .. Rs. 54 lakhs.
1957-58 .. Rs. 180 lakhs.

(c) The total production of finished and certified Pencillin 'G', which is the only important item at present being made at the factory, was the following:—

1956-57 9.9 million mega units.
1957-58 A little over 21 million mega units.

Indian Standards Convention

2153, Shri V. P. Nayar: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether any expenditure has been incurred by Government on account of the Indian Standards Convention held in Madras in December, 1957;

(b) the number of Government officials who participated in this Convention; and

(c) the total T.A. and D.A., claimed and paid to them for attending this Convention?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Indian Standards Institute

2155, Shri V. P. Nayar: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the number of items for which the Indian Standards Institute has issued certificates of conformity to the prescribed standards till the 15th March, 1958; and

(b) how many of these certificates were issued on sample testing in the Government owned test-houses or laboratories?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):

(a) It is presumed that information is required in regard to the number of articles for which licences have been issued to different manufacturers for the use of Standard Marks under the Indian Standards Institution (Certification Mark) Act, 1952. The number of such articles is 22.

(b) The number of licencees whose samples were tested in Government owned test-houses or laboratories is 27.

Leather Industry

2153, Shri V. P. Nayar: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the annual requirement (in value) of dyes required for leather industry and how much of the dyes produced in India at present; and

(b) the steps, if any, taken to diversify the exports of Hides, Skins and leather and the result achieved so far?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):

(a) Precise information is not available. The annual demand is estimated to be of the order of Rs. 20,00,000/- and is mostly met from imports.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha

Statement

(1) The Leather Export Promotion Council set up for promoting the exports of tanned hides and skins, and of leather goods availed of the opportunity of the visits to this country of foreign trade delegations, to explore the possibilities of marketing of Indian leather and leather goods in those countries.

2. A member of the Leather Export Promotion Council was included in the Indian Trade Delegation to Germany, in order to create interest for Indian hides and skins and leather goods in the German market.

3. Selected samples of tanned hides and skins were displayed in International fairs and exhibitions in Poland, Sweden, Marseilles, etc.

4. The items have been included in the trade agreements with a number of countries, namely, Sweden, Italy, Iraq and U.S.S.R.

Calcium Carbide

2156. Shri V. P. Nayar: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the actual production of Calcium Carbide in India in 1957-58; and

(b) the production of intermediates for industrial uses from Calcium Carbide during the same period?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):

(a) 3356 tons (April 1957—February 1958)

(b) None.

Micanite

2157. Shri V. P. Nayar: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) what are the present Industrial uses of Micanite;

(b) how much, if any, of this material is imported annually;

(c) the estimated quantity of export of inferior quality of Mica for the purpose of producing micanite; and

(d) the indigenous production, if any?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):

(a) Micanite is chiefly used as an insulating medium in the electrical industry.

(b) Import figures for micanite are being classified only from January, 1957 onwards. The total imports of micanite during January-September, 1957 are 372 lbs. valued at Rs. 2,293/-.

(c) Figures of exports of inferior quality mica, known as loose splittings, prior to January, 1957 are not available. A total quantity of 97,477 Cwts. valued at Rs. 1,86,43,073/- was exported during January-September, 1957.

(d) It is of the order of 22,000 lbs. per annum.

Cement

2158. Shri Rameshwar Tantia: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of increase in cement production and its consumption during the first quarter of the year 1958; and

(b) the value of the machinery imported for cement production during 1957 and the first quarter of 1958?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):

(a) The figures of cement production and consumption are as under:
Production (Million tons)

| | |
|------|-----|
| 1955 | 4.5 |
| 1956 | 5.6 |

Consumption could be taken as net annual production plus imports less exports in any given year. These figures as worked out on the above basis are as under:

| Year | Consumption (Million Tons) |
|------|-------------------------------|
| 1955 | 4.4 |
| 1956 | 5.0 |
| 1957 | 5.9 |

Regarding 1958, no final figures are available.

(b) Cement making machinery valued at Rs. 1,64,57,000/- was imported during the period January to September, 1957. Import figures for the period subsequent to September, 1957, are not available at present.

Import of Race Horses

2159. **Shri Rameshwar Tantia:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the number of race horses imported during 1957; and

(b) the amount of foreign exchange involved?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):
(a) and (b). Separate statistics of import of Race Horses are not available as these are not distinctly classified in the trade classification. The number and value of horses imported during January-September 1957 were, however, as follows:—

| No. | Value (in '000' Rs.) |
|-----|----------------------|
| 107 | 766 |

Cottage Industries in West Bengal

2160. { **Shri S. C. Samanta:**
Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:
Shri Ghosal:
Shri Subiman Ghose:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) how many cottage industries have been started by the State of West Bengal on co-operative basis since launching of the Second Five Year Plan;

(b) the amount of grants and loans received up-to-date for the purpose;

(c) how many village oil crushing centres have been opened and their locations; and

(d) how many of them are for non-edible oils?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):
(a) to (d). The required information is given in the statement laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 11]

Exports of Textile Goods

2161. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of textile goods exported during 1957-58;

(b) how it compares with the exports during 1956-57; and

(c) the foreign exchange realised therefrom?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):
(a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. It will be seen that the exports during 1957-58 compare favourably with the exports for 1956-57.

STATEMENT

| Year | Quantity of Cotton cloth exported (in million yds.) | Foreign Exchange realised (in lakh Rs.) |
|-----------|---|---|
| 1956 | 743.84 | 5698.69 |
| 1957 | | |
| Jan.—Sep. | 698.24 | 5172.28 |
| Oct.—Dec. | 190.90* 889.14 | 1237.37* 6409.65 |

*Passed for shipment.

Indian Trade Exhibition in China

(b) the places where the exhibition was held;

2162. { Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Kalika Singh:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(c) the period for which it was held at each place; and

(a) the total expenditure incurred in connection with India's Trade Exhibition in China;

(d) the extent to which the exhibition has succeeded in opening up new avenues for India's Export Trade with China?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):

(a) The expenditure incurred and likely to be incurred in connection with wholly India Exhibition, Peking, China is as follows :

| | Expenditure Incurred | | Expenditure Anticipated | Total |
|---------------|----------------------|--------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| | 1956-57 | 1957-58 | | |
| | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. |
| Outside India | Nil | 11,00,103.00 | Nil | 11,00,103.00 |
| Inside India | 80,000.00 | 5,20,353.00 | 29,544.00 | 6,29,897.00 |
| Total | 80,000.00 | 16,20,456.00 | 29,544.00 | 17,30,000.00 |

(b) At Peking only.

हिमाचल प्रदेश में खेल के सामान का निर्माण

(c) 19th September to the 19th October, 1957, at Peking.

२१६४. श्री पद्म देव : क्या बाणिज्य

तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(d) Judging from the success of the Souvenir sales and enquiries made at the exhibition an increase in India's Export Trade with China may be expected.

(क) हिमाचल प्रदेश में खेल के सामान बनाने के कितने केन्द्र हैं;

(ख) इन केन्द्रों में कितने व्यक्ति प्रशिक्षण पा रहे हैं; और

(ग) इन केन्द्रों में अब तक खेल का कितना सामान बनाया गया है?

बाबिलय तथा उद्योग मंत्री (श्री लाल बहादुर शास्त्री) :

(क) एक भी नहीं।

(ख) और (ग). प्रश्न हों नहीं उठते।

Export of Iron Ore to Japan

2165. **Shri V. C. Shukla:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the total quantity of Iron ore supplied by the State Trading Corporation of India (Private) Ltd., upto the 31st December, 1957 against the 1.3 million tons, contracted to be supplied to Japanese Steel Mills in 1957-58?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): 5,20,742 tons.

Tea Driers and C.T.C. Machines

2166. **Shri Muhammed Elias:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to lay a statement on the Table showing:

(a) the number of tea driers so far manufactured in this country;

(b) what is the price of a tea drier;

(c) how many crushing, tearing and curling (C.T.C.) machines have been manufactured in this country;

(d) what is the price of a C.T.C. machine;

(e) how many Indian controlled manufacturers are manufacturing the tea machinery in this country;

(f) how many European controlled manufacturers are producing the tea machinery in this country; and

(g) what steps Government contemplate to improve the situation?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) 29.

(b) The price of a tea drier ranges between Rs. 55,100 and Rs. 98,975 each, depending on the type of drier.

(c) 52.

(d) Rs. 31,800 each.

(e) to (g). There are two firms engaged in the manufacture of tea processing machinery in India. Both are registered in this country and are Indian controlled. Government is trying to encourage more production of tea machinery in the country.

Visits of Foreign Dignitaries

2167. **Shri Sanganna:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons why the visits of the distinguished foreign visitors are not arranged for Orissa State at any time in view of the fact that Hirakud Dam Project and the Rourkela Steel Project are located there; and

(b) whether the Government of Orissa was ever consulted in the matter?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Distinguished foreign visitors who visit India generally land at Delhi and have very limited time at their disposal. When their programmes are drawn up, the main object kept in view is to show them the maximum number of places in the shortest possible time so that time is not lost in travelling. That is the only reason why such visitors are not taken to the State of Orissa or for that matter to many other States which are similarly located at a great distance from Delhi.

(b) There is no prior consultation with States as to whether or not a particular foreign visitor should visit that State.

Kucha Natwan (Delhi)

2168. Raja Mahendra Pratap: Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kucha Natwan (Delhi) is extremely narrow and on its both sides sit cloth merchants and hawkers for selling goods;

(b) whether Government have received any complaint from families living in the Kucha who find it difficult to pass through it; and

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

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri P. S. Naskar): (a) Yes. The street is stated to be only about 12 feet wide.

(b) Yes.

(c) The question of removing the displaced stall-holders and giving them alternative accommodation for business premises has been engaging the attention of Government. The displaced stall-holders approached the Ministry of Rehabilitation for the sale of certain evacuee properties in the vicinity of Chandni Chowk to them, so that they could construct a market for themselves after demolishing those properties. This proposal was agreed to. The reserve price of the properties has been deposited by the stall-holders and final possession of the properties is expected to be transferred to them shortly.

Share Capital

2169. Shri Heda: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the share capital increase in private sector in the shape of new companies and increase of capital in old companies for the years 1954-55, 1955-56, 1956-57 and estimate for 1957-58?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): A statement giving such information

as is available is laid on the Table of the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 12]

लेखक

२१७०. श्री प० ला० बाबुपाल : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने का कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) सरकार द्वारा प्रकाशित किये जाने वाले पाक्षिक और मासिक पत्रों में प्रकाशित होने वाले लेखों के लिये लेखकों को वर्ष १९५६ और १९५७ में कुल कितना पारिश्रमिक दिया गया ; और

(ख) यह पारिश्रमिक कितने लेखकों को दिया गया ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (डा० केसकर) : (क) सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय द्वारा मंत्रालय का पाक्षिक और मासिक पत्रिकाओं के लिये १९५६ में रु० ३४,६७३ और १९५७ में रु० ४०,३३१ दिये गये।

(ख) इस मंत्रालय द्वारा १९५६ में ८६६ और १९५७ में १२२७ लेखकों को उनके लेखों के लिये फीस दी गई।

Plantation Labour Housing Scheme

2171. { Shri Bhagavati:
Shri Basumatari:

Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether applications under the Plantation Labour Housing Scheme have been made by the planters in Assam; and

(b) if so, the number of such applications and for what amount?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) Yes.

(b) Two applications for a total loan of Rs. 1,35,200 were received by the State Government upto 15-3-1958.

Organisations (I.N.T.U.C., A.I.T.U.C., H.M.S. and U.T.U.C.) are asked to recommend an agreed panel, when the composition of the International Labour Conference held each year is taken up. In the absence of an agreed panel, persons who are recommended by the Indian National Trade Union Congress which has the largest number of membership of workers and is their most representative Organisation are appointed as workers representatives for the Conference.

The selection of workers' representatives on the I.L.O. Committee is also governed by its Constitution referred to above and the most representative Organisation of workers in the Industry concerned is given the right to recommend workers' representatives.

(b) Does not arise.

Sericulture Institute, Hosur (Madras)

2176. Shri Balakrishnan: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether any aid is given to the Sericulture Institute of Hosur, Madras State; and

(b) if so, the kind of aid given to the institute?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A sum of Rs. 26,135 has been sanctioned as grant to the Government of Madras for the following schemes being executed at the Institute:

| | Rs. |
|---|--------|
| (1) Provision of air conditioning facilities | 13,635 |
| (2) Improvement of methods of preservation of mulberry leaves | 4,000 |
| (3) Installation of incubation chambers | 8,500 |

Defence Colony

2177. Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a plot has been reserved in Defence Colony (New Delhi) for a hospital;

(b) if so, when is it proposed to construct the hospital building;

(c) whether it is a fact that the vacant plots in the Defence Colony are at present being used as lavatories by the inhabitants of the neighbouring localities causing a great nuisance to the residents of the Colony; and

(d) if so, what measures have so far been taken to give relief to the residents of the Colony?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri P. S. Naskar): (a) Yes.

(b) The question is under consideration in consultation with the Delhi Administration.

(c) and (d). The New Delhi Municipal Committee have constructed a few community latrines for the inhabitants of the Kotla Mubarakpur village. The local police authorities have also been approached for assistance in the matter. It is hoped that the nuisance will diminish when more houses are constructed in the colony.

उत्तर प्रदेश में विस्थापित व्यक्ति

२१७८. श्री सरजू पाण्डे :

क्या पुनर्वास तथा प्रत्यक्ष-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार के सहायता एवं पुनर्वास विभाग की प्रायोगिक सलाहकार समिति ने विस्थापितों द्वारा चलाये जाने वाले छोटे उद्योगों के लिये ऋण मांगा है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो कितना ?

Migration of Jews to Israel

2172. Shri Bameshwar Tantia: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) how many Jews from India have so far migrated to Israel; and

(b) how many Jews have applied for migration to Israel in 1956 and 1957 and how many have been permitted to migrate?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) and (b). The number of Indian Jews who applied for and were permitted to migrate to Israel in 1956 and 1957, from Bombay City, were 292 and 969 respectively. As regards the number of Jews who migrated to Israel earlier and after these dates, the information is being collected from the Government of Bombay and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Misappropriation of Provident Fund Money

2173. Shri Muhammed Elias: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that some companies covered by the Employees Provident Fund Act, 1952 are misappropriating the Provident Fund money;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) the action being taken by Government against such companies?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) to (c). Certain factories/establishments covered under the Employees' Provident Funds Act default in payment of provident fund contributions or in the case of exempted factories, in investment in Central Government securities of provident fund money in time. In case of such defaults action is taken for recovery proceedings as arrears of land revenue under section 8 of the Employees' Provident Funds Act, 1952 and criminal proceedings against the

defaulters under section 14 of the Employees' Provident Funds Act, 1952 read with para 76 of the Employees' Provident Funds Scheme, 1952.

Out of 6272 factories/establishments covered under the Employees' Provident Funds Act, 1952 and the Scheme framed thereunder 418 recovery and/or prosecution proceedings were pending in various courts on 31st December, 1957. A number of applications for sanctioning action were also under consideration of the State Governments concerned.

Coffee Development Programme

2174. Shri Jinachandran: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to lay a statement on the Table showing the progress made upto the end of the 31st March, 1958 with regard to the development programmes for coffee under the Second Five Year Plan?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 13]

All India Trade Union Congress

**2175. { Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Tangamani:**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that proper representation in I.L.O. is being given to All India Trade Union Congress; and

(b) if so, from which date?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) The workers' delegates to the I.L.O. Conferences are selected in accordance with the I.L.O. Constitution which lays down that non-Government delegates and advisers are chosen in agreement with the Organisations which are most representatives of work-people. The four All India Trade Union

पुनर्वास उपमंत्री (श्री पु० शं० नास्कर) (क) और (ख). राज्य सरकारों को १०,००० रुपये ५,००० रुपये तक की लागत के छोटे घरेलू उद्योगों की योजनाओं को मंजूर करने का अधिकार दिया गया है। इस रकम से अधिक लागत की योजनाओं को केन्द्रीय सरकार के पास भेजा जाता है। अपने अधिकारों के अन्तर्गत, कर्ज की योजनाओं को मंजूर करने के लिये उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने २५,००० रुपये कर्ज मांगे थे और ये उन्हें दिसम्बर, १९५७ में दे दिये गये थे। राज्य सरकार ने इंडस्ट्रियल एडवाइजरी कमेटी के सिफारिशों के मुताबिक, अब तक ४ विस्थापित उद्योगपतियों के लिये १६,००० रुपये मंजूर किये हैं।

Handloom Industry

2179. **Shri Elayaperumal:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether any amount has been allotted as loans and grants to the Madras State for the development of Handloom Industry during the Second Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, what amount has been allotted?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):
(a) and (b). Rs. 728 10 lakhs.

Quarters for Workers of Singareni Collieries Company

2180. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of workers of Singareni Collieries Company whose places of residences are far off from mines;

(b) whether any steps are being taken to provide them with quarters; and

(c) whether Government contemplate to give priority for construction of quarters in the vicinity of these mines while constructing quarters from the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) 200.

(b) Yes. The owners propose to construct more houses.

(c) Yes.

Export of Sewing Machines

2181. **Shri Rameshwar Tantia:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the countries to which Indian sewing machines have been exported during 1957-58; and

(b) the future export programme for these?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):
(a) Sewing machines have been exported to Australia, Ceylon, Uganda, Kenya, North Rhodesia, Tanganyika, British Guiana, Ghana, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, East Pakistan, Singapore and Nepal.

(b) An export target of 35,000 sewing machines, valued at Rs. 42 lakhs, over and above the base year exports of 1956-57, has been fixed for the period October 1957—September 1958.

Displaced Persons in Manipur

2183. **Shri L. Achaw Singh:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of displaced persons who are not sponsored by Government and who have applied for rehabilitation facilities in Manipur and

(b) the number of displaced persons who, out of 500 agricultural families sponsored by Government, have been settled on land?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri P. S. Naskar): (a) According to an enumeration carried out some time back, 602 such families claimed to be of displaced persons. Of these, only 132 families possessed documentary evidence to prove that they were bona fide displaced persons.

(b) Out of 500 families sponsored by Government, 418 were agriculturists and all of them have been rehabilitated on land.

Second Five Year Plan

2184. Dr. Samantsinh: Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) the portion of the Second Five Year Plan in its application to Orissa State which can be considered to have come within the description 'core of the plan'; and

(b) the total amount to be spent thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra): (a) and (b). The following projects in the Second Five Year Plan located in Orissa State come within the 'core of the Plan':—

Estimated cost (Rs. lakhs)

- | | |
|---|------------|
| 1. Rourkela steel plant | Rs. 17,000 |
| 2. Expansion of State Collieries in Talcher | Rs. 1,20 |
| 3. Hirakud Stage II | Rs. 14,32 |
| 4. Works under the Railways programme. | |

- | | |
|--|---|
| (i) Doubling of Manoharpur-Rourkela, Rourkela-Nagpur and Nargundi-Khurda lines | } These works form part of the Railway's programme of construction and the total amount to be spent on these works is not separately available. |
| (ii) Electrification of Rajkharwan-Tharsguda lines | |
| (iii) Construction of Rourkela-Taldih-Dumaro and Noamundi-Banspani lines. | |

Employees' State Insurance Scheme

(d) if the reply to part (a) be in the negative, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

**2185. { Shri Padam Dev:
Shri Daljit Singh:**
Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Employees' State Insurance Scheme has been introduced in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the names of the places where it has been introduced;

(c) the amount contributed by the workers and employers, separately, region-wise in Himachal Pradesh since the Employees' State Insurance Scheme came into operation; and

(c) The employers in Delhi Region as a whole (which comprised Delhi, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Bharat, Ajmer and Bhopal) contributed Rs. 87,32,365 upto 31st December, 1957. Separate information regarding contribution paid by employers in the Himachal Pradesh is not available. The workers in Himachal Pradesh are not required to pay contribution at present as the Scheme has not yet been enforced in that area.

(d) The Scheme is being implemented by stages. Areas with a concentration of 1,500 to 5,000 workers are now being covered. As there are no such areas in Himachal Pradesh, it will take some time before the introduction of the Scheme in the State is considered.

Nangal Fertilizers and Chemicals (Private) Ltd.

2186. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the posts reserved for the Scheduled Castes have since been filled up in the Nangal Fertilizers and Chemicals (Private) Ltd., and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Firstly, suitably qualified candidates are not forthcoming; and secondly, the Company is committed to employ, as far as possible, displaced villagers whose lands have been acquired for the Project. Efforts are nevertheless always being made to get as many persons from Scheduled Castes as possible.

Handlooms in Punjab

**2188. { Shri Daljit Singh:
Shri Sadhu Ram:**

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the number of handlooms at present working in Punjab;

(b) the progress made to bring these looms under the co-operative sector and how many are under this sector in Punjab; and

(c) the amount of Central Government aid given to this industry in Punjab during 1957-58 and the

amount proposed to be given during 1958-59?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):

(a) The number of handlooms registered upto February, 1958 is 37,590, but no reliable information is available as to how many of these are working.

(b) The number of handlooms in the co-operative sector was 12,445 as on 31st December 1957 as against 6,386 on 31st March 1955.

(c) Central aid during 1957-58 amounted to Rs. 2,97,614 and the amount proposed to be given during 1958-59 is Rs. 5,00,000.

Houses for Displaced Persons in Punjab

2189. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of houses that have been allotted or sold to the displaced persons so far in the displaced persons colonies built for them in Punjab; and

(b) the number of houses, if any, that still remain un-allotted or unsold?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri P. S. Naskar): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Development of Sericulture in Punjab

2190. Shri Hem Raj: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the amount given to the Punjab Government for the development of sericulture during the last four years; and

(b) the amount asked for during the same period?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) and (b). The following grants were sanctioned:—

| Financial year | Amount Sanctioned Rs. |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| 1954-55 | 10,850 |
| 1955-56 | 46,074 |
| 1956-57 | 58,852 |
| 1957-58 | 82,415 |
| TOTAL | Rs. 1,98,191 |

It is reported that against the total sanction of Rs. 1,98,191, the State Government incurred an actual expenditure of Rs. 71,626 during the above years. At different times, different schemes are sent by State Governments and it will, therefore, not be possible to indicate the total amounts asked for.

Leather Co-operative Societies in Punjab

2191. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the names of places where the leather Co-operative Societies are located in Punjab;

(b) the description of articles manufactured by them; and

(c) the nature of assistance given to them by the Centre so far?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) to (c). The information is being collected from the Punjab Government and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Paper Mills

2192. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Mills manufacturing paper in the country and their annual output; and

(b) whether Government propose to license some new mills for paper during the Second Five Year Plan?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) There are nineteen mills in the country engaged in the manufacture of paper and paper board and their output in 1957 was 2,10,126 tons.

(b) 12 large scale units and 11 small scale units have already been licensed. If new proposals are received they will be considered on merits.

Weaver Co-operatives in Punjab

**2193. { Shri Daljit Singh:
Shri Sadhu Ram:**

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the number of weavers Co-operatives formed in Punjab;

(b) how many such Co-operatives have got credit facilities from the Reserve Bank of India; and

(c) how many handlooms have been converted into Powerlooms so far in Punjab?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) 526.

(b) None.

(c) Information is not available.

Central Assistance to Punjab

2194. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether the amount of Central assistance to Punjab Government for the year 1958-59 under the Second Five Year Plan has been finalised; and

(b) if so, what is the amount?

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rs. 16.03 crores.

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Candidates

2195. **Shri Kumbhar:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1541 on the 21st March, 1958 and state the number of graduates belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes separately who were on the Live Register at the end of 31st December, 1957 and who have since been employed in Central and State Governments' Departments, State-wise so far?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): The information is not available.

Export of Silk Goods

2196. **Shri Pangarkar:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1245 on the 13th March, 1958 and state the types of the Indian silk goods which were consumed most in foreign countries during 1957-58?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): During the period under reference i.e., April-September, 1957 the types of Indian Silk goods consumed most in foreign countries were:—

1. Silk Fabrics containing over 90 per cent silk.
2. Silk Sarees.
3. Fabrics containing less than 50 per cent. silk.
4. Other silk fabrics.

Shoe-making Industry

2197. { **Shri Daljit Singh:**
Shri Sadhu Ram:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the amount of assistance given by the

Central Government for the shoe-making industry in the Punjab State during 1956-57?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): No financial assistance was given by the Central Government for Shoe-making Industry in the Punjab State during 1956-57. However, a loan of Rs. 2,32,800 was sanctioned to the Punjab Government in 1956-57 for their scheme for the development of fancy leather industry.

Trade with Poland

2198. **Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether there has been any increase or decrease in the volume of India's trade with Poland during 1957-58?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): The trade between India and Poland during 1957-58 is on the increase. India's trade with Poland during April-September, 1957 amounted to Rs. 2.72 lakhs as compared to Rs. 157 lakhs during the corresponding period of 1956.

Wholesale Depots for Small Scale Industries Products

2199. **Shri Sadhu Ram:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the number of wholesale depots opened in the year 1957-58 for the sale of goods produced by the Small Scale Industries in Punjab;

(b) the number of depots proposed to be opened in Punjab during 1958-59;

(c) their location;

(d) the recurring and non-recurring expenditure incurred on the depots during the last six months; and

(e) the income that accrued from them?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) One Woollen Hosiery-cum-Raw material Depot has been set up during 1957-58 at Ludhiana.

(b) Nil.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e). The administration of Wholesale Depots has been decentralised and has been entrusted to the Subsidiary Corporations. Figures regarding the expenditure incurred on the Depots and income accrued from them will be furnished as soon as the accounts for 1957-58 are finalised.

Village Housing Projects

2200. Shri Hem Raj: Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the village housing projects allotted to the different States, State-wise for 1957-58; and

(b) the manner for their selection?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 14.]

(b) The selection of villages will be done by the State Governments in accordance with the criteria laid down in para. 6 of the Village Housing Projects Scheme, copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

AMENDMENTS TO COFFEE RULES

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): I beg to lay on the Table under sub-section (3) of Section 48 of the Coffee Act, 1942, a copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 184, dated the 29th March, 1958, making certain amendments to the Coffee Rules, 1955. [Placed in the Library. See No. T.649/58]

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

SIXTH AND SEVENTH REPORTS

Shri B. G. Mehta (Gohilwad): I beg to present the Sixth and Seventh Reports of the Estimates Committee regarding action taken by Government on the recommendations of the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Reports (First Lok Sabha) on 'Operation on Indian Railways' and 'Railways Second Five Year Plan' respectively.

STATEMENT RE: ANNUAL REPORTS OF EMPLOYEES' STATE INSURANCE CORPORATION

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): Sir, on the 26th March, 1958, when the audited accounts for 1955-56 and the annual report for 1956-57 of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation were placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha, my hon. friend Shri Morarka stated that although under section 36 of the Employees' State Insurance Act it was necessary to place also the budget prepared by the Corporation on the Table of the Sabha, it was never being done. Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman also raised some objections in this connection. The correct position is as follows:—

As required under Section 36 of the Employees' State Insurance Act read with Rule 31(7) of the Employees' State Insurance (Central) Rules 1950, the budget estimates of the Corporation are placed before the Parliament every year and published in the Official Gazette after the Central Government budgets have been approved by the Parliament. The budget estimates for 1956-57 were placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha on the 10th May, 1956 and published in the Official Gazette on the 8th June. The budget estimates for 1957-58 were placed on the Table of the Sabha on the 12th September, 1957 and published in the Official Gazette on the 19th October. Similarly, the budget estimates for

1956-59 will be placed before the Parliament as soon as the budget estimates of the Central Government are approved by Parliament.

The annual report and the audited accounts of the Corporation for 1954-55 were placed on the Table of Lok Sabha on 17th August, 1957. The practice hitherto has been to place the audited accounts and the annual reports together before Parliament. As finalisation of the audited accounts takes time, this practice of placing both the documents together has been discontinued.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—contd.

MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT—contd.

Mr. Speaker: The House will now resume further discussion on the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Labour and Employment. Out of six hours allotted for these Demands, 4 hours and 42 minutes now remain. The list of selected cut motions relating to these Demands has already been circulated to the hon. Members on the 7th April. I shall treat these cut motions as moved subject to their being otherwise admissible. When would the hon. Minister like to reply?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): Shri Nanda will take about one hour.

Mr. Speaker: All right. Will the hon. Prime Minister start External Affairs today? Still half an hour left.

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): I will be prepared to submit to any decision that you make.

Some Hon. Members: Not in the Order Paper.

Mr. Speaker: They are raising a technical objection that it is not in the Order Paper. Very well. We will start it tomorrow. Then, I will call

upon the hon. Minister at 4 o'clock. He will conclude at five.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Subject to the House being agreeable, if they like, I can make a few remarks today, and they can carry on the discussion tomorrow.

Shri Naushir Bharucha (East Khandesh): No, Sir. It is not on the Order Paper today.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: All right.

Shri Prabhat Kar (Hooghly): Only 18 minutes left.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Prime Minister may start tomorrow. It will not be taken up today.

An Hon. Member: We would like to hear much from him.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: So, when do we take it up, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: At 12 O'clock tomorrow, or a few minutes afterwards.

I will call upon the hon. Minister of Labour to start his reply at 4 o'clock. He may carry on for an hour, if necessary.

The numbers of the cut motions to be moved are as follows:—

| Demand No. | No. of Cut Motion |
|------------|--|
| 72 | 1440, 922, 1250 to 1263, 1423 to 1431, 1441 to 1447, 1460 to 1473. |
| 73 | 405 to 407, 529. |
| 74 | 137, 408 to 419, 530, 531, 666 to 678, 791, 793, 1433 to 1439, 1448. |

Enforcing agreements made by non-representative Unions

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced to Rs. 1.

Failure to extend the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act to the agricultural labourers.

Shri Ghosal (Wuberia): I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need to extend the minimum Wages Act to all Industrial Workers.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need to extend the Employees State Insurance scheme to the family members of all workers

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Working of the Employment Exchanges

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need to implement the recommendations of the 15th Labour Conference

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to check lay off in various Textile Mills

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Functioning of Conciliation Officers and Regional Labour Commissioners (Central) in Central Government undertakings

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Detractability of having one Union in one industry

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to protect the local mine workers against accidents

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need for appointment of a Wage Board in Transport industry

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Working of the Employees State Insurance Corporation

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need to give representation to All-India Trade Union Congress in the International Labour Organisation

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need for appointment of a Wage Board for the workers in leather industry

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Recognition of Unions in various industries

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Effects of rationalisation in Textile and Jute industries

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Working of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to check growing unemployment in the country

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to take effective step to educate industrial workers

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need for immediate appointment of a Wage Board for Transport Workers

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need for recognition of Unions by suitable legislation

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Attitude towards Union not affiliated to I.N.T.U.C.

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Working of Employment Exchange in various States

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need to implement the recommendations of the 15th Labour Conference

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need to extend facilities of Employees' State Insurance Scheme to the family members of the workers

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Government attitude during the strike by the Bank employees of West Bengal

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Necessary of Joint Consultative Boards at all levels in industries

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Necessity of a tripartite conference to resolve bonus dispute in the Banking Industry

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Necessity of improving working conditions of workers in mines

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Necessity of a comprehensive labour legislation by eliminating the loopholes in the existing laws

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Insecurity of workers in the mines

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Refusal to take deterrent steps against employers for infringement of statutory obligations

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Closure of various General Insurance Companies

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to stop reduction in the emoluments of Working Journalists after Supreme Court's Judgement

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to take immediate steps to settle the wage structure of the Working Journalists

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to enforce award in Catholic Bank of India Ltd., Changanacherry

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to enforce awards in respect of calculation of overtime allowance in all Banks

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to enforce awards in the matter of promotions in Punjab National Bank, Bank of India, and Central Bank

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Functioning of Conciliation Officer (Central) in Banking and Insurance in Calcutta

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to take steps to resolve bonus dispute in the Banking industry

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Functioning of Central Conciliation Officers

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Functioning of the Regional Labour Commissioners

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need for giving representation to All-India Bank Employees Association in Labour Conference and Joint Consultative Bodies

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to take steps against employers for not implementing awards

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to enforce awards in cases of godownkeepers in the Lloyds Bank

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to enforce awards in case of Supervisors in Lloyds Bank Ltd., Punjab National Bank Ltd., and Allahabad Bank Ltd.

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to check mine disasters

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Chief Inspector of Mines be reduced by Rs. 100.

Non-implementation of the awards of Coal Tribunals by the Ballarshah collieries of Bombay

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Chief Inspector of Mines be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to check corruption in the mines inspectorate

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Chief Inspector of Mines be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to check disasters in collieries

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Chief Inspector of Mines be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to assess cost of living index of the working class of West Bengal

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to solve unemployment in West Bengal

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to recognise all registered Unions

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other

[Shri Ghosal]

Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to stop the unscientific Ibsen system of job-evaluation

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to rescind the order prohibiting Government employees from being members of non-recognised Unions

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to bring individual trade disputes under the purview of the Industrial disputes

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to provide security of service to the apprentices of all industries in West Bengal

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to stop exploitation of workers in garb of apprentice-designation in the industries in West Bengal

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other

Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to frame authentic cost of living index of the working-class and the middle class industry-wise and area-wise

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to revise the rates of compensation as provided in the Workmen's Compensation Act

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to provide conciliation machinery to the Tea Districts Labour Association Employees

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to set up an enquiry committee for considering labour conditions of the Joint Steamer Companies' employees of Bihar, West Bengal and Assam

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to interfere in labour disputes in the Bengal Chemical, a firm of West Bengal

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other

Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Delay in conciliation proceedings

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Non-implementation of award of agreement

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to extend the provision of the Minimum Wages Act to the porters of Railway Stations

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Political consideration in the selection of delegates to I.L.O.

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to remove the defects in the working of the Employees' State Insurance Act

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to expedite payment of Provident Fund money under Employees Provident Fund Act

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to materialise the scheme of Workers' Education

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Undue preference shown to I.N.T.U.C. by Government in all labour matters

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Delay in registration of unions

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to form wage boards in all industries

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to extend the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act to the agricultural labourers

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other

[Shri Ghosal]

Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure of the Employment Exchanges to provide employment

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to punish the defaulting factories under the Factories Act

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to arrest the prevalent practice of working through contractors by the factories in West Bengal resulting in neglect of labour laws

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to liberalise maternity benefits to female workers

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to resolve the long outstanding disputes of the Railway employees of Mcleod and Co. of Calcutta

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to restrict the retired Judges of the Tribunal from practising in the Tribunals

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to stop closure of mills in West Bengal, Kanpur and Bombay

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to stop retrenchment of workers in textile industry

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need to extend protection under the Industrial Dispute Act, 1947 to industrial labourers

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to tackle the problem of educated unemployment

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need to prohibit ex-Tribunal Judges to appear before the Tribunals

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need to absorb the employees working in the Labour Appellate Tribunal bench in Calcutta, in various departments under the Ministry of Labour and Employment

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need to check lay-off in Textile Mills

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Delay in disposing of cases referred to the Ministry

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment be reduced by Rs. 100.

Mr. Speaker: These cut motions are now before the House.

Shri Elayaperumal (Chidambaram—Reserved—Sch. Castes): Sir, while something has been done for the industrial labourers, nothing has been

done for the agricultural labourers. I want to say something about agricultural labourers.

There was no reference to the agriculturist labour classes in the economic history of India till 1850. By 1882, however, they had made their presence felt. Approximately 7.5 million agriculturists were declared as agricultural labourers in—that year. Subsequently, the censuses recorded their ranks from 7.5 million to 18.71 million in 1891, and 33 million in 1931.

Our Government published two documents after independence about agriculturists and the agricultural labourers, one in 1951 and the other in 1954. The first document is about the agricultural landlords, and the second about agricultural labourers. Some economists have classified them into four groups: full-time wage labourers, landless labourers, dwarf-holding labourers and, bonded or semi-free labourers. According to the 1951 census, the population of agricultural labour is as follows: (both male and female):

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----|---------------|
| South India | .. | 1,39,05,550 |
| North India | .. | 36,12,209 |
| Central India | .. | 91,81,910 |
| West India | .. | 34,25,028 |
| East India | .. | 1,38,34,815 |
| North-West India | .. | 18,53,350 |
| Andaman and Nicobar Islands | | 131 families. |

According to their work, they can be divided into two groups—casual or seasonal labour and long-term labour. Recent enquiries have revealed that the casual type of labourers who constitute about 85 per cent of the total agricultural labour force, besides, the ex-composition of the agricultural labour force is roughly as follows: men 55 per cent, women 40 per cent, children below the age of 15 about 5 per cent.

[Shri Elayaperumal]

The agricultural labourers in India are working in the Sun light from early morning till sunset along with their wives and children. Their wives and children are semi-starved and half-naked. They are getting work for only 180 to 190 days in the year. Their wages are very low, and the working period also very short. With this low income, how can they maintain their poor families, when they do not have work for more than six months? How can they educate their children?

There is a provision in the Minimum Wages Act for industrial labourers' wives and children, but there is no provision for the agricultural labourers' wives and children. There is a Children Act for the industrial labourers. According to that Act, if any one appoints their children who have not completed 14 years of age as servants in a company, hotel, factory or mine field, the employer will be punished. Most of the agricultural labourers' sons and daughters are working as cowshed boys or girls in the landlords' houses throughout India. Is there any provision for their children? I ask the hon. Minister if there is any proposal before the Government, or will there be any proposal at least in the future, to avoid this system? The children of the agricultural labourers are unable to get even primary education in India. In my parts, if the agricultural labourers refuse to send their sons or daughters for this kind of work, the next day they will be dismissed from the service of the landlord. This is the condition of our agricultural labourers in India. The agriculturists families represent 26.5 per cent of the total Agricultural population but the labourers families represent 30 per cent of the total rural families.

Agriculturists are not interested in paying reasonable wages to the agricultural labourers. They always think

about their future, and they fear the land policy followed by the Government. They not only exploit the tenants, but also the labourers. So, I request the Government to put a ceiling on the present land holding as recommended in the First and Second Five Year Plans. Then only Sir we can solve the food problem in India. The agriculturists in India have no interest to produce more food grains for the nation. There is a proverb in Tamil by the great poetess Avvayar:

"Uzhavar thame ulagaththani"

That is, the tillers are the backbone of the country. Their wages defer from State to State. So, I request the hon. Minister to consider this before implementing the Minimum Wages Act in India with great caution.

So many Acts are passed by the Centre as well the States for the industrial labourers. The Minimum Wages Act was passed in the year 1948, but unfortunately it has not been implemented by several States even now, so far as the agricultural labourers are concerned. I would request the Hon'ble Minister to tell us the reasons why there is delay in the implementation of this Act in the several States. The Hon'ble Minister may say it is a State Subject it is not correct. It is a national and human problem also.

Now, we are all talking about the socialist pattern of society. But I have doubt in my mind how Government are going to create a socialist pattern of society in India when the rich become richer and the poor become poorer. Unless our Government will come forward not only to put a ceiling on lands, but also to put a ceiling on wealth, then only we can create a socialist pattern of society and we can eradicate poverty from the nation.

Finally, I would like to sum up my speech by submitting to this House

only three points. Firstly, I request the Hon'ble Minister to instruct all the State Governments to implement the Minimum Wages Act in all sectors of activities; and the time-limit should not be extended after 31st December, 1959. Secondly, the lands should be only with the tillers of the soil. Thirdly, I request Government to instruct all the State Governments to distribute the cultivable Government waste lands to the landless agricultural labourers without any delay.

Shri Anthony Pillai (Madras North): I would like to draw the attention of the House to the growing discrepancy between promise and performance on the part of Labour Ministry. This discrepancy has led to a great deal of discontent among all sections of the working class population, whether they be of the INTUC persuasion or the Hind Mazdoor Sabha persuasion or the AITUC persuasion.

Before the last elections or just before the last elections, the INTUC raised the slogan that there should be an interim increase in the wages of workers by about 25 per cent in view of the fact that industrial production had risen, in view of the fact that profits had risen whereas the real wages of the workers had gone down. Subsequently, the slogan was taken up by other sections of labour, such as the Hind Mazdoor Sabha and the AITUC, and recently there have been demonstrations in various parts of the country that there should be a minimum charter which should be conceded by Government. This particular charter may be characterised by Government as fantastic, but a careful analysis would indicate that what labour is demanding is only the implementation of the assurances given, and I do not think that requesting Government to implement their own assurances and promises is in any way fantastic.

Let me refer to a few such promises which should normally be conceded

without any great difficulty. Some time ago, Government gave an assurance that the rate of contribution to the provident fund scheme would be increased from 6½ per cent to 8½ per cent. In answering a question on the floor of the House a few days ago as to why this promise had not been implemented, the Minister of Labour stated that it was necessary to look into the question of the capacity to pay. Anyway, this particular aspect did not strike the Minister when the assurance was given by him.

Nevertheless, I cannot assume that every industry in this country has not got the capacity to pay, to pay this extra two per cent, for increasing the contribution from 6½ per cent to 8½ per cent. Therefore, I would urge on the Ministry the necessity of increasing the rate of contribution to the provident fund at least in those industries where there can be no doubt about their capacity to pay.

In particular, I would like to draw his attention to the assurance given that the employees' provident fund scheme would be made applicable to those employed in the commercial sector. Social insecurity is the greatest menace among commercial employees. In spite of the fact that this promise was given some years ago, it still remains to be implemented.

Take, again, the question of revising or amending the Workmen's Compensation Act. Time and again, it has been repeated by various authorities, by Ministers, by trade unionists and others, that this antiquated Act and this outmoded Act should be amended and revised. In last year's annual report, it was said that the question was being examined, and that an inter departmental committee was being set up. But now, we are informed that an actuarial commission is sitting. Now,

[Shri Anthony Pilla]

as far as compensation to the industrial employees is concerned, to a large extent it is covered by the Employees' State Insurance scheme, though there are very many important industries where the Workmen's Compensation Act is applicable. Take, for instance, the transport industry. Amongst dock workers, the incidents of accidents has increased considerably since the implementation of the piece-rate scheme at Bombay. Labour would be a party to homicide, if while the piece-rate schemes are introduced for dock work, there is not simultaneously an attempt made to revise the Workmen's Compensation Act at least for that industry. Or, take, again, the Dock Labour Regulation Act. Promises were held out that it would be revised, and that more detailed schemes and regulations would be drawn up. But no attempt has been made to popularise the safety measures amongst the dock workers, and today, I repeat, the incidence of accidents and the number of deaths in the docks have increased immeasurably worth at Bombay and at Madras. And surely, if the piece-rate system is to be introduced at Calcutta, I do not know whether the same thing will apply there.

Take, again, another matter on which everyone is unanimous, every political tendency in the country is unanimous. A few months ago, even the Congress Party adopted a resolution to the effect that it would be wise for at least the Life Insurance Corporation field workers to be allowed to participate in political activities. In the United Kingdom, subsequent to the Masterman report, nearly three-fourths of their civil servants have got full political rights. But here in this country, even industrial workers in the public sector are denied the most elementary democratic political rights. But it is acknowledged on all sides that the field workers in the Life Insurance Corporation have normally been recruited from men who are enthusiasts in political and public activities. So,

to deny them the right of political activity would only be stultifying. In spite of the fact that every political party in this country accepts the necessity of giving such people political right, still, in the service conditions of the Life Insurance Corporation men, there is a provision that a man can be dismissed if he takes part in political activities.

Then, take the case of the Factories Act. It was as long ago as 1948 that we put on the statutebook the Factories Act. One provision of the Factories Act requires and enable Government to publish rules with regard to the number of medical staff that will have to be provided in big factories. Up to date—ten years have passed since that Act came into force—no rules have been framed with regard to the medical staff that would be provided in big factories. The Employees' State Insurance Act permits or enables the Corporation to look after the curative aspect only. It does not authorise it at all to look after the preventive aspect. Everyone will admit that unless the working conditions are made tolerable, there can be no increase in productivity. When it is admitted on all sides that the health of the workers should be looked after not nearly in the curative aspect but also in the preventive aspect, I do not see why there should be delay in framing rules under the Factories Act. Recently I wrote to the Ministry as to why there was such a delay in framing rules under the Factories Act to prescribe the staff and the functions of the medical personnel in the big factories. The reply that I received after several months was that Government did not propose to frame rules because they contemplated a special enactment in this regard.

Now, I have heard this assurance of special enactment on this matter and that matter on several occasions and therefore, I have a great deal of distrust and misgivings with regard to

the coming into force of such legislation. Last year, speaking on the Labour Ministry's Demands I expressed the apprehension that the service conditions—wage scales and so on—for working journalists might follow the pattern of developments in the banking industry. I find that those apprehensions are now proving true, that with the inevitability of a Greek drama we are passing through the various stages of indecision with regard to fixing wages and working conditions of working journalists.

No doubt, workers throughout the country, particularly the working journalist, have been faced with that bulwark of conservatism, the Supreme Court. The decision of the Supreme Court must create consternation in the ranks not only of working journalists but of the whole working class, because the emphasis is being put on the element of capacity to pay.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Hon. Members have no right to criticise the judgement of the Supreme Court, calling it 'bulwark of conservatism' and so on. The courts are expected only to interpret the law as we frame it. It is open to this House to frame any law it likes. The courts only interpret it. Courts do not make laws. Therefore, they are only trying to interpret our language. Our language may be loose. It is the duty of the courts to say what exactly it means, whatever we might have thought about it. Therefore, hon. Members will kindly avoid any such reference to judgements of the court. Let them take them as judgements of the final Supreme Court, accept them and try to modify the law; if they like. Let them if possible, then exclude the jurisdiction of the country by appointing special tribunals. All that can be done. But once jurisdiction is granted to the Supreme Court, you cannot impair that jurisdiction when it is exercised.

Shri Anthony Pillai: I may be permitted to disagree with you. In other democratic countries, . .

Mr. Speaker: No, no, our democratic country goes by the Constitution. The courts have no right to frame rules. They are only entitled to interpret the laws. It will be a dangerous precedent if we allow courts to take up our responsibility. The legislature can never part with its right to frame laws, rules and regulations. It is the absolute right of the representatives of Government. Another essential organ of State, the judiciary, only interprets the law. Therefore, in our over-enthusiasm, saying that it is conservative, let us not surrender our right to courts.

Shri Anthony Pillai: At the time of the New Deal in the United States, various criticisms were made of the Supreme Court, with regard to the character of their decisions.

Mr. Speaker: They may be doing many things. We do not allow such things.

Shri Ranga (Tenali): We can change laws ourselves.

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to allow all those things. We are a parliamentary democracy.

Shri Anthony Pillai: But I can characterise the general trend. . .

Mr. Speaker: The Supreme Court will interpret as it likes. We are relying upon the Supreme Court's judgement knowing that it only interprets. If we give the power which courts in the United States have taken for themselves under the police regulations—they have not modified their Constitution from time to time; therefore, they have found an effective remedy of reading into the Constitution everything as they like—if we adopt that particular practice here, we will have to take leave of ourselves and allow the Supreme Court to take charge of our affairs. I do not know if that is allowable; we

[Mr. Speaker]

have not been allowing it. Therefore, let us restrict the jurisdiction of the court to mere interpretation of the law. As soon as they interpret it, let us modify the law, if necessary; let the hon. Member carry the whole House with him. But let us never abrogate our exclusive jurisdiction to frame the law.

Shri Kumaran (Chirayinkil): Does it mean that the judgement of the Supreme Court is above criticism?

Mr. Speaker: Yes, it is a court.

Shri Anthony Pillai: I bow to your decision, though I disagree with it, because in other countries, criticism of the court has been permitted...

Mr. Speaker: We will accept the judgement and say that this must be modified. The hon. Member can take the Government to task for not initiating legislation. I have no objection.

Shri Anthony Pillai: The specific character of wage boards being appointed is that the wages are uniformly made applicable to all units of industry. The question of capacity to pay is not a significant factor at all, because it becomes uniform for all. Under the Industrial Disputes Act, various units of industry go before a tribunal for settlement of wage disputes. Therefore, they have got to think in terms of the competitive capacity of a particular industry, if wages are raised too high. But when it is made uniform for all, it is the element of cost which goes up uniformly for every employer in the industry. When, for instance, the price of newsprint went up, the industry did not decay. Similarly, if wages should go up taking into consideration wages paid by a fair and reasonable employer, there can be no question of capacity to pay coming into the picture.

Anyway, I would make this one suggestion. It would be unwise to appoint another wages board and ask them to go into the capacity to pay when employers have refused to assist the wage board by furnishing various relevant material for fixation of wages. I would, therefore, suggest that some simple law prescribing the wages and other working conditions of journalists be enacted and there may be provision in such a legislation for special tribunal to be set up to which an employer who alleges that he has not got the capacity to pay the wage prescribed in that law could go and ask for a stay, and that tribunal could be authorised to give that stay and to prescribe some reasonable interim wage. In such a legislation, the employer making the allegation that he has not got the capacity to pay the wage prescribed would be required to pay a fairly large sum of money to enable the employees to contest that allegation with any assistance from chartered accountants.

Now I would like to refer to one other matter, namely, the question of industrial housing. Though various hopes were held out that the housing conditions of workers would be improved, in spite of the subsidised industrial housing schemes the number of houses that has been built for industrial workers is insignificant compared to the housing problem that we face in the major cities. I do not think that the granting of a subsidy of 25 per cent to the employers is going to increase the number of houses. On the other hand, it will be advisable to put the emphasis on industrial housing cooperatives and facilitate such co-operatives taking up industrial housing on a large scale. I hope and trust that the Ministry will consider jointly with other Ministries the suggestion made by the Madras Government that in the case of the industrial housing co-operatives, the loan amount may be increased from 50 to 60 per cent. If such an amendment

is made to the industrial housing scheme, I have not the slightest doubt that the pace of industrial housing in this country in providing a larger number of houses to industrial workers will increase.

Shri M. R. Krishna (Karimnagar-Reserve-Sch. Castes): I join my other colleagues in paying a tribute to the Ministry of Labour for taking some concrete steps in the interest of the labour class in this country. Some of the noteworthy steps the Labour Ministry has taken are the participation of labour in the management, the Employees' Insurance Scheme, the Employees' Compulsory Provident Scheme and so on.

We all know that industrial labour and agricultural labour are the very backbone of this country and much of the progress and development under the Second and Third Five Year Plans will depend upon the way in which we treat this labour community. The labour classes of this country, I am sure, will have come to this conclusion that the Ministry, even though they have not fully met the demands of labour, has yet the intention to help them. This would definitely go a long way; and the labour classes of the country will be able to adjust themselves to the changed circumstances and they would help the country to definitely progress in the industrial sector as well as in other sectors.

Participation of labour in the management is a matter about which I would like to say a few things. Labour should not concentrate itself only on the profit motive. It will have to be more alive to and more concerned with the increase of production because on the increase of production depends not only its welfare but also the welfare of other labourers as well as the country as a whole. Therefore, my request to the labour classes and also to those who are employed in the industries in which this new

scheme has been introduced is that they should think about various other industries, both in the private as well as the public sector, because these things have to be introduced in various other industrial sectors. Labour must be feeling happy about it and I hope that within a short time it will make this House fully satisfied that if labour is given its due place, country's production will definitely be increased and it will put its heart and soul and try to enhance production in every sector.

I would like to say a few things about insurance and other benefits that are contemplated. I know some of the people working in the Railways. When they retire, they definitely get pretty good amounts; but, many of them do not spend that money in a proper manner. They do not know in what ventures they should invest the money. Even here if the Labour Ministry can do something to help the labours who get a few thousand rupees on retirement in wisely investing the money, it would be doing something though it may not go far. Therefore, my suggestion would be to have a guiding and counselling centre in every industry so that people who retire may be told what they should do and how they should invest their money in order that they can live peacefully for some time more.

I would now like to refer to another very important thing; that is about agricultural labour. In the report which has been brought out by the Ministry, they have said that efforts are being made and some figures are being collected to find out the amount of agricultural labour in this country. About 36,000 villages have been taken and they have been trying to do something in this regard. It is already very late. This country, is an agricultural country. There are very many people who have no lands but have to depend purely on agricultural labour. Particularly, in my part of Telengana, there are whole families

[Shri M. R. Krishna]

working for the landlords and even then they do not get enough to live upon. Therefore, the Ministry will have to do something at least to help them with their basic requirements. The landlord is concerned only with increase of his own income. If wages of agricultural labour are fixed, I am sure, it will lead to various other things which are inter-connected. For instance, fixing of the minimum price for agricultural produce is one of the very important things which would help the entire country.

We speak about the abolition of the zamindari and the amendments of Tenancy Acts and various other things. But, unless minimum wage is fixed for agricultural labour, all these things will be just paper schemes and they will not definitely help the people of this country.

I have got in mind a particular section of people working to the Defence Department—I mean the class IV people. I do not know whether the Labour Ministry is directly concerned with this section of labourers. I have been trying to explain to the Defence Ministry all along about their conditions but the Defence Ministry has so far done nothing. These people work either as cooks or sweepers and so on. They have to work from morning 5 to evening 8. But, yet, the Defence Ministry and the Labour Ministry have not taken steps to regularise their working hours. Not only that. Even if those people are near the fire for 8 hours, they do not get even the basic medical facilities. There are people who have not have taken leave because they are not entitled for years. This is a section which needs immediate attention. I request the Labour Ministry to take note of this and see that something is done so that they may also feel that the Labour Ministry is concerned not only with industrial labour but they also devote their attention to other labour employed in various government departments.

About Employment Exchanges, I would like to say that they are mostly situated in towns and cities and they also cater to people who live 5 or 6 miles roundabout the Exchanges. But these Exchanges do not cater properly even for the people in the towns and cities.

There are a large number of people in the rural areas. I am sure the Employment Exchanges in the whole country are not doing anything for these people. At the moment, because I know under what difficulties the Employment Exchanges are functioning, I would be satisfied even if they cater properly to the city people. They do not have even the means to go to the villages roundabout cities and register the candidates. If a man who registers and keeps on renewing card does not by chance happen to go to the Employment Exchange on that particular day then his card would expire, his card which he has been renewing for 3-4 years would lapse. This is the way in which most of the unemployed people are suffering. Let us take the employment exchanges working in other countries. They not only cater for the educated youth and able bodied people. They also cater for the disabled persons. For instance, the U.K. employment exchange has got a separate section which deals with disabled people. An officer goes round the hospitals and fixes up the people who are actually disabled. They also try to fix them in various Government departments for private industries.

But in our country if the employment exchanges cannot cater for the disabled people, they must at least cater fully to the needs of the people who are living round about the employment exchanges.

One word about the recruitment of the Scheduled Castes through the employment exchange. I do not think that any employment exchange takes

care to maintain a list of vacancies which ought to be filled by the various Government departments. We know that there are Government departments which have not yet filled the quota of reservation. From the employment exchanges we get only this information that they were able to find jobs for so many people. Beyond this, the employment exchanges do not give any further information. What steps have the employment exchanges taken to see that these Government department fill the quota reserved for the Scheduled Caste candidates? No effort has been made. I have close contact with the employment exchange in Hyderabad. They send a candidate only when the department asks for a Scheduled Caste candidate. The employment exchange have no record with them so that they may ask a department, when a requisition is received from that department, to fill up the 12½ per cent quota. I want the Labour Ministry to take proper steps to see that the employment exchanges do not only find jobs for the Scheduled Castes but also maintain a list of various departments which have not yet fully utilised the quota. This Ministry which has been taking some concrete steps will, I am sure, bear this in mind and see that proper directives are given to the State employment exchanges so that they may maintain this record and post the Ministry with all the information.

The employment exchanges should not just be places for registration of vacancies. They must have a training programme. They must conduct courses for short terms so that people who are unemployed can undergo certain training in the crafts. A man who is sent through an employment exchange to a department as a clerk will definitely take some time to acquaint himself with the work he is entrusted. He has to waste sometime that way. The exchanges would be doing a great service if they conduct courses just on the lines of the Defence Ministry who take up the NCC and ACC reserves and train

them up for a couple of months and put them in their proper places. Similarly, the employment exchanges can run some courses twice a year so that a number of boys could be attracted to these. The number of people depending purely on Government service will diminish. They can have their own living by means of some craft which they would be taught in the employment exchanges. I want the Ministry to give additional funds to the employment exchanges so that they can in a more effective manner help to train the people.

I am told that even in the employment exchanges this quota of reservation for the Scheduled Castes is not properly maintained. If the employment exchanges themselves are not honest and do not give full representation to the Scheduled Castes, I do not think that there will be any hope for them to insist on other departments to employ the required number of Scheduled Castes. So, I feel that it is necessary that some definite steps should be taken by the Labour Ministry so that they will be able to do more justice not only for the Scheduled Castes but also to the other people who are unemployed in the country.

Shri Somanl (Dausa): Mr. Speaker, last year was a year of all-round progress and achievements for the Labour Ministry for which they deserve all credit. Reference has already been made by a number of people to the experiments on the workers' participation in management which has been introduced for the first time. This scheme has been under discussion and study for a long time and it is due to the sincere and determined efforts of the hon. Minister of Labour that this experiment has now been started in a number of industrial units in both the public and the private sectors, though the number of units having this experiment may not be much at present, the fact remains that this bold experiment has been given a concrete shape. There is no doubt that

[Shri Somani]

If this experiment is tried in the best possible spirit, it will be naturally applied to more and more industrial units throughout the country. It is therefore quite natural to characterise this experiment as almost establishing a new chapter in the history of industrial relations. I have no doubt that the scheme of workers' participation in the management and the other new scheme, the code of discipline in industry, will go a long way in promoting healthier and better industrial relations.

It cannot be too strongly emphasised that the greatest need for economic development of our country at as fast a pace as is possible is to have very harmonious and sound relations in the industrial field, which will enable our various industries to function smoothly and which will enable our industrial production not only to be maintained but also to be expanded.

This code of discipline, Sir, which has now been approved by both the employers organisations as well as the workers' organisations, has set down certain principles which, if they are worked in the proper spirit, should certainly assist in eliminating all points of dispute through a process of negotiation, conciliation and, if necessary, arbitration. It is to be hoped that both sides—that is the employers' as well as the workers' organisations—will make sincere efforts to implement this code of discipline in the manner in which it is desired. This code is meant to ensure that both sides will make sincere efforts to avoid all sorts of disputes, to avoid the go-slow tactics, strikes or lockouts, and thereby strengthen the smooth functioning of the various industries in the country.

It is too early to say that both these bold experiments—that, is the workers' participation in the management and the code of discipline—which have only been recently initiated, will really achieve the

results. Everything depends upon the fact that these agreements on paper will have to be implemented in their proper spirit. It is only when we find that both sides are co-operative and functioning in the spirit of these agreements that it will be possible to say that the aim with which these agreements have been executed will be fulfilled. The fact, however, has to be recognised that these agreements have opened a new chapter in our industrial relations, and a new era of understanding and harmony in industrial relations has been initiated.

I wish, Sir, that the same initiative is taken by the Labour Ministry so far as the employment position is concerned. I am sorry to say that the Labour Ministry has been almost helplessly watching the various industries. So far as the example of the textile industry is concerned. I am very much concerned to find that, although the Ministry should have realised long ago how unit after unit had been closing down due to reasons beyond their control, the Ministry was simply helplessly watching the situation without in any way taking the bold initiative or action which was at least taken by the Government sometime ago.

What I want to emphasise is that, if our production is not to suffer, if our employment is not to suffer, then the solution lies in taking action beforehand and in making an intelligent assessment of the coming factors. Once an impartial and independent study establishes the fact that a certain industry is faced with a genuine difficulty, then the initiative should be taken by the Ministry of Labour. Whether it is the taxation policy of the Government or it may be the extra burden of labour charges, whatever might be the reason, it lies with the Labour Ministry to initiate the necessary action. In certain cases the hon. Minister of Labour has

recently used his good offices in arranging with the trade union leaders that the workers will voluntarily accept a cut in the wages and dearness allowance. Take, for instance, the example of Sholapur. The economic life of the town has been almost paralysed due to two big textile mills having been closed and the remaining two or three mills having curtailed their production. It has, therefore, very appropriate that recently an agreement has been reached with the labour representatives whereby they have accepted a substantial cut in their dearness allowance. All these steps, whether it is a question of relief in the excise duty or it is a voluntary cut in wages....

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Firozabad): The only point is whether it is voluntary or forced.

Shri Somani: I do not agree that it has been forced upon them, because they have learnt by the bitter experience of closure of the units that there is no other alternative and if the units have to function economically a certain cut in labour wages is a inevitable. It has been after a thorough study of the economic working of the textile units that it was established to be impossible—however efficient the management might be—to run those units economically without imposing this cut. I think the workers' representatives would be well advised in making this situation known and properly appreciated by the workers. No misunderstanding should be created as if this cut has in any way been imposed on them.

An Hon. Member: It is a cry against excise duty.

Shri Somani: There is no cry as such. Sir, my submission is that a lot of misunderstanding is created due to lack of proper assessment of facts. After all, certain industries function

with certain facts and figures. There is the Tariff Board Formula, and there are also various other bodies which have gone into the working of textile units. Therefore, there is absolutely no reason why, if an independent and impartial study of facts and figures on the working of a particular industry shows that the industry cannot carry on with a certain burden, it should be regarded as a cry. If only our labour friends would realise the seriousness of the situation they will know that any industry, however efficient and powerful it might be, cannot continue to function in the long run if it cannot meet both ends and it has to run on loss day by day. If this bare fact is realised that if an industry is to function smoothly on a permanent basis it must be allowed to have circumstances under which it will be at least in a position to see that both ends meet, then only the employment question can be assured.

Sir, I do not plead for the units which may be mismanaged or which may invite trouble due to various factors within the control of the management. But where an industry as a whole suffers from certain burdens which are beyond its control, certainly it lies on all sections of our community to join in exploring the reasons of the difficulties, and once it is established that the difficulties are genuine and are beyond the capacity of any efficient management we should agree to evolve certain measures which will enable the industries to function smoothly and properly. It is in that spirit that I appeal to the hon. Minister of Labour that the Labour Ministry should be much more vigilant than they have been in the past to keep a close watch on the working of any industry. Whenever they are convinced that a particular industry is faced with genuine difficulties, they should take up the cause of that industry with the departments concerned and assist that industry in a manner which will enable it to resolve its difficulties and function in a proper manner.

[Shri Somani]

Sir, the only other point that I would like to make is about the Employees' State Insurance Scheme. I find that in the Annual Report of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation for the year 1956-57 there is a considerable excess of income over expenditure. Similarly, in the reports for the years 1954-55 and 1955-56 also there is a considerable excess of income over expenditure. For instance, the report for the year 1955-56 shows a surplus income over expenditure to the extent of Rs. 0.305 lakhs and the report for 1956-57 shows a surplus of 0.325 lakhs. The Corporation's investment in the Government of India securities as on 31st March, 1957 exceeded Rs. 11.01 crores. Here, Sir, one would like to ask the hon. Minister of Labour whether this insurance scheme has been introduced to collect large funds by way of investments in Government securities or whether the scheme is meant for the purpose of giving medical relief and cash benefits to the workers. Certainly there should be some explanation for these huge funds being collected by this Corporation and at the same time necessary medical facilities and other benefits not being made available to the workers. It has recently been reported that a proposal has been mooted to increase the contribution from $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent to $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent in certain areas where the scheme has not been implemented and from $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent to $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent in the case of areas where the scheme has been implemented. In the case of such a huge surplus I do not think there can be the slightest justification for asking for the contribution to be revised upwards in any area whatsoever.

There has been a general complaint from all the areas that the medical facilities made available to the workers under this scheme have been far from satisfactory and it is a matter of concern that in spite of all these complaints the progress has not been satisfactory and the Ministry has not yet been able to devise means to make

necessary relief available in the proportion in which funds are available to this Corporation. I hope, therefore, that the Ministry will examine this aspect of the question and will see that the scheme is implemented with the aim with which it was introduced and these huge funds which are lying accumulated with the Corporation utilised for the purpose for which it is meant.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Rajendra Singh. Thereafter I propose to call Shrimati Sangam Laxmi Bai and Dr. Ram Subhag Singh.

Shri Rajendra Singh (Chapra): Mr. Speaker, Sir, many a speaker on both sides of the House has been vying with each other in heaping encomiums, praises and compliments on the Labour Minister. So far as I am concerned and my experience of labour conditions in this country is concerned, I am quite sure if anybody deserves unremitting impeachment, if anybody deserves unrewarding condemnation, it is the Labour Minister of India and his Ministry.

Sir, with the advent of freedom we decided to have in this country not simply a democratic set-up of Government, but at the same time to have the development of the country through democratic procedures and democratic practices. But of all the Ministries this Labour Ministry is responsible for vulgarising this democratic conscience and defacing these democratic practices.

Just to illustrate, I would like to bring to the notice of the House the maltreatment that the Labour Ministry has meted out to the real representatives of labour. There is one Mr. Vasavada who is possibly a prince of Machiavelli. He has been put on the I.L.O. The Labour Ministry would possible say that since he enjoys, or his organisation enjoys, the largest support of labour in this country, naturally he has to be there on the

I.L.O. I do not know what Mr. Vasavada does on other fronts of labour, but I have experience of his work on the Railways. He today happens to be the President of a railway union and claims to speak not only on behalf of a section of the railway workers, but on behalf of the entire railway workers. If Mr. Nanda, the hon. Labour Minister is true to his democratic profession, to his democratic profession, he should at once force the Railway Minister to hold a plebiscite, to hold a secret ballot and he will see that Mr. Vasavada stands nowhere. If he has the support of the railway workers, I submit that I would resign my seat here in Parliament and see that Mr. Vasavada is returned here. But I am sure the Labour Minister would never agree to it. He would never see to it that truth prevails and justice is done. But though he professes to be a democratic man, committed to democratic practices, committed to democratic principles of social living, in practice, if he is not worse than Hitler and Stalin, can at least very well compete with them.

Shri Nanda: Who?

Shri Braj Raj Singh: He is very thin.

Shri Rajendra Singh: It is not the physical stature that matters.

Now, Sir, another example. I have just heard that a wage board has been formed for the cement workers. Those who have been nominated there are of the INTUC. Again the plea would be that since the INTUC happens to be the largest labour organisation, naturally it has to be there. But I would like to remind the House of what happened in Dalmianagar where there is a very big cement factory. There a plebiscite was held; a secret ballot was held. Shri Har Govinda Misra who has been ruling the roost unconstitutionally and undemocratically for eight long years was put out; he was kicked off and Basvant Singh was hailed to be the unquestioned leader of the cement factory labour. But is he there on the Board today?

He is not. Some stooge is put there. Is this democratic practice? Is this the way you want the free and democratic functioning of trade unions? My hon. friend Dr. Ram Subhag Singh will bear me out.

Now, Sir, another example of the barbarous way in which the Labour Minister and his colleagues at State level behave with the H.M.S. happened at Rourkela. At Rourkela you have a steel factory being installed—a happy thing for the country, a happy thing at least for my generation and for your generation also. You say that labour would receive fair deal. But in Rourkela four thousand workers were on strike in the month of January. They were on strike for what? Because the contractors employ only casual workers, the workers demanded that since they are engaged in something so huge, in something which would require their permanent continuance, their services should be placed on a permanent footing. The contractor denied this. This is a just demand of the workers. The Labour Minister should have been there and should have seen to it that the just and legitimate grievances of the workers are meted out and conceded. The workers should have been given satisfaction by agreement, but that could not help the police wing of Mr. Mahatab who is walking as the Chief Minister of the State on borrowed legs. He sent out his police force and I regret to say—

Mr. Speaker: Let us not attack those Ministers in States. Hon. Members can criticise Ministers here who have to depend upon them for their vote. But those other persons have got a different electorate. He need not bring those Ministers into the picture.

Shri Rajendra Singh: Those who have been discredited here want to

[Shri Rajendra Singh]

rehabilitate themselves in their States by dubious methods.

Mr. Speaker: They are not. They do not belong to the labour force. Does the hon. Member say that the Ministers also belong to the labour force? Let him not refer to all this.

Shri Rajendra Singh: Thank you. My friend Shri Bastia who is held to be one of the most prominent leaders of labour movement in Orissa and who is never known for any violence or any violent action against protection of life, was put under arrest. All his colleagues were unwarrantedly and unlawfully arrested, and why? Was he there to do some wrong to the security of the country? Was he there to see to it that the big installation at Rourkela which is the pride of this country should not improve or should not have been put in there? No. If the Treasury Bench, if the Prime Minister, can take legitimate pride in having planned to instal a plant at Rourkela in Orissa, surely my friend Shri Bastia and his other colleagues can have the same pride. There is nothing in our life which cannot be sacrificed for the prosperity of this country. We would like to have as many Rourkelas in this country as the country could afford.

13.14 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

But his colleagues were arrested. Yet, it is not all. This is not the whole of the story. What I mean is this. While Shri Bastia was arrested, his colleagues were arrested, when every effort or attempt was made to terrorise the workers by beating them, by molesting their women, at that corner the INTUC people were having the same sort of strike. But they were not asked as to what they were doing. Such is the difference of treatment.

When one would care to peruse the reply of this Labour Minister given last time, one would find that he said

as follows: "No" He said he could vouchsafe for himself, and say that he is very impartial as the Labour Minister of India. He said he did not care for the interests of INTUC, HMS or AITUC. He is there with the badge of justice to see that everybody gets his due. But how is this different treatment at the same place and at the same time given? When the AITUC wages a strike it is just ignored. Rather they are treated as casual things. But when the HMS finds it compulsory, inevitable, to give a call for a strike, you just fall upon them with a heavy hand. So, with all your democratic practice, when you want that this country should embrace the democratic practices, I tell you with all humility, the Labour Minister, that if you imitate Hitler—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He may address the Chair. The hon. Member cannot be allowed to address himself directly. He has to address through the Chair.

Shri Rajendra Singh: I am seeing to it, but inadvertently it comes in.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It may come in inadvertently, but the Member should not direct himself advertently.

Shri Rajendra Singh: So, if the Labour Minister tries to follow in the footsteps of Hitler and Stalin, I am sure the prize that he is after shall not be left for his use. My friends on the right side will have it to their satisfaction. He will topple down and topple down. He will be knocked down in the not distant future. If he can keep to the democratic practices, and not align himself, even to the detriment of the interests of his party, with the stooge organisation, the INTUC, the healthy traditions and healthy practices in this country will grow. But if he remains in power or I come to power or for that matter anybody comes to power, the health of the country would remain and continue to grow from strength to strength and from a higher level to yet higher level.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member has got just two minutes more.

Shri Rajendra Singh: Now, as regards the increment of wage, it is said that increment of wage could not be given on *ad hoc* decisions. For that, Wage Board or a Commission or Awards through tribunals can be possible. What is your motive? Your motive is simply to delay the justice to the labourers. There is a demand and that demand is quite unanimous. Rather the stooge organisation, the INTUC, has thought it wise to join hands in that unanimous demand that here and now 25 per cent increase in the wages should be given to all employees, whether they are of the Government, whether they are of the Corporation or whether they are in the private enterprise. You say that if this is done there would be inflation and that it would jeopardise the economic growth. But I do not think those who have even the elementary knowledge of a developing economy can deny that prices do not rise absolutely because the labourers' wages have been increased. Rather, circumstances can be such where the rise in price can only restore the imbalance that so often happens in any developing economy.

The other thing that I would say is this. The hon. Minister said in reply the other day that the wages have increased tremendously since 1939. I do not remember at this time what is the level of increment of wage, but just compare it to the level of the profits which have accrued side by side with the increase in wage. In 1945, 74.9 was the real wage. In 1954, the real wage was 102.7, while the real profit in 1945 was 234. In 1954, it was 314.2. Just see this staggering rise in the profits and this meagre increment in the wages.

You say that there is industrial peace and there are not so many strikes today. But the industrial peace that you have today is because of the force of the bayonet, because you have put in arbitration and adjudication and not because the workers want it, not because the workers are contented or satisfied, but because of the Samson of force that you apply to

them. You silence them and terrorise them by your corrupt practices. I think Walpole of England kept himself long as Prime Minister—possibly he was the first Prime Minister of England—and similarly by corrupt practices by undue influence on my friends there in that gallery . . .

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He need not take notice of that gallery. That gallery is not to be taken note of by any hon. Member.

Shri Rajendra Singh: I am sorry.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He has no kindness for others and yet he wants all kindness for himself.

Shri Rajendra Singh: You somehow or other keep yourself floating on, but then your final sinking is not far off. I will conclude with this remark that if at all you are sincerely out to serve the interests of the labour and the interests of the developing economy today, there is no escape for you but here and now to give an *ad hoc* increment of 25 per cent in the wages of the labourers. I wanted to elaborate on so many points, but since I have no time, I conclude with these words. I thank you, Sir, for your indulgence.

श्रीमती लक्ष्मी बाई (विकाराबाद) :

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, यहां पर लेबर और एम्प्लायमेंट के बारे में जो चर्चा हो रही है उस के सम्बन्ध में मैं दो चार सुझाव देना चाहती हूं। लेबर जिस को हिन्दी में मजदूर कहते हैं उन में से जो लोग फैक्टरी में काम करते हैं उन के लिये सब कानून बनते हैं और बड़े बड़े आदमी उन के लिये ही सोचते हैं। हमारे मिनिस्टर भी बड़े तजुर्बेकार हैं। और गरीबों के ऊपर रहम करने वाले हैं। लेकिन वे भी कोई गड़बड़ी आती है तो फैक्ट्री के मजदूरों की बात सुन कर, उन के वास्ते हमेशा कानून बदलते हैं। जब भी कोई अमेंडमेंट आता है तो उस में उन्हीं को सहूलियत मिलती है। वह देना अच्छा है। लेकिन अभी जैसा हमारे दो एक आन्तरेबिल मेम्बरों ने कहा, हमारे देश

[श्रीमती लक्ष्मी बाई]

में किसान करीबों की साख में हैं। उन को धुआँ कोई मजदूर नहीं समझता है। क्योंकि उन के पास बोल्ने के लिये मुँह नहीं है। जो चिल्लाते नहीं हैं उन की बात आप कभी नहीं सुनते, उन के लिये कोई कानून लाने की कोशिश नहीं करते। यह बहुत दुःख की बात है।

अभी अभी मुझे बिहार जाने का मौका मिला; वहाँ किसने ही गांवों में किसानों को काम नहीं मिलता है। अगर कहीं मिलता भी है तो ऐसी जगहों पर जहाँ पर पानी भी मिलता नहीं पीने के लिये। वहाँ एक एक खानदान में दस, दस पंद्रह पंद्रह आदमी रहते हैं। सीधे साधे लोग, पड़े लिखे नहीं, चालाक नहीं वे दूसरे गांवों में चले जाते हैं काम के लिये। मैंने कई जगहों पर देखा है, सैकड़ों लोग चले जा रहे हैं। इस को देख कर मुझे बड़ा दर्द होता है। पूछने पर वे लोग कहते हैं क्या करें, हम लोगों को काम नहीं मिलता है। उन के वास्ते हम कभी नहीं सोचते हैं। उन किसानों को जो खेत में काम करते हैं, हम काम देने की कोशिश नहीं करते। इस की तरफ सरकार को ध्यान देना पड़ेगा और कुछ न कुछ उपाय सोचना पड़ेगा। वे बेचारे रात दिन काम करते हैं, कभी उन को घर बैठने का मौका नहीं मिलता। उन को छुट्टी भी नहीं मिलती। ऐसे जो लोग हैं, जो सच्चे दिल से खेतों पर काम करते हैं, उन के वास्ते आप कुछ देते नहीं। असल बात यह है कि मालिकों और किसानों में कभी झगड़ा नहीं होता। कभी दोनों के मनमुटाव की मिसाल नहीं मिली, इस तरह मे वे काम करते हैं। यहाँ पर हम क्या देखने हैं कि ज्यादा पे मांगते हैं, ज्यादा काम करते हैं या नहीं, यह मालिक को ही मालूम है फैक्ट्रियों के मालिक और लेबर में कभी भी दोस्ती नहीं रहती है। मालिक हमेशा सोचता है कि ज्यादा काम लेना, और कम पैसा देना, और लेबर सोचता है कि उस से ज्यादा पैसा ले, और कम मजदूरी करे। दोनों में झगड़ा होता है और उन के बीच में बड़े बड़े लोग आते हैं। ज्यादा तजर्बेकार,

पड़े लिखे लोग उन के झगड़े में पड़ कर बीच में अपना साम उठाने के वास्ते, कोशिश करते हैं, ऐसा सुलझ-सुलझा देखने में आता है। लेकिन जो करीबों लोग खेतों पर काम करते हैं, मुँह बन्द कर के करते हैं, सच्चे दिल से करते हैं, उन के पास कोई नहीं जाता, उन के भाराम को देखने वाला कोई नहीं है। यह कितना बड़ा फर्क है, इस को जरा हमारे मिनिस्टर साहब को अपने दिल में रखना चाहिये। जो सच्चे दिल से काम करते हैं, उन को भाराम नहीं, लेकिन जो हमेशा लड़ाई झगड़ा करते हैं, ज्यादा तंग करते हैं, उन के लिये हमेशा कानून उन के साथ है, लीडर भी उन के साथ हैं।

मालिक और लेबर के बीच में क्यों गड़बड़ हो रही है इस के बारे में कुछ बोलना चाहती हूँ। जो लीडर्स होते हैं, पोलिटिकल पार्टीज होती हैं, वह अपनी पोलिटिकल पावर के वास्ते सिर्फ वहाँ जा कर, लोगों को भड़का कर गवर्नमेंट को अपने कानून में सुधार लाने के लिये मजबूर करते रहते हैं। गुजराता साल में मैंने बहुत से सुझाव रखे थे कि लेबर में काम करने वाले लीडर्स बहुत तजर्बेकार और देश की भलाई चाहने वाले होने चाहियें। देश की भलाई सोचने वाले और सर्वोदय की भावना रखने वाले लोग अगर उन में काम करें तो हमारे लिये बहुत अच्छा रहेगा। जब तक आप ऐसा नहीं करेंगे और लोग बगावत करते रहेंगे, तब तक उत्पत्ति ज्यादा नहीं होगी और हमारा काम भी नहीं बनेगा। मालिकों और लेबर दोनों में झगड़ा होता है, यह देश के लिये अच्छी बात नहीं है।

मे अपने तजर्बे से कह सकती हूँ कि लेबर में आज भी सेलरीज बहुत कम है, मुनाफा ज्यादा होता है। जब हम फैक्ट्रीज एरिया में जा कर देखते हैं तो हकीकत में बड़ा दुःख होता है। वहाँ पर एक छोटे से मजदूर को दो, ढाई रुपया रोज से कम नहीं मिलता, कभी कभी ज्यादा काम करने पर चार रुपया

तक मिला जाता है, लेकिन वहां जाने पर ऐसा लगता है मानो चार रुपये रोज भी उन के लिये कम हैं। चार रुपये रोज लेते हुए भी उन को खाने और कपड़े का भाराम नहीं। बात यह होती है कि जो फैक्ट्री एरियाज होती हैं उन में सामान और गिजा की चीजों को छोड़ कर भी दूसरी चीजें भी बहुत मंहगी होती हैं। हमें सोचना चाहिये कि यहां जो सामान एक पैसे में मिलता है वही वहां चार या पांच पैसे में मिलता है। यहां पर हमारे किसानों को ०-५-० या १-०-० रोज मिलता है। हालांकि वह उस से भाराम से रहता है, उसे काम नहीं मिलता है। लेकिन इस के बजाय भी वह फैक्ट्री में काम करने वाले लोगों में अच्छा रहता है। खुमूसन जो कोल माइन्स में काम करने वाले लोग हैं, उन की हालत बहुत खराब है। हम ने उन के बाल बच्चों और बीवियों को देखा। उन में बदसूरती है, बच्चों में ताकत नहीं, ढही निकनी रहती है, दिल में अच्छी भावना नहीं और देश की भलाई की बात जानने नहीं, जितना पैसा उन को मिलता है, उसे खत्म कर देने हैं। मैं कुछ मालिकों से भी मिली। वह कहते हैं कि हमको पैसा ज्यादा देना पड़ता है और कुछ बचता नहीं है। इस लिये वह भी नाराज हैं। तो इस तरह से दोनों मालिक और मजदूर नाराज हैं। पर इसका मुख्य कारण यह है कि खानों के क्षेत्र में मंहगाई बहुत ज्यादा है। इस बार में मैं कुछ मुआव सरकार के मामले रखना चाहती हूँ। जो लोग माइन्स पर लेबर के रूप में रहते हैं, चाहे उन माइन्स की मालिक सरकार हो या कोई और हो, उसको उन काम करने वालों के लिये गिजा का और जीवन की दूसरी आवश्यक चीजों का ऐसा प्रबन्ध करना चाहिये कि वे चीजों उनको वाजिब मूल्य पर मिल सकें। आजकल भ्रष्टाचार यह है कि आप तो यह समझते हैं कि मजदूर बहुत पैसे ले रहे हैं लेकिन उनका काम नहीं चलता। आप उनकी जितनी ही तनखाह बढ़ाते हैं उतना ही मारकेट मंहगा होता चला जाता है ऐसा मैं महसूस करती हूँ।

इसके बास्ते कुछ करना चाहिये। आपको चीप ग्रेन शाप्स खोलनी चाहिये। मैं ने तो हैदराबाद में देखा, सिलगरेली कोलियरी में भी देखा कि जितना पैसा मजदूरों को मिलता वह बरबाद होता है। वह सुख से नहीं रह पाते। इसलिये वे और ज्यादा पैसा चाहते हैं और इसीलिये स्ट्राइक होती है।

इसका एक परिणाम यह भी होता है कि ताल्लुकों में मामूली लेबर जो कि किसानों का काम करती है, वह यह सोचती है कि हम भी खानों में जाकर काम करें, क्योंकि वहां पैसा ज्यादा मिलता है। किसानों के मजदूर भी यह चाहते हैं कि उनको भी ज्यादा पैसा मिले। इस वजह से गांवों में भी असंतोष पैदा होता है। कुछ गांवों के लोग इन खानों में पैसा ज्यादा लेने के लिये काम करने जाते हैं पर वहां पर जाकर वे देखते हैं कि उनको जीवन कितना मंहगा पड़ता है और तब वापस लौट आते हैं। तो इस तरह से किसानों में भी असंतोष पैदा होता है। इसका भी कुछ उपाय करना चाहिये। एक जगह की गलती से दूसरी जगह भी गलती हो रही है।

मुझे इस बात से बहुत खुशी हुई है कि आपने माइन्स में वेलफेअर फंड खोल रखा है। लेकिन उसका जिस ढंग में उपयोग होना चाहिये उस ढंग में नहीं हो रहा है। जिसके नाम में वह वसूल किया जाता है उसके लिये खर्च नहीं हो रहा है। आप वेलफेअर सेंटमें में बहुत ज्यादा तनखाह देकर काम करने वाले रख रहे हैं। लेकिन हालत यह है कि अगर कोई टीचर है वह चाहे पढ़ने वाले आवे या न आवें अपनी तनखाह ले लेती है। मेरा मुआव यह है कि इस वेलफेअर फंड में से जो कि आप ६ आना लेते हैं, कम से कम तीन आना मजदूरों के लिये गिजा कपड़ा आदि उचित दामों पर मुहय्या करने पर खर्च करें। इन चीजों के माइन्स के पास डिपो खोलें, तो इससे मजदूरों को बहुत

[श्रीमती लक्ष्मी बाई]

सुविधा हो सकती है। ऐसा करने से लेबर में संतोष रहेगा और वे मालिकों के विरुद्ध बगावत भी नहीं करेंगे।

मैं ने यह भी देखा है कि कारखानों में खुसूसन मजदूरों के दिमाग में कुछ ऐसा खयाल है कि कानून उनके मुआफिक है और इस लिये कुछ ज्यादा आजादी से रहते हैं और बगावत करने की कोशिश करते हैं। इस मनोवृत्ति को रोकने के लिये हमने कोई काम नहीं किया है। अगर यह मनोवृत्ति उनकी ठीक की जा सके उनको जिन्दगी में सुख और शान्ति मिल सकती है। हम उनके काम पर श्रद्धा रखने के लिये कुछ नहीं कर रहे हैं। इसकी कोशिश होनी चाहिये। पुराने जमाने में अशोक महाराज ने बुद्ध भगवान के उपदेश फैलाने के लिये करोड़ों रुपये खर्च करके देश देश में लोग भेजे थे। उन्होंने इस काम के लिये सारी दुनिया में मिशन भेजे थे। हमको भी अपने गांवों में रहने वाले और कारखानों में काम करने वाले मजदूरों के बीच में कोई ऐसे चरित्रवान लोग भेजने चाहिये ताकि वे लोग इन लोगों का चरित्र ऊंचा उठा सकें।

मैं ने सुना है कि आपने बैलफेअर फंड में लाखों रुपया जमा कर दिया है। लेकिन आप उसका इस्तेमाल किम तरह से कर रहे हैं। आपके पास एडवरटाइजमेंट करने का डिपार्टमेंट मस्त है। आप अपने काम के लिये एडवरटाइजमेंट करके आदमी लेते हैं, जो पास हो जाता है उसको ले लेते हैं। लेकिन लेबर में काम करना कोई मामूली बात नहीं है। आपको तो इस काम के लिये बहुत तजुर्बे-कार और ऊंचे चरित्रवाले लोगों की लेना चाहिये। और मजदूरों के लिये गिजा और कपड़े आदि का सम्मन मूल्य की दुकानों में प्रवन्ध करना चाहिये।

मैं एक दो मिनट और लेना चाहती हूँ। एक भाई बहनों के बारे में बोल रहे थे। मैं देखती हूँ कि जब कोई और बात नहीं मिलती

तो बहनों की बातों को ले आते हैं। यह बहुत बुरी बात है। मैं किसी लीडर का नाम नहीं लेना चाहती। हालत यह है कि बहनों के मामले में यह होता है कि अगर कहीं चिड़िया भी उड़ गया तो यह कहा जाता है कि मैंस उड़ गयी है। अखबारों में बहनों के बारे में इस तरह की बातें बहुत लिखी जाती हैं। यहां पर भी कुछ गड़बड़ी हुई थी और भाष घंटे का डिसकशन भी हुआ था। इसके बारे में भी मैं कुछ सुझाव रखना चाहती। आम तौर से यह होता है कि यद्यपि कोई बड़ी बात नहीं होती लेकिन उसको यहां पर बहुत बड़ा करके बताया जाता है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह कहना चाहती हूँ कि जब कभी ऐसी बातें बहनों के बारे में उनके पास आवें तो उन बातों की अच्छी तरह से एनक्वायरी करने के बाद उनको यहां पार्लियामेंट में लाया जाये। यह नहीं होना चाहिये कि बाहर किसी में कुछ लिखा दिया और उस चीज को यहां उठाया गया और उसका जवाब दिया गया। मैं इसके विरुद्ध प्रोटेस्ट करती हूँ। यह बहुत बुरी बात है। कुछ अमरीकी महिलाओं ने गांधी जी से पूछा था कि हिन्दुस्तान में कितनी स्त्रियों ने स्वराज्य लेने में काम किया तो उन्होंने कहा कि लाखों स्त्रियां ने इसमें काम किया है बल्कि उन्होंने कहा कि हमारे काम का ७५ प्रतिशत तो स्त्रियों और बहनों के प्रेम और मृदुव्यत से हुआ है। हमको किसी छोट्टे से इंडीवीजुअल केस को लाकर यहां पर उसकी चर्चा नहीं करनी चाहिये। यह बहुत बुरी बात है। आयन्दा जब कभी आपके सामने बहनों के बारे में माइन्स का अगर कोई मामला आवे तो उस पर सवाल जवाब करने के पहले उसकी अच्छी तरह से जांच पड़ताल कर लेनी चाहिये। इसके पहले इस मामले को यहां नहीं लाना चाहिये।

बस मैं यही सुझाव आपके सामने रखना चाहती हूँ और आपनं जो मुझे समय दिया उसके लिये धन्यवाद देती हूँ।

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh (Sasaram): At the outset I want to repudiate the charge levelled by my PSP friend . .

An hon. Member: Because he is a Congressman.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: . . . against the Labour Minister. Whoever the Labour Minister may be, I do not think he can be characterised as Hitler and Mussolini. The Minister deals with two subjects—labour and employment. About employment, I am sorry to say, that unemployment has been increasing every day and the Government has not done much to deal with the problem effectively. The Government has not succeeded in changing the outlook of the people so that they may take up field work of their own. People now do not want to go into the fields unless and until they are totally rejected by Government employers or factory employers.

Therefore I want that the Labour Ministry should do something very effective so that the outlook of the people, particularly of the youth, of this country is changed, otherwise if they go on creating some good jobs for some people, others would naturally like to take up those jobs and if they are not employed in those jobs, they will feel frustrated. And today frustration is increasing in the country due to unemployment.

The growth of industrialisation in the country has created many problems and the Government are trying to deal with those problems. The one problem, which is virtually the biggest problem in the country, is the problem of industrial disputes. It has not decreased remarkably during the past few years. For instance, during December 1957 the total man-days lost were over 4,19,000. In December 1956 it was about 4,22,000. There has been a decrease only to the extent of about 3,000 and it is not a good record for the Ministry.

I understand that a special section has been created to deal with this problem and that section has been charged with the work of keeping a close eye on the problem of non-imple-

mentation of awards, settlements and other labour legislation. I hope that this section will succeed in eliminating the cause of friction in every sector of our industry. It should also see that the greatest cause of friction at present, which has been created due to the decision of the Supreme Court, regarding working journalists is also dealt with effectively, because this is like a live bomb. Unless and until the Ministry took some serious steps this problem is bound to create a serious problem for the country because the journalists are persons who are 24 hours at work and their condition has not changed sufficiently. The salary or remuneration, which they were getting in 1952 or before that, prior to the Press Commission's recommendations, remains virtually the same and their insecurity has increased due to this decision. So, I would appeal to the hon. Labour Minister to see that the Government moves quickly and takes some effective steps to improve their conditions because this decision has virtually changed the conditions and has virtually superseded all the concessions which they might have received due to the enactment of the Working Journalists Act. Now there is no hope that another Wage Board will be set up in the near future—by near future I mean to say in one month or two months or three months—and in the absence of setting up any Wage Board, the Government can easily ask their employers to increase their emoluments. The Government say that they have approached the various establishments but we are hearing that newspaper establishments, which had recently increased the emoluments or had given certain concessions, are now by and by taking steps to withdraw all those concessions. So I request the Ministry to see that their conditions are improved.

About industrial housing, a scheme was launched in 1952 and from 1952 till the end of 1957, Government sanctioned about Rs. 25,69,00,000 for that purpose, but there has been very slow progress on that scheme and only Rs. 17.15 crores have been utilised on that work. They had tried to cons-

[Dr. Subhag Singh]

tract about 90,000 houses, but they have succeeded in constructing only about 66,000 houses. Even those houses—some of them—are such, which are not utilised by the workers. The workers under this scheme are those who are governed by the Factories Act, 1948, and the Mines Act, 1952. Coal mine workers and mica workers are not covered by that housing scheme and therefore I say that the Government should do something for coal mine workers because for them the Government charges six annas per ton as cess and since 1944 there has been a big accumulation of that amount. Only 32 per cent. of that amount has been spent and a very small number of houses have been constructed for the coal mine workers. Much of the difficulty which arises in coal-fields is due to the non-availability of pure drinking water and scarcity of houses because, as just now Shrimati Laxmi Bai characterised how their women and children live and under what conditions, I think it is due to the lack of these amenities and I hold the Government responsible as they charge six annas per ton as cess and only a very little of that amount has been utilised by the Government.

You know the question has been raised on the floor of the House that the houses which have been constructed in Bhuli area, about 25 per cent. of them are not unoccupied and despite all efforts made by the Government to have those houses occupied by the workers over 400 houses of Bhuli are not occupied by the workers because they are at a long distance and they do not find it congenial to go and live in those houses.

About mica workers the Government launched a scheme to have a subsidised housing scheme in 1955. Despite all efforts made by the Government and the mica mine owners only 18 houses have been constructed so far. It is a poor result that only 18 houses have been constructed.

Over one million workers work in different kinds of plantations—tea gardens, coffee gardens, etc.—and their condition is much more unsatisfactory.

The workers in tea gardens are mostly agricultural workers. They do not have anything to depend upon. They were taken long ago in tea gardens. They did not have their own houses—some of them are not having any house in their native villages. Previously the British planters dealt with them very cruelly and even beat some of them. I can also give credit to the European and British planters because it is due to them that the tea garden industry has grown in the country and over one million people are getting employment there, but the condition of those workers, particularly their housing, is still in a primitive condition. As late as 1956—before 1956 the Government was not having any scheme for housing the tea garden and coffee garden labourers—a committee agreed only that we should encourage constructing houses for those workers. They agreed that two-room houses will be constructed in North India tea gardens and one-room houses in South India. They wanted that 8% of those houses should be constructed every year. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how many houses have been constructed. My information is that not a single house has been constructed under this scheme. According to plan there has been some construction, but not according to this plan and those people are suffering terribly.

Due to the slow functioning of the Government, some of the tea gardens have been closed and many are on the verge of closure. About 100 tea gardens are going to be closed and the hon. Minister was acquainted with this fact long ago. In January he perhaps held a conference in Shillong to negotiate with the plantation owners and the labourers, but since then not much progress has been shown. About eight tea gardens have been closed and no step has been taken. Those workers are unemployed. The Assam Government did give some relief work to them, but now they have withdrawn it. They requested that the State Government should be allowed to intervene in the matter but that requires

the concurrence of the Central Government. That concurrence has not yet been given. I would request the Minister to see that they at least give that concurrence so that the State Governments may deal with that problem if the Government of India themselves are not desirous of dealing with that problem.

Some reference has been made about Dhanbad by Shrimati Laxmi Bai. My information is that there were very serious allegations. I do not want to disclose the nature of the allegations. But, in the entire Dhanbad and Jharla area, there is serious discontent among the labourers, all kinds of labourers, particularly the employees of the Union Government who are there, male and female, all sorts of employees in Kamin kalyan Labour Welfare section. I would request the Minister to seriously enquire into the matter and take effective steps to remedy all the ills which exist there. It is no good shelving the matter. Unless and until we solve the problems to the entire satisfaction of the workers who are there, we cannot claim any credit.

Then, there are the agricultural workers in different parts of the country. Different conditions, different environments exist. I would request the Government to take some steps to improve their conditions.

श्री शम्भूजी (जालोर): उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आप ने जो मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया है, इस के लिए मैं आप का आभारी हूँ।

अगर हम गए साल की मिनिस्ट्री आफ लेबर एंड एम्प्लायमेंट की वार्षिक रिपोर्ट पढ़ें और उसकी कार्यवाहियों की ओर ध्यान दें, तो हम को काफ़ी सन्तोष होगा। गत वर्ष फ़िफ़टीन्थ इंडियन लेबर कांफ़रेंस के अधिवेशन में देश की इंडस्ट्रीज के विकास व उन्नति के लिए तथा वर्कर्स और मैनेजमेंट के हित में जो जो महत्वपूर्ण निर्णय किये गए हैं, वे काफ़ी उपयोगी सिद्ध होंगे। खास

तीर से मैनेजमेंट में वर्कर्स के भाग लेने का निर्णय बहुत महत्व का है और मैं आशा करता हूँ कि अगर मैनेजमेंट और वर्कर्स दोनों मिल जुल कर और कनसर्न के हित को ज्यादा ध्यान में रख कर काम करेंगे, तो इस प्रयोग में बहुत बड़ी सफलता मिलेगी।

श्रीमन् गवर्नमेंट ने पिछले साल इंडस्ट्रियल डिस्ट्युट्स एक्ट और पेमेंट आफ वेजिज एक्ट में जो संशोधन किए हैं, उनके द्वारा वर्कर्स के हितों की काफ़ी रक्षा होगी। पेमेंट आफ वेजिज एक्ट में संशोधन किए जाने से अब चार 1 रुपए माहवार तक पाने वाले वर्कर्स को भी उस का पूरा लाभ मिलेगा।

इंडस्ट्री में वेज बोर्ड कायम करने के प्रिन्सिपल को आप ने मान लिया है और टैक्स्टाइल और शूगर इंडस्ट्रीज में वेज बोर्ड कायम हो गए हैं। इस सम्बन्ध में मेरा यह सुझाव है कि वेज बोर्ड में वेजिज का निश्चय करते समय एक्जिस्टिंसी पर ज्यादा ध्यान दिया जाय और वर्कर्स के काम और इंडस्ट्री की पेइंग कैपेसिटी इत्यादि को देख कर ही वेजिज तय की जायें, जिससे इंडस्ट्री भी बढ़े और मजदूरों को भी ज्यादा मजदूरी मिले और एक्जिस्टिंसी में भी वृद्धि हो। ये बहुत महत्वपूर्ण बातें हैं और इन की तरफ़ ध्यान दिया जाय।

लेबर लाज के विषय में मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि अब लेबर लाज काफ़ी काम्प्ली-केटिड और काफ़ी संख्या में हो गए हैं। इस लिए इन लेबर लाज का सरल होना जरूरी है। यह भी आवश्यक है कि हरेक रिजनल लेंगुएज में उनका अनुवाद किया जाय और उनकी भाषा सरल होनी चाहिए, जिससे साधारण व्यक्ति उन को समझ सकें और हर एक बात के लिए वकीलों और सालिसिटर्स के पास दौड़ना न पड़े।

वर्कर्स के लिये मिनिमम एज तो निर्धारित कर दी गई है, लेकिन उन की रिटायरिंग एज

[श्री शामानी]

के बारे में कोई निर्णय नहीं हुआ है। इंडस्ट्री में साठ, पैंसठ, सत्तर, पचत्तर वर्ष के बर्कर काम करते हैं। इस एज में उन की एक्शेन्सी कैसे हो सकती है? इस के प्रतिरिक्त इस तरह नवयुवक वर्कर्स को जगह नहीं मिल सकती है। इस लिये मेरा सुझाव है कि एक रिटायरिंग एज भी नियत कर दी जानी चाहिये, जब कि वर्कर्स रिटायर हो सकें।

डिसिप्लिन के विषय में बहुत काफी शिकायतें आ रही हैं। आप पेपर्स पढ़ते होंगे और देखते होंगे कि वर्कर्स में डिसिप्लिन की किस कदम कमी होती जा रही है। आए दिन सुपीरियर स्टाफ पर वर्कर्स के हमले होते हैं। अभी हाल में ही बम्बई में ऐसी घटना हुई है कि सुपीरियर स्टाफ को कत्ल कर दिया गया। इस तरह के कामों से और डिसिप्लिन न होने से मैनेजमेंट होना मुश्किल होता है। इसलिये इस तरफ ज्यादा सक्ती से कार्यवाही करनी चाहिये और ज्यादा कड़े कानून बनाने चाहिये, जिससे सुपरवाइजरी स्टाफ की रक्षा हो सके और मजदूरों में ज्यादा डिसिप्लिन आ सके।

ट्रेड यूनियन्स के विषय में मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि उन का होना बहुत जरूरी है और वे मजबूत हों, यह भी वर्कर्स के लिये काफी जरूरी है, लेकिन आज-कल हम देखते हैं कि ट्रेड यूनियन्स मजदूरों के हितों का ध्यान रखने के अलावा पालिटिक्स में भाग लेती हैं और मजदूरों के हितों पर कम नजर रखती हैं। वैसे कि मैं ने अभी कहा है, ट्रेड यूनियन्स मजबूत हों और मजदूरों का ध्यान रखें, लेकिन इस के साथ ही साथ वह भी आवश्यक है कि वे कनसन्स को कंसेमिटी का भी ख्याल रखें। ऐसा न हो कि वे इस बात को दृष्टि में न रखें कि कनसन्स की कंसेमिटी क्या है और हर बात में ज्यादा इनसिस्ट करें। उन लोगों को व्यावहारिक ढंग से काम करना चाहिये और उस में पालिटिक्स नहीं आना चाहिये।

इस सम्बन्ध में शोलापुर की लेबर यूनियन ने जो कार्य किया है, वह काफी प्रशंसनीय है। वहां पांच मिलें थी, जिन में से दो बड़ी बड़ी मिलें बन्द हो गई थीं और तीन मिलें नुक्सान में चल रही थीं। वहां की लेबर यूनियन ने डी० ए० में कटौती मंजूर कर के अच्छा एग्जम्पल दिखाया है और उस के लिए वह धन्यवाद की पात्र है। इस के फल-स्वरूप एक मिल फिर चालू हो गई है और दो तीन हजार मजदूर काम पर लग गये हैं। दूसरी मिल के चालू होने की बात चल रही है और भाशा है कि वह भी चालू हो जायगी। देश की दूसरी लेबर यूनियन्स को भी इसी तरह कार्य करना चाहिए और प्रैक्टिकल बातों पर दृष्टि रख कर इस बात का ख्याल रखना चाहिए कि जहां पर गुंजायश न हो, वहां मैनेजमेंट के साथ मिल कर काम किया जाय। इस प्रकार देश की इंडस्ट्री को ज्यादा उन्नति होगी।

मुझे एग्जीक्यूटिव लेबर के बारे में भी कुछ कहना है। एग्जीक्यूटिव में काफी संख्या में मजदूर काम कर रहे हैं। अभी तक उन के लिए कोई कार्य नहीं किया गया है। उन के लिए भी मिनिमम वेज और काम की दशाओं के बारे में कायदे बनाये जाने चाहिए।

इस के साथ अन्त में मैं आप को धन्यवाद देता हूँ।

14.00 hrs.

Shri Ghosal (Uluberia): With the growth of industry both in the private and public sectors, the importance of industrial labour in the national economy has been increasing day by day. For the development of an undertaking or establishment, and also to ensure production, industrial peace is indispensable. I also accept this proposition, but industrial peace cannot be forced on the working class as it has been done by an agreement in the Sholapur Mills already mentioned

by my hon. friend Shri Somani, because industrial peace depends on the contentment of the labour force, and this contentment again is dependent on the fulfilment of certain economic factors and material amenities of life.

The first problem that confronts us is the wage problem. At present I must call it the wage crisis. The Government has accepted the right to fair wage. That remains still in black and white, but no step has been taken to determine the fair wage, or the standard of the fair wage.

Before fixing the fair wage, Government should fix the norms of national minimum wage, and I find there is no difficulty in fixing the norms of national minimum wage, because, though the hon. Minister has stated in the meeting of the steering committee that stupendous work has to be done in collecting data and inferences for coming to a decision for fixing the minimum wage, all the tribunals have so far given the judgment that in fixing the national minimum wage or the basic minimum wage, the cost of living index will be the only criterion. After that, in the case of fixing the fair wage the question of collecting data from the different States or different areas will come up. Therefore, there is no difficulty, insurmountable difficulty, in fixing the norms of the national minimum wage at the present moment. At the present moment the national minimum wage differs from State to State, area to area and industry to industry. Of course, in the case of fair wages, that may differ or vary from State to State, industry to industry, or work to work, but in the case of the national minimum wage, which should be based on the cost of living index, there can be no difficulty in fixing the norms.

Next, as regards the wage structure, I would like to submit that the demand of the workers at the present moment is for raising their wages, not to the level of the minimum wage, but much more. With the growth of industry, with the increase in the cost of living indices, the pressure for

raising the wage is there. Therefore, if we want to maintain the tempo of production and also if we want to maintain industrial peace, Government should come forward to consider the question of raising their present wages. There is also no ground for resisting the demand of the workers to raise their wages, because it has already been stated the other day by the hon. Minister of Commerce in the House that the over-all industrial output has increased to a considerable extent. If 1951 is taken as the base year, the output rose from 122 in 1955 to 133 in 1956 and further to 147.2 in 1957. The national income has also increased from Rs. 10,030 to Rs. 10,288 crores. Still, the *per capita* national income has not increased. It has gone down from Rs. 271.9 in 1954-55 to Rs. 252 in 1955-56 *per capita* per year. In the USA the national income per month *per capita* is Rs. 785, in the UK it is Rs. 363 per month, but in India the *per capita* national income is at present Rs. 21 per month.

If we take the example of China, there also we find the national income has increased by 45 per cent during the period 1953-56. The population also increased by 9 per cent, but the *per capita* national income increased by 36 per cent. Not only that. The consumption per head also increased by 19 per cent during the same period, but we do not get the statistics of consumption here in India.

In the existing total wage structure, there is another element, i.e., dearness allowance which is always fixed in relation to the cost of living index. If 1949 is taken as the base year, we find that the cost of living index has increased to 401.9 in 1953, to 348.9 in 1955 and from 407.6 to 416 in January to November, 1957.

From the above it can be easily inferred that the increase in prices has stabilised at a certain point, so that that quantum may be merged with the dearness allowance. I would request the hon. Minister to consider the question of merging that quantum

[Shri Ghosal]

of dearness allowance with the basic pay.

As regards bonuses, there are various kinds of bonuses. In my opinion, except the profit-sharing bonus, all other bonuses like attendance bonus, production bonus, incentive bonus etc., should be taken as part and parcel of the wages, and in determining the wage structure, these bonuses should be taken into consideration.

Next I come to the housing problem. Government is promoting subsidised industrial housing scheme, but the number of houses built and the accommodation available are quite inadequate compared to the magnitude of the problem. Since the inception of the scheme in 1952, Government has spent on this account Rs. 25.59 crores—Rs. 13.16 crores as loan and Rs. 12.43 crores as subsidy—covering about 90,300 houses all over India, though, of course, only 66,700 houses have so far been completed.

Now, even this scheme is being sabotaged on the one hand by the employers and on the other hand by the State Governments. I may give the illustration of my State of West Bengal. In 1957-58 the Central Government granted to West Bengal Rs. 40 lakhs under the subsidised industrial housing scheme, Rs. 38,40,000 under the low income housing scheme, Rs. 5 lakhs under the plantation labour housing scheme and Rs. 7,60,000 under the village housing projects scheme. The State Government has not been able to utilise any money under the above grants. They only utilised Rs. 12,71,000 under the subsidised industrial housing scheme. They have failed to utilise a single farthing out of the grants of the Central Government under the plantation labour housing scheme for two consecutive years 1956-57 and 1957-58. Rupees two crores have been provided by the Central Government for the housing of the tea plantation workers in the Second Five Year Plan. Up till now only Rs. 1½ lakhs have been utilised, and that also has been utilised only by the State of Kerala. About

two-thirds of the coalminers have not yet been provided with houses. My assumption is based on the statistics in the survey and report made by the CMUC in 1954. Both employers and State Governments avoid utilising these grants and loans, because some part of the liability is also to be shared by them. So, I would request the Minister to see that the State Governments utilise these Central grants fully.

I now come to the utilisation of the houses that have been built. Owing to the high rent and also the great distance of those houses from the mill areas, the workers are not able to avail of these houses. Moreover, due to want of general education, they cannot go and occupy these developed quarters. This is also a matter which has to be looked into.

As regards security, I have already stated that with the advent of modernised and developed machinery, the security measures should be more stringent. My hon. friend Shri Prabhat Kar has already pointed out how many accidents have taken place during the last so many years in the coal mine area. I would request the Minister to see that the safety measures are properly followed by the mine-owners.

As regards the Employees' State Insurance Act which has been brought into operation, we find that during the year 1956-57, the scheme has covered only 11.22 lakhs of workers, though the Government target for the insurable population was 20 lakhs. Moreover, I do not find any reason why the employers have failed to contribute their quota in full. In 1955-56, the employees' contribution amounted to Rs. 2.39 crores, whereas the employers' contribution amounted to Rs. 1.87 crores; in 1956-57, the employees' contribution amounted to Rs. 3.22 crores, whereas the employers' contribution was Rs. 2.59 crores. Besides, there are also many defects in the working of the Employees' State Insurance Act. Another thing

that we find is that after the introduction of the Employees' State Insurance Act, the employers have grown more apathetic towards the employees because even in cases of serious accidents they do not take any steps; they only inform the insurance offices, and it is impossible for these insurance offices to make speedy arrangements for sending those people to the hospitals. As a result of that, many workers have died, and there are several instances of these deaths due to neglect in my own district. Therefore, I would request the Minister to see that at least in emergent cases, the employers take immediate steps.

As regards labour legislation, I would like to submit only two points concerning individual disputes. That is a problem. Recently the Supreme Court has held that a dispute which is not taken up by any union or the majority of the workers of an establishment will not be considered as an industrial dispute. In our country, about seventy per cent of the workers are still unorganised. Therefore, in most cases, the disputes of the employees in small industries and small undertakings are not being referred to the industrial tribunals, and, therefore, they have got no place to go to for conciliation. I would request the Minister to bring forward the necessary amendments to rectify this lacuna.

As regards suspension without pay, the tribunals have already held that suspension without pay is not a substantive punishment. On that ground, the companies are suspending the workers without pay during the pendency of the sitting of the tribunal and are not holding any inquiries till the tribunal's sittings are over. After the tribunal's sittings are over, within a few months, they discharge these employees. In some cases, the tribunals themselves are resorting to this practice. I shall give only one illustration. Recently, in the case of the jute tribunal in West Bengal, the sittings continued for about two years. About five thousand applications under sec-

tion 33 of the Act had been filed by the employers. These were kept pending for two years. After two years, when the tribunal's functions were over, the tribunal said 'My function is now over. Therefore, I have got no right to consider these section 33 applications from the employers' and these were handed over to the employers and they discharged the employees without any enquiry or anything else. Therefore, these workers were deprived of their right. I would request the Minister to rectify this lacuna also in the Act.

In regard to the Workmen's Compensation Act, I would point out that the schedule to this Act was prepared in 1923 on the basis of the then financial conditions in the country. Now, those rates have got to be revised since they are not fitting in with the present financial conditions in the country.

I would mention only two more points, and then I shall conclude. The first is about decasualisation.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now, the hon. Member should conclude.

श्री काशीनाथ पांडे (हाता) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, पेश्वर इस के कि मैं अपनी और बातें आप के सामने रखूँ, अभी थोड़ी देर हुई विशेषी दल के एक माननीय सदस्य ने एक बात कही है जिस का जिक्र मैं कर देना चाहता हूँ। उन्होंने ने सीधे तौर पर लेबर मिनिस्टर पर काफी आक्षेप किया है। न केवल उन्होंने ने आक्षेप ही किया है बल्कि यह भी कहा है कि वे हिटलर, मसोलिनी या स्टालिन के समान हैं और अगर कोई इस लायक है कि उस का इम्पीचमेंट हो तो वह लेबर मिनिस्टर हैं। मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने ने इस सम्बन्ध में खास तौर पर आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० का नाम लिया है और इस सम्बन्ध में उन्होंने ने कहा है कि दूसरे संगठनों के मुकाबले में इस संस्था को प्रेकरेशल ट्रीटमेंट मीट प्राउट-

[श्री काशीनाथ पांडे]

किया जा रहा है। इस के लिये उन्होंने ने कहा है कि लेबर मिनिस्टर और लेबर मिनिस्ट्री इम्पोजमेंट के काबिल हैं। अभी हाल ही का एक उदाहरण मैं आप को देना चाहता हूँ और आपको बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि किस तरह से विरोधी दलों के बिल्लाने पर हमारे लेबर मिनिस्टर साहब ने आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० के साथ अन्याय किया है और कर रहे हैं। अभी हाल ही में गवर्नमेंट ने प्रोडक्टिविटी कार्डसिल बनाई है और उस को जो सेंट्रल आर्गेनाइजेशन हैं, उन में किन किन लोगों को और किन किन संस्थाओं के नुमाइंदों को लिया गया है। आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० को सदस्य संस्था पंद्रह लाख है और बाकी को जो तीन संस्थाएँ या संगठन हैं, उन सब को अगर मिला दिया जाय तो भी उन की इतनी सदस्य संस्था नहीं बनती है। इस प्रोडक्टिविटी कार्डसिल में आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० के चार आदमी लिये गये हैं और दो दो आदमी हिन्दू मजदूर सभा तथा ए० आई० टी० यू० सी० के लिये गये हैं और एक यू० टी० यू० सी० का लिया गया है। जहाँ तक इस आखिरी संस्था का सम्बन्ध है उस की कुल सदस्य संस्था सारे हिन्दुस्तान में कितनी है, यह मैं नहीं जानता हूँ और यह भी विचारणीय हो सकता है कि उस को कितना रिप्रिजेंटेशन दिया जाना चाहिये। इस कार्डसिल में चार तो आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० के सदस्य आये और तीनों विरोधी दलों के कुल मिला कर पाँच सदस्य आये। जो एग्जीक्यूटिव बोर्ड बना है उस में हमारी संस्था का तो एक आदमी है और विरोधी पक्षों की जो आर्गेनाइजेशन हैं उन के तीन आदमी हैं, उन में से एक एक आदमी लिया गया है। मैं यह अर्थ करना चाहता हूँ कि ऐसे समय में जबकि आप का अनुभव यह है कि देश में तरह तरह के जो मजदूर संगठन हैं और किस तरह से वे व्यवहार करते हैं और किन तह से आपको अपनी योजना

को सफल बनाने के लिये वे इमदाद दे रहे हैं, उस सब का लिहाज रखना चाहिये था। अगर प्रोडक्टिविटी कार्डसिल जैसी महत्वपूर्ण कमेटी में तीन तीन ऐसे आदमी आते हैं जोकि आप को पालिसी में विश्वास नहीं करते हैं तो कहां तक यह कहा जा सकता है कि वहां जा कर वे आप का जो परपज है उस को सर्व करेंगे। इस तरह से क्या वह परपज जिस के लिये इन की स्थापना की गई है, सर्व होगा? इस वास्ते भी मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि अन्याय मेरे साथ हो रहा है न कि विरोधी दल वालों के साथ।

इसी तरह से मैं आप को कहना चाहता हूँ कि जब विदेशों में डेलिगेशन भेजने की बात होती है तो मेरी संस्था को धोवरलुक कर दिया जाता है। आप जानते हैं कि आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० की सदस्य संस्था पंद्रह लाख है और तमाम विरोधी संस्थाओं को अगर मिला भी दिया जाय तो भी उन की इतनी सदस्य संस्था नहीं हो सकती है। ऐसी सूरत में देखा गया है कि कई मर्तबा विरोधी लोगों को कई कमेटियों के सिलसिले में विदेशों में भेजा गया है जबकि केन्द्रीय संस्थाएँ आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० के मुकाबले में सदस्य संस्था के लिहाज से नगण्य हैं। इस वास्ते मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि लेबर मिनिस्टर साहब को केवल विरोधी दलों के बिल्लाने मात्र से ही आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० के साथ अन्याय नहीं करना चाहिये।

एक माननीय सदस्य ने फ्रेंचाइज का भी जिक्र किया है। इस सम्बन्ध में मैं एक बात मंत्री महोदय के नोटिस में लाना चाहता हूँ। आज ऐसी युनियनों का बाहुल्य हो रहा है जो यह कहती हैं कि चूंकि आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० का सालाना चन्दा तीन रुपये है वहां हमारा चन्दा आठ आने ही है और तुम हमारे सदस्य बन जाओ।

मजदूर इस बात को नहीं समझते हैं और न वे दूसरी बातें ही कि इन संस्थाओं में जाने से उन का क्या लाभ होगा समझते हैं। इसलिये वे ऐसी संस्थाओं के सदस्य बन जाते हैं। ऐसी सूरत में अगर आप कहें कि फेंचाइज हो तो यह साफ है अगर कोई आदमी यह कहेगा कि हमारी संस्था में एक पैसा चुंदा भी नहीं देना होगा तो तमाम आदमी उस के मੈम्बर बन जायेंगे और वे उस के हक में जायेंगे। यह बात तो बाद में मालूम होगी कि कौन सी संस्था मजदूरों को अधिक फायदा पहुंचाती है। इस तरह के आक्रांति हो चुके हैं। शूगर इंडस्ट्री में फेंचाइज हुआ था और उस में यह बात देखने में आई थी। उस फेंचाइज के लिये एक यह शर्त थी कि किसी भी दल का कोई भी सदस्य प्रचार करने के लिये मजदूरों के पास नहीं जायेगा। इस के बावजूद भी माननीय श्री शि० ल० सक्सेना ने अनशन कर दिया और तमाम जो विरोधी पार्टियां थीं उन्होंने ने मिल कर प्रचार करना शुरू कर दिया कि सक्सेना साहब मर रहे हैं, इन को यदि बचाना है तो हम को वोट दो। यूनियनें आर्गनाइज्ड लेबर की संस्थाएँ होती हैं और जो ट्रेड यूनियनों के मੈम्बर होते हैं वे ही ट्रेड यूनियन के सदस्य हो सकते हैं। जहाँ पर आर्गनाइज्ड लेबर की स्ट्रेन्थ की जांच करनी हो वहाँ पर आप नान-मैम्बर्स और मੈम्बरों सभी को इकट्ठा कर के वोट लें तो यह कहाँ तक व्यावहारिक हो सकता है, तथा कहाँ तक फेयर हो सकता है, यह मोचने की बात हो जाती है। ये शूगर इंडस्ट्री में हुआ है। विरोधी दल फेंचाइज की मांग करते हैं इसलिये मैं आप को कहता हूँ कि आप इस मांग को प्रेशर में आकर मंजूर न कर लिया करें। अगर इस तरह की मांगों को आप ने मंजूर करना शुरू कर दिया तो एक ऐसी चीज पैदा हो जायेगी कि भाग्य चल कर मजदूर आर्गनाइज हो नहीं रह सकेंगे और इस मूवमेंट को एक धक्का लगेगा।

अब मैं वेज बोर्ड्स के सम्बन्ध में कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ। यह विषय बहुत महत्व का है।

अब से प्रेस वेज बोर्ड के मामले का सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने फैसला सुनाया है तब से मुझे बहुत डर हो गया है कि कहीं उस के बाद शूगर इंडस्ट्री और टेक्स्टाइल इंडस्ट्री के लिये जो दो वेज बोर्ड बने हुए हैं उन का भी वही हाल न हो। उन के बारे में कोर्ट ने यह कहा है कि उन को इंडस्ट्री की पेइंग कैपेसिटी का देखना चाहिये, यह एक गंभीर और विचारणीय बात है। पेइंग कैपेसिटी के बारे में मुझे यह कहना है कि इस पेइंग कैपेसिटी का आधार क्या हो, क्या आप ने इस का फैसला किया है। पेइंग कैपेसिटी किस की देखी जाये, जो सब से कमजोर यूनिट है या जो प्रॉफिट कमा रहा है, या जो घाटे में चल रहा है? एक ही जगह को, जैसे कानपुर को, ही आप ले लें। वहाँ पर फर्ज कीजिये दस मिलें हैं, हर एक कच्चा माल एक ही जगह से मंगाती हैं, रेलवे फेट भी सब को वही देना पड़ता है, सब का ले आप भी करीब करीब वही है, मजदूरों की तनख्वाह भी वही है, इस के बावजूद भी एक फैक्ट्री नफा दिखाती है तो दूसरी घाटा। अब आप पेइंग कैपेसिटी में किम को आधार मान कर चलेंगे, घाटे वाली फैक्ट्री को या नफे वाली को? जो फैक्ट्री नुकसान दिखाती है वह उन फैक्ट्रियों के मुनाफे को भी भार देती है जो नफा दिखा रही होती हैं तथा वहाँ पर काम करने वाले मजदूरों के हित को भी नुकसान पहुंचाती हैं। आप ने यह कहा है कि तनख्वाह निश्चित करने के पहले वह इस बात को देख ले कि कम से कम फैमिली तीन यूनिट की होनी चाहिये, ७२ गज कपड़ा एक परिवार को मिलना चाहिये तीन यूनिट पर जितनी कैलरी की आवश्यकता डा० एकरायड ने बताई है, अतः एक परिवार को कैसा तथा कितना खाना मिलना चाहिये। ये सब आधार होने चाहिये। दो आवश्यक चीजें हैं जो इंडिकेट नहीं की गई हैं। कांग्रेस गवर्नमेंट ने विभिन्न प्रदेशों में छठी क्लास तक वक्कों की फीम माफ कर दी है और अब उन को फीस नहीं देनी पड़ती है। लेकिन किताबों की खरीद पर तो उन को पैसा खर्च करना ही पड़ता है क्या उस के लिये कोई व्यवस्था की गई हो, ऐसी कोई इंडि-

[श्री काशी नाथ पांडे]

केशन नहीं मिलती है। इस के प्रलाभा बहुत की फैक्टरियां ऐसी हैं जहाँ पर मैडिकल ट्रीटमेंट के लिये कोई इतिजाम नहीं है या जहाँ आप की एम्पलायीज स्टेट इन्श्योरेंस स्कीम लागू नहीं हुई है। कम से कम वहाँ पर मैडिकल बेंनीफिट्स या उन के दवा दारू का भी कोई प्रबन्ध होना चाहिये। अभी तक तो मैं समझता हूँ, इस धोर ध्यान नहीं दिया गया है। अतः मेरा निवेदन यह है कि इन चीजों को भी ध्यान में रखा जाना चाहिये वेज फिक्स करते समय। साथ ही साथ पेइंग कैपेसिटी उस की ली जानी चाहिये जो नफा दिखा रही है न कि उस की जो घाटे में चल रही है। ये जो घाटा दिखा रहा है वे मजदूरों की वजह से नहीं बल्कि मिसमैनेजमेंट की वजह से दिखा रही हैं। उस की वजह से मजदूरों को नहीं मारा जाना चाहिये। मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि वेज के बारे में अगर वहीं आधार हो सकता है कि मार्जिन आफ प्रॉफिट किस फैक्टरी का कितना है तो मैं कहना चाहूंगा कि मजदूरों को कभी भी फेयर वेज नहीं मिल सकती है। टैक्सेशन इन्क्वायरी कमेटी तथा दुनिया भर के लोग बैठे लेकिन किसी को यह मालूम नहीं पड़ा कि किस किस में नफा कितना है। वेज बोर्ड भी यह मालूम नहीं कर सकता है कि नफा कितना है। इस को मालूम करना बहुत मुश्किल है। इसलिये अगर आप वेज विलाने के हक में हैं और चाहते हैं कि मजदूरों को उचित वेज मिले तो फैसला सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने दिया है, उस को मदेनजर रखते हुए उस के बाद आप को एक आधार निकालना पड़ेगा ताकि मजदूरों को फेयर वेज मिल सके।

प्रेस के सम्बन्ध में एक वेज बोर्ड बना था और शायद दूसरा बनेगा। बाद में भी जो शक्ल सामने आये उस के खिलाफ भी लोग सुप्रीम कोर्ट में जा सकते हैं। इस वास्ते सब बातों का पहले से ही आप को ब्याल करना होगा। सुप्रीम कोर्ट में हम अपने केस को उस तरह से पेस नहीं कर सकते हैं कि जिस तरह से कि मालिकान लोग करते हैं। वे बड़े बड़े लोगों को

एनरोज कर लेते हैं और हम में इतनी शक्ति नहीं होती है कि हम अपने केस को धक्की तरह से रख सकें। इस वास्ते जो बुनियादी चीज है, उस को अगर शुरू से ही आप अपने सामने नहीं रखते हैं तो दूसरे वेज बोर्ड्स का भी वही हथार हो सकता है जो प्रेस वेज बोर्ड का हुआ है।

इस के बाद मैं दो एक्ट्स के बारे में कहना चाहता हूँ। इस में कोई शक नहीं है कि लेबर मिनिस्ट्री बड़ी बिजिलेंट रही है और जब कभी भी कोई डिफैक्ट्स किसी एक्ट में उस की नजर में आये हैं उस को उस ने दूर करने की कोशिश की है। एक परमानेंट मजदूर के बारे में इंडस्ट्रियल डिस्प्यूट्स एक्ट में यह आधार रखा गया है कि २४० दिन वकिंग डेज पूरा करने के लिये मजदूरों की लीव विद वेज और ले आफ के पीरियड को भी लिया जा सकता है। पर फैक्टरी एक्ट में २४० दिन काम करने के बाद जो उस को ग्रैंड लीव लेने का हक होता है वह पूरा नहीं हो जाता क्योंकि इस एक्ट में २४० दिन पूरा करने के लिये लीव विद बिजिल तथा ले आफ का पीरियड नहीं शामिल किया जाता। इसलिये यह दोष इस में ऐसा है जिस को कि हम चाहते हैं कि उस का सुधार हो।

मैं माननीय श्रम मंत्री से एक अर्ज और करना चाहता हूँ। हमारे मंत्री महोदय एक घंसे तक मजदूर फोल्ड में काम कर चुके हैं और मजदूरों की दिक्कतों को भी समझते हैं। आज टैक्स-टाइल्स मिल्स में एक हाहाकार सा मचा हुआ है। कानपुर काटन मिल, म्थोर मिल और एथर्टन वेस्ट मिल में बड़ी गड़बड़ चल रही है। कायदे के मुताबिक अगर साल भर में ४५ दिन का क्लोजर हो जाता है तब मजदूर पैसा पाने के हकदार हो जाते हैं मैक्सिमम ४५ दिन को आधार मान कर मजदूरों को साढ़े २२ दिन की तनक्वाह मिलनी चाहिये लेकिन मिल म्थोरस इस तरह से उन को स्कैंटर करते हैं कि वह ४५ दिन पूरे नहीं होने पाते हैं और मिल म्थोरस ऐसा कर रहे हैं कि हफ्ते

में एक दिन की मजदूर की हाजिरी बगलते हैं और कायदे के मुताबिक मजदूर को बाकी पांचों रोज मिल में हाजिर होना पड़ेगा और हाजिरी देनी पड़ेगी चाहे मैनैजमेंट काम दे या न दे। अब आप सोच सकते हैं कि इस तरह से हप्ते में उस की एक दिन की हाजिरी होती है और उस दिन की तनक्याह होती है बाकी ५ दिन तक उस को सिर्फ इसलिये हाजिरी भरवाने के लिये जाना पड़ता है कि कहीं उस का नाम इस आधार पर काट न दिया जाय कि वह फैक्टरी में हाजिर नहीं हुआ हालांकि उस को उन दिनों काम पर नहीं लगाया जाता है।

अभी हमारे एक भाई ने जो कुछ कहा उसे सुन कर मुझे ताज्जुब हुआ। हमारे भाई का ताल्लुक फैक्ट्रियों से है तो मेरा ताल्लुक मजदूरों से है। वे यह कहते हैं कि शोलापुर की एक टैक्स्टाइल मिल में मिल मालिकों और मजदूरों के बीच में जो समझौता हुआ है वह बहुत बढ़िया है और उस से सब को सबक लेना चाहिये.....

श्री बजरत्न सिंह : पार्टी तो वही है।

श्री काशीनाथ पांडे : लेकिन मैं आप से कहता हूँ कि हमें मजदूरों की मजदूरियों का फायदा नहीं उठाना चाहिये। आखिर शोलापुर में ऐसा समझौता क्यों हुआ है? उस की वजह बिल्कुल साफ है और वह यह है कि मजदूर खान के बगैर मर रहे हैं और वह ऐसा समझौता नहीं करेगा तो क्या करेगा। लेकिन हमारा कर्तव्य है कि ऐसे वक्त में हम लोगों को गिरने से बचायें। अगर हम ऐसा कदम न उठा सकते तो हम मजदूरों की रक्षा नहीं कर सकते। मैं भ्रम मंत्री महोदय से कहूंगा कि जैसे वह उदार हृदय के भावमी हैं वे इस बात को सोरियसली देखें। अभी तो मैं यह समझता हूँ कि सरकार से टैक्टकल मिस्टेक हो गई। गवर्नमेंट ने एक्साइज इयूटी में टैक्साटाइल इंडस्ट्री को १५ करोड़ रुपये की भांजी दी है

और उचित तो यह था कि इस १५ करोड़ की छूट देने के पहले सेक्टर मिनिस्टर महोदय मिल्स के मैनैजमेंटस को बुला कर बात करते और उन को कहते कि देखो भाई हम तुम को यह छूट दे रहे हैं अब तुम भी मजदूरों के साथ रिश्तायत करो इस तरह की क्लैक्टिव बारगेनिंग अगर उन से की जाती तो मैं समझता हूँ कि उस से बहुत से मजदूरों की जान बच जाती। आज जो मिलें बन्द हो रही हैं उस से मजदूरों में असन्तोष पैदा हो रहा है और उस के कारण उन में बेरोजगारी फैल रही है। इसलिये मैं समझता हूँ कि इस चीज के ऊपर सरकार को पहले ध्यान देना चाहिये।

जहां तक इम्पलीमेंटेशन आफ एवाइर्स की बात है उस के सम्बन्ध में बहुत से माननीय सदस्य यहां पर कह चुके हैं लेकिन मुझे ऐसा मालूम होता है कि मजदूर फ्रीड से चूँकि उन का विशेष ताल्लुक नहीं है इसलिये वह ऐसी बात कहें हैं। मैंने यह देखा है कि जब से अभी हाल में जो इंडियन लेबर कान्फेंस हुई थी उस में एक सैल आफ्रिसर्स का बनाया गया है जिस का काम ही यह देखना है कि हर सूबे में वह इस चीज को देखे कि कौन सा एवार्ड ऐसा रह गया है जोकि इम्पलीमेंट नहीं हुआ। हर सूबे में और हर प्रागैनाइजेशन के पास गवर्नमेंट का लेटर गया है कि कौन से ऐसे एवाइर्स हैं जोकि अभी तक उनके वहां इम्पलीमेंट नहीं हुए हैं। अब जहां एवार्ड के खिलाफ सुप्रीम कोर्ट में अभील हो गई है वहां पर गवर्नमेंट धलबत्ता एम्पलीमेंटेशन आफ्र एवार्ड के लिये कोई कदम नहीं उठा सकती है। वह तो अपने गुड आफ्रिसेज इन्तेमाल कर के दोनों दलों को बुला कर उन के बीच में एक समझौता करा सकती है। अब सुप्रीम कोर्ट के सामने मामला पेंडिंग हो और गवर्नमेंट एवार्ड के एम्पलीमेंटेशन के लिये दबाव डाले, यह नामुमकिन है और ऐसा करना अनुचित होगा और यही दिक्कत सरकार के सामने है।

[श्री काशीनाथ पांडे]

अनएम्पलायमेंट के बारे में मुझे जो कहना है वह यह है कि हमारे माननीय नन्दा जी न केवल लेबर मिनिस्टर हैं बल्कि प्लानिंग मिनिस्टर भी हैं। अक्सर मैं सुनता हूँ कि रेलवे में २ लाख आदमी हो गये हैं और दूसरी इंडस्ट्रीज में इतने आदमी आ गये। मेरा कहना यह है कि इस के बारे में सरकार के पास यह आंकड़े होने चाहियें कि जितने आदमी फ़ैक्टरियों में इस प्लानिंग के पहले काम कर रहे थे उन में से कितने आदमी इस वक्त एम्पलायड हैं और कितने निकाले गये और वह निकाले गये तो क्यों निकाले गये। उधर से जो आदमी खाली होते जायें उन को इधर भरते जायें तो यह कोई सफलता की बात नहीं कही जा सकती। हम को इस दिशा में कोई सक्रिय क्रदम उठाना चाहिये ताकि मजदूरों की रक्षा हो और मजदूरों में अनएम्पलायमेंट न फैले और उन को काम मिले। सरकार यदि इस के लिये कोई सक्रिय प्रयत्न कर सकती है तो उस को जरूर करना चाहिये और ऐसा करना बड़ी अच्छी बात होगी।

वर्कमेन कम्पेंसेशन ऐक्ट के बारे में मैंने एक मर्तबा पहले भी अमल की थी और आज फिर उस को दुहराता हूँ कि इस में बड़े सुधार की जरूरत है। यह बाबा आदम के जमाने का ऐक्ट चला आ रहा है और उस में कोई सुधार नहीं हो रहा है। हम से एक मर्तबा सरकार ने कहा कि इस पर विचार हो रहा है। एक तो जो पाटर्स लिये गये हैं वे अनकम्पलीट हैं और अधूरे हैं और इसलिये उस ऐक्ट के रहते हुए मजदूरों के साथ न्याय नहीं हो सकता। बहुत से ऐसे अंग हैं जोकि फ़ैक्टरी के अन्दर कट जाते हैं और उन का कहीं पर कोई जिक्र नहीं है और इसलिये उस बेचारे को कोई मुआविजा नहीं मिलता है। इसलिये मैं समझता हूँ कि अब समय आ गया है जबकि कम्पेंसेशन ऐक्ट में ऐसा सुधार कर दिया

जाना चाहिये जिस से मजदूरों को लाभ हो सके।

प्राविडेंट फंड के बारे में मुझे यह निवेदन करना है कि शुगर फ़ैक्टरीज में प्राविडेंट फंड के लिये रिटेनिंग एलाउन्स को वेज नहीं मानते। इस सम्बन्ध में मैं बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि उत्तर प्रदेश में खेतान एन-क्वारी कमेटी बैठी थी जिस के कि चेअरमैन श्री डी० पी० खेतान एक मिलमालिक थे। उस कमेटी ने अपनी रिपोर्ट में यह माना है कि रिटेनिंग एलाउन्स वेज है। इसी तरीके से लेबर एंजेल ट्राइब्युनल ने अपने फ़ैसले के अन्दर में जिस में कि हाई-कोर्ट के रिटायर्ड जज रह चुके हैं, कहा है कि रिटेनिंग एलाउन्स वेज है और उस पर प्राविडेंट फंड कटना चाहिये। बहुत सी फ़ैक्टरियों में इस ऐक्ट के लागू होने के पहले रिटेनिंग एलाउन्स पर प्राविडेंट फंड कटता भी था लेकिन जब से यह स्कीम आई मालूम नहीं क्या क्लैरिफिकेशन हुआ और क्या बात हुई जो प्राविडेंट फंड कटना बन्द हो गया है। मेरा यह निवेदन है कि उस सम्बन्ध में ऐसा आदेश दिया जाय जिस से कि उस का कटना चालू हो जाय ताकि मजदूरों को उस से लाभ मिल सके। अब मैं और अधिक समय नहीं लेना चाहता और मैं अपना स्थान ग्रहण करता हूँ।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : बहुत कृपा है। सुबह मालूम नहीं था कि डिप्टी मिनिस्टर साहब भी वक्त चाहेंगे। उन से पूछा गया तो उन्होंने सिर्फ़ मिनिस्टर साहब का नाम लिया। अब चूँकि वे भी बोलना चाहते हैं इसलिये यह वक्त भी मेम्बर साहबान के वक्त में से निकलना है। मैं माननीय सदस्यों से दरखास्त करूंगा कि अगर वह १०, १० मिनट लें तो बहुत अच्छा होगा।

Shri Bhagavati (Darrang): Socialism is not an empty word to the working classes; it is not merely a slogan for them. It is not also a philosophy for theoretical discussion or academic study to the working classes; to them, it is a vehicle for cohesion. They are very much interested in building up a society, a new social order on the basis of socialism. They are not turning to warfare. So, when our Plan has been formulated on the basis of socialism, I am confident that the working classes would be working heart and soul for its implementation.

Much emphasis has been laid on maintaining industrial peace in the country. That is certainly very important. As I have said, the working classes are more interested in it than anybody else in the country. But, sometimes, conditions are created which make this industrial peace impossible. The responsibility for this certainly does not lie with the working classes in a great many cases. They find that very important awards and agreements are not also implemented. I am very glad that Government have now issued some questionnaires to find out the instances in which the awards and agreements have not been implemented. That will go a long way in implementing these awards and agreements. I believe the Government will find out ways and means of implementing these awards and agreements in full.

Socialism also means increased production and equitable distribution, removal of disparity and full employment. In these matters also, the working classes are interested more than anybody else. So, they are for increased productivity. But, they want that the increased income is also distributed equitably. So, they have demanded a fair wage structure in the country. Government have taken steps in this regard; but I am sorry to say that the proposed Wage Board for the Plantations has been postponed. I do not see any reason for that. If we want to have a scientific wage policy, then, I do not see how an

important industry like tea can be eliminated from this Wage Board. It is very necessary that the Wage Board is also established for plantations. We know that there is no uniform basis for wages in different industries in the country. Wages vary from place to place and from industry to industry. That is certainly not very good.

The hon. Labour Minister in his address to the steering group on wages said in December last that the wage maps should be drawn up for the country as a whole. We cannot have a proper wage structure for the country as a whole. When we are intending to have a uniform wage policy for the country as a whole, I do not see why plantations should not be given a place in it and why the plantations should not have a Wage Board.

Then, as regards unemployment, the Planning Commission estimated 15.3 million job opportunities will have to be created if full employment is to be given during the Second Plan period. But, they were not very optimistic about it. They have observed that there is a conflict between future investment and larger employment. As they have estimated, the investment made in the Plan will create about 80 lakh additional jobs. That is something for the time being. That will go to some extent in solving the unemployment problem in the country.

But, recently, something has happened which is very disquieting. We all know that several cotton mills have closed down and, as a result, many thousands of workers have been thrown out of employment. Then, again, in the tea plantations in Assam, some 22,000 workers have been thrown out of employment. Certain quarters seem to think that the problem is not so very acute in the tea industry. But, I submit that that is a mistaken idea. The problem is very acute in the tea industry also. So, Government should take some steps to solve the problem

there. The Industries (Regulation and Development) Act does not apply to the tea industry. So, it is gratifying to learn that the Union Finance Minister has advised the Labour Minister of Assam to have legislation in the State Assembly to regulate the tea industry, if necessary. That legislation may be brought forward in the Assam Assembly. But then the problem will be there about finance. How are the finances to be found to run the uneconomic gardens which the Government is to take over? It will be a very big problem. The Menon Committee suggested the creation of a fund separately for replanting old bushes. That was a very good suggestion. The Government should accept that suggestion and create a fund for replanting the old bushes. In Assam many gardens have bushes which are 40 or 50 years old. These cannot yield good quality tea and so have become uneconomical. To avoid this, the fund is very essential. The Government is still considering that matter, we are told, but early steps in this regard are very necessary. I hope Government will take measures to see that these tea gardens are not closed down and the labourers are not thrown out of employment.

There are about 5,000 contract labourers in the Assam Oil Company. The Payment of Wages and the Minimum Wages Act are not applied to them. Recently some inspectors had been appointed to look after the welfare of mine labourers there but as this does not come under the definition of the word 'mine', the contract labour was not benefited. So, the definition has to be revised. The Government should apply the Payment of Wages Act and the Minimum Wages Act to the oil fields also. It is also necessary to take effective steps to issue a notification under the Payment of Wages Act appointing inspectors under section 14 of the Act and an authority under section 15 of the Act for the oil fields. The necessary notification incorporating one more item in Schedule A for the

application of the Payment of Minimum Wages Act to the contract labour in the oil fields should also be issued.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Wasmik. He should conclude within ten minutes. Every hon. Member should try to conclude within ten minutes. Otherwise, one hon. Member is likely to be elbowed out.

**श्री बालकृष्ण दासनिज (भंडारा-रहित-
ग्रन्थसूचित जातियाँ) :** उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, समय की कमी होने के बाद भी आप ने जो मुझे इस लेबर और एम्प्लायमेंट मिनिस्ट्री की डिमांड पर बोलने का समय दिया, इस के लिये मैं अत्यन्त अभारी हूँ ।

आप जानते हैं कि इस मिनिस्ट्री का संचालन करने वाले श्री नन्दा जी स्वयम् एक ट्रेडयूनियनिस्ट हैं और इस नाते वे मजदूरों के दिल और दिमाग को, उन की जरूरतों को काफी अच्छी तरह से जानते हैं । इस के लिये मैं ही नहीं, परन्तु अपोजीशन के कुछ सदस्य भी ऐसे पाये जाते हैं कि हालांकि उन में से कुछ को स्टैलिन और हिटलर की संज्ञा देते हैं फिर भी वे ट्रेड यूनियनिस्ट होने के नाते उन को बचाई देते हैं और उन से अपेक्षा करते हैं कि वे जो उन का दृष्टिकोण है उस के अनुसार कार्य करें । वैसे तो जिस दृष्टिकोण से लेबर मिनिस्टर साहब कार्य करते हैं और इस मिनिस्ट्री का संचालन करते हैं वह दृष्टिकोण जो अपोजीशन के सदस्य हैं उन के दृष्टिकोण से अत्यन्त भिन्न है और जब वह दोनों दृष्टिकोण अत्यन्त भिन्न हैं तब जो अपोजीशन के सदस्य हैं उन के दृष्टिकोण से काम हो सकेगा, ऐसा मुझे नहीं लगता है ।

यह जो मिनिस्ट्री है वह एम्प्लायमेंट का भी कुछ काम करती है और जो रिपोर्ट हमारे सामने पेश हुई है उस में हम को यह बताया गया है कि पिछले वर्ष में ३४ अधिक एम्प्लायमेंट एक्स्पेंजेज का निर्माण किया

यथा, जिस का परिणाम यह हुआ कि २१ परसेंट लाइव रजिस्टर पर जो एम्पलायमेंट सीकर्स थे उन की संख्या अधिक हो गई है। परन्तु लाइव रजिस्टर पर उनकी संख्या २७ प्रतिशत अधिक होने के बावजूद भी जब हम देखते हैं कि ३४ एम्पलायमेंट एक्स्चेंजेज खुलने के बाद लोगों को कितनी नौकरियां मिलीं तो पता चलता है कि सन् १९५६ में १ लाख, ८९ हजार, ८५५ प्लेसमेंट्स हुए हैं, सन् १९५७ में १ लाख, ९२ हजार, ८३१ प्लेसमेंट्स हुए हैं। इस का मतलब यह है कि ३४ नये एम्पलायमेंट एक्स्चेंजेज के खुल जाने के बाद लगभग केवल ३००० लोगों को ही एक साल में नौकरियां मिल सकी हैं। इन ३४ एम्पलायमेंट एक्स्चेंजेज के खुलने के बाद इस देश में बेकार लोग कितने हैं, इन के खुलने से उन का फायदा कितना हुआ है

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : यह ३००० लोग ३४ एम्पलायमेंट एक्स्चेंजेज में ही रखे गये होंगे ?

श्री बालकृष्ण दासनिक्क : इस ढंग से यदि काम हो तो वह अनएम्पलायमेंट के मवाल को हल करने के लिये कोई हितकारी काम होगा, ऐसा मुझे नहीं लगता है।

यहां पर शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स के लोगों को एम्पलायमेंट देने के सम्बन्ध में जो कार्य किया गया है उस के बारे में भी मैं आप से कुछ कहना चाहता हूं। आप जानते हैं कि पिछले वर्ष यद्यपि लाइव रजिस्टर पर शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स के लोगों की संख्या ७३ हजार, ९१५ थी, उन का प्लेसमेंट २८ हजार और ८७ हुआ। परन्तु इस वर्ष सन् १९५७ में यद्यपि उन की संख्या लाइव रजिस्टर पर ९२ हजार, ९३२ थी, फिर भी उन का प्लेसमेंट सन् १९५६ की अपेक्षा सन् १९५७ में कुछ कम हो गया। वह २७ हजार ३७२ हो गया है। इस का मतलब यह नहीं है कि जो प्लेसमेंट सन् १९५७ में हुआ वह सन् १९५६ की अपेक्षा बहुत

ज्यादा कम हो गया है, ऐसी बात नहीं है, फिर भी शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स की ही ऐसी कैटेगरी दिखती है जिन के सम्बन्ध में प्लेसमेंट पिछले वर्ष की अपेक्षा कुछ कम हो गया है। जहां तक मुझे लगता है, जो परसेंट शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स को एम्पलायमेंट देने के सम्बन्ध में माना जाता है उस को पूरा कर देने की कोशिश हुई तो ऐसी गलतियां नहीं हो सकती हैं।

तीसरी बात मुझे यह कहनी है और वह यह है कि जो जब ओपेनिंग एम्पलायमेंट सीकर्स के लिये एक्स्चेंजेज अवैलेबल हुई हैं उन को यदि आप देखेंगे और जो प्लेसमेंट्स हुए हैं उन की संख्याओं को देखेंगे तो उन दोनों में आप को काफी अन्तर दिखाई देगा। सन् १९५६ में अगर जब ओपेनिंग एक्स्चेंजेज २ लाख ९६ हजार, ७१८ हुई थीं तो प्लेसमेंट्स १, लाख, ८९ हजार, ८५५ ही हुए थे आप देखेंगे कि सन् १९५७ में जब ओपेनिंग २ लाख, ९७ हजार, १८८ हुई थीं और प्लेसमेंट्स १ लाख, ९२ हजार ८३१ हुए थे। इसका मतलब यह हुआ कि एक तिहाई जगहें एम्पलायमेंट एक्स्चेंजेज के द्वारा भरी नहीं जाती हैं यद्यपि वे जाव्स एम्पलायमेंट एक्स्चेंजेज के द्वारा रजिस्टर की जाती हैं और उन जाव्स के लिए वर्कर्स एम्पलायमेंट एक्स्चेंजेज के द्वारा मांगे जाते हैं तो इस बात की भी कोशिश करनी चाहिए कि जितनी नौकरियां एम्पलायमेंट एक्स्चेंजेज में रजिस्टर होती हैं उतनी सब नौकरियां लोगों को मिलें। यदि ऐसा हो तो ज्यादा से ज्यादा लोगों को नौकरी दिलवाने वाले दफ्तर नौकरियां दिलवा सकते हैं ऐसा मेरा विश्वास है।

दूसरी बात मुझे बड़ी मजदूरों के बेंचन में जो डिस्पैरिटी है उसके सम्बन्ध में कहना है। २७ फरवरी सन् १९५७ को मैंने और हमारे जो बिप्टी मिनिस्टर साहब श्री हजार नबीस साहब हैं उन्होंने लेबर मिनिस्टर साहब

[श्री बालकृष्ण वासनिक]

से मुलाकात ली थी और उस मुलाकात में हमने कहा था कि अलग अलग राज्यों में बीड़ी उद्योग में मिनिमम वेजेज में काफी डिस्पैरिटी है। इसका कारण यह होता है कि जहां पर ज्यादा वेजेज होती हैं वहां से बीड़ी का उद्योग बन्द होकर दूसरी कम वेतन वाली जगहों में चला जाता है और वहां पर कारखाने खुलते हैं, और इस प्रकार से बम्बई राज्य के भंडारा जिले के बहुत से कारखाने बन्द हो गये और धीरे धीरे दूसरे राज्यों में नये नये कारखाने खुल रहे हैं। मुझे विश्वास है कि श्रम मंत्रालय को इसकी जानकारी है, और इसके लिए श्रम मंत्री जी ने हमें यह आश्वासन दिया था कि गत मार्च महीने में सम्बन्धित राज्यों की एक सभा बुलायी जायेगी और यह जो अलग अलग राज्यों में वेतन में असमानता है इसको दूर करने के बारे में विचार किया जायेगा। किन्तु मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि पिछले महीने में यह सभा नहीं हुई क्योंकि डिप्टी ला मिनिस्टर साहब को जो कि उसमें बुलाये जाने वाले थे नहीं बुलाया गया। इस लिए मैं मंत्री महोदय से प्रार्थना करूंगा कि इस सभा को जल्द बुलायें। आजकल यह हो रहा है कि एक जगह उद्योग बन्द हो जाता है तो मजदूर बेकार हो जाते हैं और वह उद्योग दूसरी जगह चला जाता है। मैं चाहता हूं कि सम्बन्धित राज्यों की सभा जल्दी से जल्दी बुलायी जाये जो कि इस सवाल को हल करे और बीड़ी उद्योग के लिए राष्ट्रीय मिनिमम वेजेज निश्चित की जायें।

Shri Palaniyandy (Perambalur):
Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, at the outset I might pay my humble tribute for the efficient handling of the affairs of this Ministry by our Labour Minister and our Deputy Labour Minister. Our Labour Minister has been a recognised leader of the working classes for over three decades. I am sure that all sections of the House would admit that thanks to the efforts

of the Labour Minister and the Deputy Labour Minister there has been a marked improvement in the industrial relations of the country. It is gratifying to see that even in the major policy matters the Labour Ministry is making itself felt on the Government as a whole, as, for instance, in the appointment of the Second Pay Commission, which is largely due to the efforts of the Labour Minister.

In paying this tribute, however, I would urge the Government not to give any impression that it would move only under compulsion exerted by extraneous elements. Our opposition friends are only too ready to exploit any concession spontaneously given by Government as being due to their pressure. And yesterday some Members charged our Labour Minister as well as the Deputy Labour Minister that they are partisans with the I.N.T.U.C. and all those things. But one thing I want to say, and that is that the Opposition Members are themselves conscious of the real facts. Let them go and see how they are dealing with the workers in Kerala, how they are partisans to their own party men and all those things. I will not, however, go into those details as it will take a long time for me to go into that matter. Even in referring matters for adjudication or conciliation they are showing a partisan spirit and unnecessarily curbing the other trade union activities in Kerala.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon (Mukandapuram): Nobody mentioned about that.

Shri Palaniyandy: Yesterday it was mentioned by some Member from the Opposition. And today somebody from the Opposition Benches said that our Labour Minister is behaving like Hitler and Stalin. Yesterday one Communist Member said that our Deputy Minister is having a partisan spirit for the I.N.T.U.C.

I know what tactics our friends are playing in India as well as in Tamil Nad. They are very reactionary in the matter of going into agreements also. In Trichy Mills, I know, a minority union has gone to agreement even for lesser bonuses, against the major union which is affiliated to the I.N.T.U.C. So they are playing all kinds of tactics in India as well as in Tamil Nad to strengthen their unions in all places.

Sir, I welcome the appointment of wage boards for industries such as textiles, sugar and cement. As one connected with the labour in the cement industry, I might convey the enthusiastic welcome of the working class for the timely action of the Government. But the Supreme Court judgment on the award of the Wage Board for Working Journalists is creating grave apprehensions in our minds as to what would happen to the above wage boards and their decisions. Not only the wage boards for these industries must be made statutory, but steps must be taken to see that the decisions of these boards are given the force of parliamentary legislation, so that there will be a minimum scope for the employers to invoke the aid of the judiciary. Not only that. Even for more industries we have to appoint wage boards.

Regarding the Workmen's Compensation Act I would urge a modification of the Act to be undertaken by Government as early as possible since the compensation fixed now has no rationale behind it.

I would also like to urge upon the Government to extend the Minimum Wages Act to the gypsum industry which has thousands of workers working in it. The gypsum mining industry is an important industry, supplying raw materials to the cement industry.

In respect of one other matter I would register my strong protest at the annoying delay for which the Central Government is to be blamed. This is with reference to the tripartite committee which was constituted for

the cement industry, to regularise the labour conditions in the cement industry. Even in the First Plan, in the Review, it was recommended that tripartite agreements should be drawn up in respect of the recognised industries regarding standards and compliance with the provisions regarding factory legislation, working conditions and welfare facilities and to have effective machinery for reviewing those agreements. A beginning in this direction was made in the cement industry, by the State Governments constituting a tripartite committee. That committee sent the report to the Central tripartite committee. But till now we have not received any report about the cement tripartite committee. All the workers are thinking that the report will come up, but it has not turned up till now. So the Ministry should take action to implement or to activate the committees to submit their reports as soon as possible.

About Employees State Insurance also I want to say that, firstly, there is a great delay in the pay offices of the Employees State Insurance. The workers have to go and wait for hours and hours to draw their monetary benefits. They have sometimes to take leave and thereby cause loss of production in the factory just for the purpose of drawing their benefit from the pay offices. At present there are 20,000 insured persons allotted to each pay office. The number of clerks for dealing with them is about five. It is impossible to handle such a large number of insured persons in one pay office. Recently a conference was held by the Labour Minister of Madras in which the representatives of employers, workers and the State Insurance officials participated. I understand it was resolved to request the Government to reduce the number of insured persons in each pay office to 10,000, so that there would be efficient and quick payment.

I trust the Labour Minister will accept the idea as it has been demonstrated in the working of this insurance scheme that considerable delay

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occurs unnecessarily in these pay offices.

Secondly, the need for putting up hospitals for the insured persons is very urgent. I understand that proposals have been made by the Government of Madras for building a hospital in Madras City. At present the Insurance hospital is maintained in an old rented house which is totally unsuited for the purposes of a hospital. Government should try to expedite the formalities and see that the hospital comes into existence as early as possible.

There is a great demand for extending the Employees State Insurance scheme to the non-implemented areas. I understand that Government are debating the question whether it should be extended to the families first or to the non-implemented areas. My view is that all the workers should first be covered with insurance benefit and then only Government should think in terms of extending the benefit to the families. In any event the option may be given to the State Governments who are willing to go ahead with the scheme of implementation in the non-implemented areas. I understand that Madras is willing to extend the scheme throughout the State. I trust the Government will give every facility for extension of the State Insurance scheme to all the workers, particularly when the State Government is prepared to take up that responsibility.

15.00 hrs.

A considerable amount of money collected from the workers is allowed to stagnate in the Employees State Insurance and adequate relief is not given in a generous measure. Arguments are going on between the Corporation and the Regional offices on petty matters like increasing a clerk or improving the quality of medicines to be supplied to the insured persons. Government should cut out all unnecessary routine and try to make the

Insurance Corporation a businesslike and efficient institution.

With regard to the administration of Provident Fund, the rules require thorough revision. In a private Provident Fund, employees used to get loans from their employers for various purposes such as marriages, house building etc. After the introduction of the State Provident Fund, workers do not get their facilities and are hampered very much by the stringent rules. Particularly when we want to increase the housing activities, it is necessary for Government to relax the rules and allow employees to draw loans from the Provident Fund amount for the purpose of house building. I trust Government would make suitable alterations in the rules as early as possible.

The subsidized industrial housing for industrial workers through co-operatives is not making any headway because of the very high contribution which the employees are called upon to make. According to the existing rules, the employees have to contribute 25 per cent. while the Government gives a grant of 25 per cent. and a loan of 50 per cent. In the recent Indian Labour Conference, it was pointed out that the employees are not in a position to contribute this 25 per cent. for the house and that the rules in this regard should be modified. It was suggested that the Government grant or subsidy should be raised to 30 per cent. and the loan to 60 per cent. If this is done, not only the entire allocation for industrial housing through co-operatives will be fully utilised, but there will be greater and greater demand for this sort of assistance and more and more houses will be built under the industrial housing scheme.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon (Mukandapuram): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, apart from the small discordant note struck by the hon. Member who spoke just before me, the trend of the debate on this Minis-

try more or less reflects unanimity of opinion on all sides of this House as far as the basic policies towards labour are concerned the speaker who preceded me not only threw a challenge but also accused the Opposition of comparing the Labour Minister with somebody who is not in this country. But I wish to make it quite clear that the fact that the present Labour Minister is in charge of the Labour Ministry is a matter of great pride to the working class in this country, because he has done a life-long selfless service to the working class in India.

Sir, during the 15th Indian Labour Conference certain basic issues which affect the labour in India came forward and all parties concerned—on the side of labour, management and Government—were able to come to certain basic conclusions regarding those issues. But still you find that there is terrible industrial unrest in so many places. The working class is not satisfied. There is discontent among the trade unions. We will have to analyse the causes for this state of affairs.

When we are agreed upon certain basic policies, when we are agreed upon the conception of a minimum wage, when we are agreed upon a fair wage and the Government also agrees that this should be brought into effect as far as the labour is concerned, why is it that there is discontent? Why should the labour complain? If we want to understand the causes of this discontent, we will have to go into the question of implementation as far as the decisions are concerned.

First of all, I would like to come to the point that we have been finding it very difficult as far as enforcement of policies is concerned. A minimum wage has been agreed upon and a fair wage also has been agreed upon; but how to enforce those decisions. We will have to enforce those decisions through the courts of law that have

been established under the Industrial Disputes Act subject to supervision by the High courts and the Supreme Court of India.

Sir, an unfortunate state of affairs prevails today as far as the adjudication machineries are concerned, as far as the industrial awards are concerned. The industrial tribunals take some time to decide the cases. These cases go to the High Court under article 226 jurisdiction and from there—to the Supreme Court. This morning, Sir, the Speaker was pleased to rule that we are not entitled, or it is not desirable, to criticise the decisions of the Supreme Court. I am not criticising the decisions of the Supreme Court, because under the Constitution the Supreme Court is entitled to have its own views in the matter of interpreting the laws of the land. But I wish to make it quite clear that the way in which the Supreme Court is interpreting the awards given by industrial tribunals and wage boards will not come within the purview of the strict interpretation of the laws of the land; because the nature of the award itself has been defined by the International Labour Organisation, and everybody is agreed that when an industrial tribunal makes an award it is not interpreting the law of the land but it is laying down the law itself as far as that particular subject is concerned.

How will the Supreme Court become competent to decide what should be the quantum of bonus? That is decided by the industrial tribunal according to the conception of social justice, because under the conception of social justice authority to decide such things is given to industrial tribunals and not the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court, as the highest judicial organ of the land, has the right to interpret and not to lay down laws. Parliament has decided that industrial tribunals should get jurisdiction to decide these disputes and that the industrial tribunals are entitled to lay down what should be the fair wage and what should be the quantum of

[Shri Narayanankutty Menon]

bonus. Once those powers are taken by judicial authorities, whose function primarily is to interpret the law of the land, as long as there is no law laying down fair wage and quantum of bonus those authorities will go wrong and the decisions of those authorities will not be in consonance with the policies of the Government. Therefore, the policy and implementation will be frustrated.

Almost all the hon. Members have mentioned about the Journalists' Wage Board Award. I am quite sure that the hon. Labour Minister is also not happy about the state of affairs, and everybody is agreed that something will have to be done immediately to correct the wrong that has been done to the working journalists. The only question is, how it could be corrected and in which way it could be corrected, in which way the frustration of the policy of the Government itself could be avoided so that the industrial tribunals would have their own way and industrial disputes could be settled as soon as possible. I am quite sure that the hon. Labour Minister will, as soon as possible, find out some method by which this House could legislate upon the terms and conditions of all sections of workmen. If that cannot be done without the Constitution being suitably amended, I hope he will take immediate steps to amend the Constitution so that industrial tribunals will get exclusive jurisdiction to define the conception of social justice, and not other courts whose function is only to interpret the law of the land.

The second point to which I would like to refer is regarding another part of the decision of the Indian Labour Conference. The 15th Indian Labour Conference and the sub-committees appointed by that Conference in a sense made history, because all the important labour organisations in the country, the Government and the employers have been able to agree unanimously to a code of discipline as far as the conduct of workmen and

employees is concerned. I would like to assert, Sir, that this is not a mean achievement as far as industrial relations in the country are concerned. I wish to congratulate the Labour Minister for rendering all his help for reaching such a conclusion and setting up a code of discipline.

But what is the after-effect? We are all the more anxious about the implementation of the code of discipline. As long as we are a party to that, as long as we agree to that, we undertake that as far as labour is concerned we will remain true to that code of discipline. But, is the hon. Labour Minister prepared, on behalf of all the employing Ministries in the public sector, to say with his hand on his heart that they are implementing their part of the contract? I dare say, Sir, that in every respect the public sector is going back upon everything that has been agreed upon at the 15th Indian Labour Conference between the labour, Government and the employees.

I will point out only one instance. I have mentioned that instance before when the Demands relating to the Transport Ministry were being discussed in this House. That instance is about the Cochin Port. That is one instance where the employing Ministry is behaving against the spirit of the code of discipline, where the dispute has been pending for over 1½ years. There are registered unions. If the employer there has got any dispute about the representative capacity of the union he is quite at liberty to find out which is the recognised union. But Sir, after raising the dispute, after conducting satyagraha there and after giving strike notice to the last, the way in which that officer has behaved is just like the guerilla warfare that is going on either in Malaya or Sumatra; because in reply to the Union's demands, 5,000 copies of a leaflet have been printed by that Administrative Officer, who is directly employed by the Transport Ministry, and distributed among the workmen

instead of dealing matters with the Union. I have had the fortune of meeting the Labour Minister. He assured me that he would look into the matter, and the strike notice was withdrawn. But if this state of affairs continues in the public sector, if after working this code of discipline where there is a solemn pledge on the part of the employers including the public sector that industrial disputes will be dealt with irrespective of merits, by means of conciliation, and the workmen have agreed that unless all methods of constitutional bargaining are over the workers will not go on strike is it not an obligation on your part that your part of the bargain is carried into effect so that the workmen could with all possible speed conform to their own bargains?

Finally, I wish to point out the difficulty of implementation of some of the decisions. The question of wages is there. In certain industries the Government have agreed to appoint wage boards. But there are so many other industries where wage boards are not contemplated either because of the nature of the industry or because of the number of workmen involved. I pointed out specifically the petroleum industry in which about 20,000 to 25,000 workers are involved. These oil companies which are run in India keep their balance-sheets throughout the world and wherever large number of adjudications are there they bring before the industrial tribunals the balance-sheets of global implications. But today, in India, the petroleum workers are compelled to fight for adjudication before 15 to 17 tribunals, and three to four cases are before the Supreme Court. Why should these small unions be compelled to go before the tribunals in each State, under the Industrial Disputes Act, and spend three years and spend money and at last go to the Supreme Court so that at least for one year's bonus the dispute is settled after three years in 15 different States? I appeal to the Labour Minister to rectify this. In the Industrial Dis-

putes Act, as amended in 1956, a three-tier system of tribunals was contemplated to just look into circumstances like these. I appeal to the Labour Minister to see that when workmen are distributed in different States of the country, at least in a majority of the States, when companies are run on all-India basis, those disputes will be taken before the national tribunal so that the national tribunal could, with all speed, decide the issues.

In conclusion, I wish to point out to the hon. Labour Minister that he has appealed, now, and before also, for the co-operation of the working classes for the implementation of the Plan. I beg to say that as he is and as others are, the working class is more eager for the success of the Plan but the Government also, especially the public sector should be aware that the most effective instrument for making the Plan a success is the working class of this country, and unless you in the public sector desire to change the policies in dealing with the working classes, and you are prepared to recognise the workers as makers of these Five Year Plans, the desired co-operation from the workers cannot be forthcoming. I appeal to the Labour Minister once again that the present atmosphere in the public sector be changed, that confidence be restored to labour so that the labour can fulfil the historic task of rebuilding this country through the Five Year Plans.

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): During this debate very little has been said with regard to the working of the Labour Ministry. Most of the criticism were in regard to the sectors which are within the State sphere. Yesterday, reference was made to the amended section 33, and the complaint was that we amended the section because of the pressure from the employers. Before this amendment, a large number of complaints were received by us from the workers themselves, and after the amendment, no complaint has been received from the unions,

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because workers have been benefited. If the hon. Members who are in the trade union field will compare the position before the amendment of this section and after, they will find that it has been to the advantage of the workers considerably. As the time is short, I am not going into the details, but if any hon. Member has got any doubt, I am prepared to discuss with him, and I am sure I will be able to convince him that the amendment has benefited the workers.

A complaint was made that we have not launched any prosecution against employers with regard to the non-implementation of the award or other matters with which they are connected. The position is not as has been stated by the hon. Member opposite. A large number of prosecutions have been filed in respect of the non-implementation of the award and other matters by the employers. I have given figures concerning this from time to time during question hours.

One hon. Member made a complaint that we have been boosting the INTUC and particularly about the representation given to the INTUC during the last International Labour Conference. He mentioned the railways. But the fact is that the railway unions were not taken into consideration with regard to this particular representation. The membership of the INTUC, as compared to that of the other three trade union organisations which are working in the labour field, with its affiliations as verified by the Labour Ministry's Industrial Relations department, was about 9,30,000 in 1955. In 1956, it was about 9,71,000 and in 1957, about 9,34,000. The total membership of the other three organisations in 1955 was about 7,44,000 and in 1956 it was about 7,85,000.

Particularly the hon. Member belonging to the Hind Mazdoor Sabha section has made mention with regard to the appointment of cement wage

board and he complained that the Hind Mazdoor Sabha representative was not invited to join this board. How can that be possible? He may have some membership in Dalmianagar. But he should remember that it is an All-India Wage Board. It is not a Bihar or a Dalmianagar Wage Board. Out of the workers who are working in the cement industry, the Hind Mazdoor Sabha has only 2,000. How can an organisation, having a membership of only 2,000 in the cement industry, even think of making a claim to have a seat on the Wage Board where only two labour representatives have been appointed?

About the Rourkela plants, the hon. Member has made mention of the arrest of a particular gentleman whom he named. This arrest was not because of the trade union activities. If the gentleman chooses to break the law and create a situation which he should not have created and if he stops the construction of the buildings for the plant and the installation of the plant—quite apart from other reasons, his organisation is a party to the Code of Discipline about which mention has already been made—certainly the Orissa Government had to take action. It is not for him to complain. He said women were molested. I was myself in Rourkela. Not a single individual made any complaint of this kind, and so, to come to the Lok Sabha and make a statement that women there were molested is highly improper.

About employment exchanges, the hon. Member should appreciate that employment exchanges cannot secure employment or create employment opportunities. Whenever an offer is received, an offer for placement, the employment exchange submits appropriate lists. How can they ensure a higher number of employment to Scheduled Caste candidates? The figures quoted should be appreciated. Where others have secured employment between 10 and 12 per cent, the Scheduled Caste candidates have got employment to the extent of 33 per

cent. Still, the complaint is made which is unfair.

With regard to the non-employment of Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe candidates, the Labour Ministry cannot be made responsible. In case there is any complaint or allegation that there is favouritism in the employment exchanges or that though Scheduled Caste candidates or Scheduled Tribes candidates are available, their names are not submitted, then certainly we are blameworthy. I have assured the House on many occasions that in case, at any time, there is the slightest indication of any such specific case we will certainly be at the disposal of the hon. Member concerned or at the disposal of anyone who makes a complaint in that behalf, and we shall see that these things do not happen. But the very fact that as against 12 per cent, the scheduled caste candidates are getting 33 per cent shows there is no room for complaint.

Regarding the Employees State Insurance Corporation, the hon. Member should appreciate that about 35,000 persons are attended to daily at our offices under the Corporation. There may be a possibility of some complaint here and there; nobody can deny that. But whenever we go on tour, I myself make it a point to meet the patients, talking to them in their own language, trying to understand them. We take them away from the officers and encourage them to tell us whatever complaints they may have. We are not unaware of the position that there are complaints sometimes and we are anxious that our officers should work honestly, efficiently and speedily. My request to hon. Members always is that if any particular incident comes to their knowledge which needs attention, they should not hesitate for a moment to bring it to our notice, because it should be appreciated that when 35,000 persons are attended to daily, there will be some complaints and we are here to attend to the requirements of the insured persons.

Of course, there is a considerable amount accumulated, but plans are being made for the establishment of hospitals. Buildings are to be constructed and very costly equipment is being purchased. At present we have got 1100 beds reserved in various parts of the country. We want to have our own hospitals. It is true that the hospital building in Madras is not satisfactory.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: Not only in Madras.

Shri Abid Ali: We admit that it needs change, but it is not right that the hospital should be closed simply because the building is bad. Another site has already been selected. The building should be constructed and the equipment should be purchased. After everything is complete, then the hospital can be shifted to the new building. In the meantime, the staff are doing their best to give service to the patients who are brought there.

Shri Prabhat Kar: Is there any plan for the immediate establishment of the hospital?

Shri Abid Ali: All this is to be done immediately. Of course, "immediate" has some relative value. I was submitting that besides the 1100 beds which have been reserved, the general beds also in the various hospitals are used for the patients who are sent by the Corporation offices.

Shri Prabhat Kar: You have admitted that funds have accumulated.

Shri Abid Ali: The fund is to be utilised for the construction of the hospitals. Also, when the families will be brought in. We do not want to take any risk at present by reducing this contribution. On the other hand, it has to be increased. After the hospitals are established and after families are brought in, recurring expenses will be incurred on that account from year to year and on that basis, further policy will be decided. There is no room for complaint from the workers' side, because every pie that is collected from them, from the employers and

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from the Government contribution, has to be spent for the workers themselves. It is not going to be spent for the employer or non-worker. Therefore, this complaint that because some amount is available, we should reduce the contribution is not right.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: There is no complaint that you are not spending money; but the complaint is that you are spending money and producing no results.

Shri Abid Ali: I am sorry that Mr. Menon should make such a statement, because he knows that and I am sure that outside he will admit that the amount in this particular sector is being legitimately and usefully spent.

About the Workmen's Compensation Act, I may assure my hon. friend, Shri K. N. Pandey that we are speedily working on it and we hope to bring an amending Act here very soon. With regard to provident fund, he has also suggested that the category which he mentioned, namely, retainers in the sugar industry should be included. I want to assure him that we want to include the allowance paid to them for the purpose of provident fund also.

About coal mines accidents, deaths recorded during 1957 was the lowest ever recorded in the history of the coal mines in India. There have been some accidents and therefore there is alarm. There will be accidents and of course, our attempt is to minimise the accidents and their severity. Accidents can be stopped only by stopping the working of the mines. So long as the mines are working, there will be accidents and only an attempt is being made to minimise them.

About the provident fund loan, the attempt is that the worker should be discouraged from utilising provident fund accumulations for the purpose about which some mention was made. Our point of view is that it should be discouraged and provident fund accumulation should be available for the workers in old age. Of course for

purposes like marriage of daughter, purchase of a house, etc. loan can be given, but it should be very very restricted. Otherwise, on retirement they will find that nothing is left in their amount and the amount will be written off against the loan.

Regarding the housing position, as hon. Members know, 98,000 houses were sanctioned and 71,000 have also been built. We want to encourage co-operatives and to have housing under the co-operative system. It is also necessary that the hon. Members working in the trade union field should make it possible for the workers to do it; their organisations should encourage and help them to have co-operative housing.

Regarding my friend, Dr. Ram Subhag Singh, he said that in the plantations, there was not a single house built. But the figures here are that upto 30th September, 1956, 1,48,000 houses were built.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: After 1956, after the Plantation Labour Act. I did not say before that.

Shri Abid Ali: According to the Plantation Labour Act, 8 per cent of the requirements every year has to be added. This particular Act is administered by the State Governments and this suggestion will be forwarded to them. We hope they will be more alert.

About doctors under the factories inspectorate, at present there are 198 inspectors, including 8 medical inspectors as against 168 inspectors, including 1 medical inspector in 1954. The number is increasing and it should further increase. And the inspection should be more effective.

With regard to the complaint made by Mr. Prabhat Kar yesterday, the position is that the Labour Appellate Tribunal has held that the Tribunal had powers to call for all documents from the employers and also that the Banking Companies Act did not prohibit payment of bonus to the employees. On this question, the

banks have gone on appeal to the Supreme Court and the question is still pending before the Supreme Court. So, it is not possible to move further with regard to the payment of bonus. After the Supreme Court is able to decide this question, certainly further action will be taken in the light of that decision.

Shri Prabhat Kar: In the meantime, the Banking Companies Act is being amended.

Shri Abid Ali: But the case is pending before the Supreme Court

Shri Prabhat Kar: That is for the past. So far as the future is concerned, after the Banking Companies Act is amended, there is no scope for the Supreme Court to decide in the matter.

Shri Abid Ali: The Supreme Court has fullest scope to decide on any matter what is placed before it. We do not want to take any action which, in the light of the decision that the Supreme Court may take, may become wrong. About the complaint that large number of cases are going to the court....

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: The Act has been amended subsequently. But something has to be done for the earlier period.

Shri Abid Ali: With regard to the complaint that large number of cases are going to the Supreme Court and High Courts, perhaps the figures may be helpful to allay the doubts of hon. Members. Of course, there were some very important cases before the Supreme Court and too much of publicity was given to those cases. The impression that there is too much of approach to the Supreme Court and High Courts is not correct. In 1956, 17,600 conciliations were undertaken and the number of cases that went to the Supreme Court was 17. Last year the number of cases that went to the Supreme Court had been brought down....

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: You mean for 1956-57?

Shri Abid Ali: The number of cases filed with regard to Tribunals which were appointed by the Central Government was 3 in 1956 and none in 1957. There were some cases against the decisions of the Tribunals in the States. But in 1957, with regard to appeals in the Supreme Court from the decisions of the Central tribunals there were none.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: It is a wrong statement of fact. I know one case in Delhi which has gone to the Supreme Court in appeal. It is a case of dismissal.

Shri Abid Ali: I am quoting figures which were....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That particular case may not have come to the notice of the Minister.

Shri Abid Ali: It is accepted.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: The Minister should know it.

Shri Abid Ali: Some hon. Members opposite were good enough to make some affectionate references with regard to me personally, saying that I was too much pro-INTUC. I am proud of INTUC and I always will be. I love INTUC because it loves the workers, because it belongs to the workers, because it has done immense good to workers. It has checked the evil forces in this country. It has helped the workers not only to get what is due to them but also to make the country strong. Socialism cannot come out of poverty. Workers know that the country is poor. Workers know what has been decided and what has been settled. It is a settled fact that we will have socialism and that whatever will be the prosperity of the country, they will have their due share in the prosperity.

Hon. Members have said that "if this is done, we will do this; if we want to be successful, we should do that". Now, this hand cannot make a condition to the body. It is part of the body. It cannot say that unless I eat, I will not cook the bread. The bread is cooked by the hands. But it

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goes through the month inside and then the hands derive power. The workers know this much that whatever collectively this body—ears, eyes, hands, legs, head etc. collectively—will go inside and from there the blood will be made and that will come to every vein in the body. The workers know it only too well. Now, whoever may like by whatever methods to create disruption, he should be convinced that so far as the workers are concerned, they are pucca Indians, the citizens of this country. They want to make their nation strong first. Being fully assured that they will have full share in the prosperity, they are working without any condition. It cannot be said that "unless this is done, the other thing would not be done". They will make attempts to mislead the workers and may induce the workers to ask for guarantees. But whatever they may do, the workers will not allow them to behave in the way in which they have been behaving all these years. The workers have been convinced that the policy of my hon friends will not help them. They have had enough of this. Change of heart resulted from pressure of public opinion. So far as the Indian workers are concerned, they know by now who their friends are and who come in the garb of friends simply to exploit them for party purposes and no more. They cannot be exploited now.

Then, while remaining an INTUC man and being proud of it, I cannot—it is impossible for me—merely because of my affiliation to a particular organisation do injustice to anybody on the ground that he belongs to an organisation whose central organisation is not INTUC. I cannot see that injustice is done to the workers because their unions do not belong to the INTUC. How can it be? Primarily, I am a man of the worker. I belong to them. I am one of them and I will remain one of them. So, whether they come through INTUC or through any other organisation or independent of any organisation, certainly we are pledged

to do whatever is right, attempting to do justice according to the requirements of the situation.

I must tell those hon. Members who take every opportunity to make such statements that these things will not make me deviate from the line that I have chosen for myself, in the same way as they have chosen a line for themselves. They feel that they are right. I do not quarrel with them. So, when I feel that I am right, they should not quarrel with me. Our lines are different; our objects are different and our means are different. Anyway, I am convinced that the policy which we have accepted is good and has been welcomed not only here, but outside also by the workers at large and the country. It is our pledged policy and it has been laid out in the Plan also. And I am sure with this we will be able to encourage the workers to do their part of the job and achieve the purpose for which independence has been achieved. The object of our achieving independence was not just to send away Lord Mountbatten and put Rajen Babu there. The purpose for which independence has been achieved has to be achieved and we are working on that line. And I am sure we will succeed in our efforts; hon. Members opposite should be convinced of it. Then alone it will be possible for the nation to achieve the object speedily.

श्री रा० क० बर्मा (निमाड़): माननीय उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं लेबर मिनिस्ट्री को धन्यवाद देने के बजाय अपने भारतीय श्रमिकों को सब से पहले मुबारकबाद देता हूँ कि हिन्दुस्तान के आजाद हो जाने के बाद उन्होंने कितनी ईमानदारी और मेहनत से अपने लिये ही नहीं, बल्कि देश के लिये काम किया है। हम हिन्दुस्तान के आजाद होने के बाद से यदि हड़तालों की संख्या को देखें, अपने उत्पादन को देखें, अपनी प्रोडक्टिविटी को देखें तो आसानी से पता लग सकता है कि भारतीय श्रमिकों ने हिन्दुस्तान के

आर्थिक पुनर्निर्माण में भारी योग दिया है। जहाँ तक गवर्नमेंट का सवाल है, मैं ज्यादा तारीफ नहीं करना चाहता हूँ क्योंकि मैं भी उसी पार्टी का एक सदस्य हूँ। लेकिन एक ईमानदार मजदूर होने के कारण और देश तथा विदेशों के मजदूर आन्दोलनों का जो अध्ययन किया है उस के आधार पर इतना कह सकता हूँ कि इस गवर्नमेंट ने पिछले दस वर्षों में जितना मजदूरों के लिए किया है उतना किसी गवर्नमेंट ने इतने थोड़े दिनों में नहीं किया। अगर हम पढ़ें हैं तो इतिहास को देखें, अगर हमारे आँखें हैं तो हम सामने देखें, कान हैं तो उनसे सुनें, लेकिन जो मचाई है उससे इन्कार नहीं करना चाहिये। लेकिन दुःख की बात है कि हम हिन्दुस्तान में मजदूर कार्यकर्ताओं के बजाये राजनीतिज्ञ ज्यादा हैं और अपने राजनीतिक उद्देश्यों की पूर्ति के लिये मजदूरों का और उनके संगठनों का दुरुपयोग करने हैं। अगर सही हालात देखने हैं तो वे हमारे सामने हैं। मैं भी तीस सालों से मजदूरों में एक मजदूर की हैसियत से काम कर रहा हूँ और सौभाग्य से मुझे महात्मा गांधी के नेतृत्व में काम करने का मौका मिला है। ग्रहमदाबाद में श्री नन्दा जी के नेतृत्व में मैं ने लगभग ११ या १२ साल काम किया और जब मुझे दूसरी जगह भेजा गया तो मैं चला गया। सन् १९२८ के पहले बम्बई के मजदूरों की पगार ग्रहमदाबाद के मजदूरों की पगार से २० पर सेंट ज्यादा थी और सन् १९३६ में हम देखते हैं कि ग्रहमदाबाद के मजदूरों की पगार बम्बई के मजदूरों की पगार से ३० पर सेंट ज्यादा हो गयी। तो यह किस आधार पर हुआ? आन्दोलनों से नहीं, गवर्नमेंट की कृपा या मेहरबानी से नहीं लेकिन यह सही मजदूर आन्दोलन के आधार पर हुआ। गांधी जी ने हमको बतलाया था कि यह रास्ता है कि तुम राजनीतिज्ञ मत बनो बल्कि सच्चे मजदूर कार्यकर्ता बनो। यह ट्रेड यूनियन के लिये बड़ी भारी आवश्यक बात है और मुझे इसका अभिमान है। गवर्नमेंट की कृपा

से हम ट्रेड यूनियन नहीं चला सकते। अगर हम ट्रेड यूनियन चला सकते हैं तो सही उसूलों के आधार पर और सही नीति के आधार पर। हमें मजदूरों को ज्यादा से ज्यादा दिलाना है और मजदूरों से देश को ज्यादा से ज्यादा दिलाना है। सही ट्रेड यूनियन का यह आधार होना चाहिये। मैं मजदूर आन्दोलनों के बारे में पार्लियामेंट को समझाने नहीं बैठा हूँ, लेकिन एक मजदूर कार्यकर्ता की हैसियत से मैं अर्ज कर रहा हूँ।

जब १९४२ में गांधी जी के आदेश पर नन्दा जी ने मुझे इन्दौर में भेजा। उस समय इन्दौर में एवरेज मिनिमम वेज १६ रुपये थी, बम्बई में ३४ रुपये और ग्रहमदाबाद में ३८ रुपये। आज मैं यह कह सकता हूँ कि इन्दौर के मजदूरों का वेतन, मैं डियरनेस एलाउंस की बात नहीं कहता हूँ, ग्रहमदाबाद और बम्बई से कम नहीं है बल्कि ग्रहमदाबाद और बम्बई के बराबर है। तो यह गवर्नमेंट की कृपा से नहीं हुआ। यह हुआ ट्रेड यूनियन मूवमेंट चलाने से। हमने मजदूरों से देश का काम करने को कहा, उन्होंने उत्पादन बढ़ाया और अपने अन्दर डिसिप्लिन रखा। अगर यह कहा जाये कि यह काम सरकार की कृपा से होता है तो मैं निवेदन करता हूँ कि केरल में आप देखें कि क्या हो रहा है। केरल में आज १२ महीने से कम्युनिस्ट सरकार है। इससे पहले वहाँ पर प्रजा सोशलिस्ट सरकार रही। वहाँ पर आप देखें कि टैक्सटाइल मजदूरों की क्या दशा है। यह चीज मैं आपके सामने रखना चाहता हूँ और जो बड़ बड़ कर बातें करते हैं उन्हें बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि उनके राज्य में जो टैक्सटाइल मजदूर हैं उनको व्यर्थ वेतन मिलता है। मैं थोड़े में निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ। मैं इन्दौर के और त्रिचूर के टैक्सटाइल मजदूरों के वेतन की तुलना करके आपको बतलाना चाहता हूँ। त्रिचूर में सीताराम स्पनिंग एंड वीविंग मिल में बेल ब्रेकर को २५ रुपया मिलता है, जब कि इन्दौर में ४३ रुपया मिलता है, मिक्सिंग

[अं. रा० क० बर्मा]

स्प्रेंडर को त्रिचूर में २१ रुपया मिलता है, पर इन्दौर में ३८ रुपया मिलता है, सक्कर को त्रिचूर में २० रुपया मिलता है, इन्दौर में ३४ रुपया मिलता है, कार्ड लेफ केरियर को त्रिचूर में २० रुपया मिलता है, इन्दौर में ४३ रुपया मिलता है, केन मैन को त्रिचूर में २० रुपया मिलता है तो इन्दौर में ४० रुपया मिलता है, थायंडर को त्रिचूर में २५ रुपया मिलता है तो इन्दौर में १० रुपया मिलता है, स्टीयर को त्रिचूर में २४ रुपया मिलता है तो इन्दौर में ४६ रुपया मिलता है, फेम बाफर को त्रिचूर में १५ रुपया मिलता है तो इन्दौर में ३० रुपया मिलता है, ड्राइंग टेंटर को त्रिचूर में २५ रुपया मिलता है तो इन्दौर में ५३ रुपया मिलता है, स्लेविंग टेंटर को त्रिचूर में २६ रुपया मिलता है तो इन्दौर में ५३ रुपया मिलता है, इंटर टेंटर को त्रिचूर में २४ रुपया मिलता है तो उसको इन्दौर में ५३ रुपया मिलता है। श्रीमान भगर मैं इस तरह से एक एक बताने बैठू तो उसके लिये काफी समय चाहिये। आज केरल में कम्युनिस्टों का राज्य है। वे वहां १२ महीने से राज्य कर रहे हैं। यहां पर वे कहते हैं कि यह सरकार ऐसा काम कर रही है और वैसा कर रही है। लेकिन सही बात यह है कि सरकार कुछ करने वाली नहीं है। सरकार तब करेगी जब हम अपना अग्रच्छा संगठन बनायेंगे, हम देश का हित सोचेंगे और मजदूरों का हित सोचेंगे। तब हमें गवर्नमेंट की सहानुभूति चाहिये और गवर्नमेंट के साथ साथ जो ग्राम जनता है जो कि माल को खरीदती है उसकी भी सहानुभूति हमें चाहिये। तभी हमारा आन्दोलन आगे बढ़ सकता है। केवल भगर हम मजदूर की ही बात करें तो ठीक नहीं। यह जरूरी है कि इस हाउस के अन्दर गवर्नमेंट हमारे लिये कानून बनाये और गवर्नमेंट ने बहुत से कानून बनाये हैं। गवर्नमेंट ने इस प्रकार मजदूरों के लिये बहुत कुछ किया है। लेकिन इन कानूनों के अन्दर कुछ खामियां हैं जिनका नतीजा

यह होता है कि सरकार जो मजदूरों को इन्साफ दिलाना चाहती है वह नहीं मिल पाता, बल्कि दूसरे लोग उनसे नाजायज फायदा उठा लेते हैं। हमें यह बात हाउस के ध्यान में लानी चाहिये। हमारे विरोधी साक्षियों का भी यह काम है कि वे ऐसी बातें गवर्नमेंट के सामने लायें। लेकिन हम गवर्नमेंट की हिटलर और मसोलिनी से तुलना करें यह कहां तक ठीक है यह एक विचारणीय चीज है। ऐसा मालूम होता है कि उनको यह परवाह नहीं है कि मजदूरों के साथ इन्साफ हुआ या नहीं, लेकिन यह तो मजदूरों का गवर्नमेंट से झगड़ा कराने के लिये तैयार है। हमको गांधी जी ने यह सिखाया था कि मजदूरों को यह सिखाओ कि भगर तुम उन्नति करना चाहते हो तो तुम्हें गवर्नमेंट और ग्राम जनता दोनों की सहानुभूति प्राप्त करनी चाहिये, लड़ने का काम मजदूरों का नहीं है। भगर उनकी उन्नति होनी है तो वह लड़ाई झगड़े से नहीं बल्कि समानता के आधार पर काम करने से होगी। ट्रेड यूनियन इसलिये काम कर सकते हैं कि उनमें बारगेनिंग कंपेसिटी होती है। भगर किसी ट्रेड यूनियन में बारगेनिंग कंपेसिटी नहीं है तो वह मजदूरों को इन्साफ नहीं दिला सकती। आज यह हो रहा है कि एक तरफ मिल मालिकों को गाली दी जाती है और दूसरी तरफ गवर्नमेंट को। तो मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि हमारा जो ट्रेड यूनियन ऐक्ट है उसमें बड़ी भारी खामी यह है कि कोई भी सात प्राइमरी मिलकर दस्तखत करके रजिस्ट्रार को दे दें तो यूनियन रजिस्ट्रार हो जायेगा और लोग बिना लाइसेंस के लीडर बन जायेंगे। आज हिन्दुस्तान में और कामों के लिये लाइसेंस लेना पड़ता है लेकिन लीडरी के लिये कोई लाइसेंस नहीं है। जिसने जाड़े होकर सरकार को कुछ गालियां दे दीं वहीं लीडर बन गया। यह कोई नहीं देखता कि इस यूनियन के कितने मजदूर सेम्बर बन चुके हैं। हो यह रहा है कि भगर कोई सा प्राइमरी

रास्ते पर बड़ा हो जाता है और मजदूरों से कहता है कि हम तुमको बोनस विलकायेंगे तुम बस्तकत कर दो। इस कामज को रजिस्ट्रार के पास ले जाते हैं और रजिस्ट्रार हो जाती है। यह कोई नहीं देखता कि कामज पर किसके नाम लिखे हुए हैं। यह तरीका ठीक नहीं है।

दूसरी बात है एप्रोमेंट और सैटिलमेंट के बारे में है। आजकल हो यह रहा है कि कोई भी श्रीमान चले जाते हैं कंसिलियेशन आफिसर के पास और एप्रोमेंट सैटिलमेंट कर हासते हैं और मजदूरों का बड़ा नुकसान करा देते हैं। मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि कंसिलियेटर को यह हिदायत होनी चाहिये कि वह ऐसा एप्रोमेंट सैटिलमेंट न कराये जिसमें मजदूरों का नुकसान होता हो। मैं आपसे दिल्ली की बात कहना चाहता हूँ। यहाँ पर चार कपड़ा मिले हैं। गवर्नमेंट ने एक यह सिद्धान्त ठहराया है कि एक ही सेंटर में एक ही इंडस्ट्री में एक सा करने वालों का भलग भलग वेतन नहीं होना चाहिये उनका समान वेतन होना चाहिये क्योंकि एक ही इंडस्ट्री है, काम करने का प्रोसेस भी एक ही है। इसलिये जो वेतन एक भ्रादमी को मिलता है वही वैसा काम करने वाले दूसरे भ्रादमी को भी मिलना चाहिये। दिल्ली में चार कपड़ा मिले हैं, बिड़ला मिल, स्वतंत्र भारत मिल, अयोध्या मिल और दिल्ली क्लाय मिल। यहाँ पर मिनिमम वेज ३० रुपये है पर कम्प्युनिस्टों ने अयोध्या मिल से २८ रुपये का समझौता कर लिया और यह भी समझौता कर लिया कि बोनस की मांग नहीं करेंगे और डियरनेस एलाउंस दूसरी मिलों से सात रुपये कम मिलेगा। श्रीमान हाल में एक समझौता बिड़ला मिल के प्रमदर हो रहा था। उसी रोज मैं भी जा पहुँचा। मुझे बड़ा आश्चर्य हुआ कि हमारे जोषी साहब जो कि कम्प्युनिस्ट पार्टी के लीडर हैं वह समझौता लिये लड़े थे जो कि कनटीन वर्कर्स के बारे में था। यहाँ पर डियरनेस एलाउंस ५६ रुपये मिलता था और वेतन

२६ रुपये। अब आप टोटल लगा लीजिये कि कितना होता है। लेकिन जोषी साहब कनटीन वर्कर्स के लिये समझौता करते हैं जिसमें लिखा है: "दिल्ली बिड़ला मिल्स के कनटीन वर्कर्स का समझौता।"

१. कनटीन में काम करने वाले कर्मचारी दो ग्रुप्स में बांटे जायेंगे। जून १९५६ तक जो कर्मचारी काम पर लग चुके हैं वे ग्रुप १ में होंगे। जो इसके बाद काम पर लगे हैं वे कर्मचारी ग्रुप २ में होंगे।

ग्रुप १ में भ्राने वाले कर्मचारियों की कुल तनखाह इस प्रकार होगी :

"बैसिक पे और मंहगाई भत्ता कुल मिला कर ५७ रुपए माहवार होगा।"

श्रीमान् ५६ रुपए डीयरनेस एलाउंस है और मिनिमम वेज ३० रुपए है, लेकिन उन का डीयरनेस एलाउंस और मिनिमम वेतन कुल मिला कर ५७ रुपए होगा, यानी जो डीयरनेस एलाउंस मिलता है, उससे भी दो रुपए कम होगा। हमारे कम्प्युनिस्ट भाईयों के ये समझौते हैं। और रजिस्ट्रार साहब उस को रजिस्ट्रार कर देते हैं और उस को धमली रुप दे देते हैं।

इस के साथ साथ आगे लिखते हैं :

"प्राविडेंट फंड १-१०-५७ से काटना शुरू होगा।"

मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि प्राविडेंट फंड ऐक्ट १९५२ में भ्रमल में आया और जितने भी मिलों, कारखानों में काम करने वाले मजदूर हैं, तमाम का प्राविडेंट फंड १९५२ से कट रहा है, लेकिन हमारे कम्प्युनिस्ट बरादरान समझौता करते हैं कि १-१०-५७ से प्राविडेंट फंड कटना शुरू होगा। क्या बात है ? उन बेचारे मजदूरों को पांच साल पीछे ले जा कर भलग डाल दिया गया है।

फिर यह तय किया गया है :

"जिन कर्मचारियों को ३० रुपए माहवार व सुराक पर रखा गया है, उन की तनखाह, और मंहगाई भत्ता ५७ रुपए नैट, बिसाल सुराक के, होगा।"

[श्री रा० क० वर्मा]

प्रर्षात, जो मिलता है, उस में से भी कट कर दिया गया है।

यह भी समझौता किया गया है कि :

“सालाना बोनस १९५६ तक की जो बंट चुकी है, वह इन कर्मचारियों पर लागू नहीं होगी और नहीं दी जायेगी।”

श्रीमान्, यहां पर ये लोग आई०एन०टी० यू०सी० को बड़ी बड़ी गालियां देते हैं, न मालूम क्या क्या कहते हैं, लेकिन ये लोग स्वयं कर्म क्या करते हैं, यह मैं इस हाउस को बताना चाहता हूं। मेरे सामने एक नहीं, ऐसे बहुत से केस हैं कि जो युनियन संगठित हैं, जो युनियन कुछ कर रही हैं, उन को ये गालियां देगे और और जहां मजदूर असंगठित हैं, वहां ये मिल मालिकों के साथ बैठेंगे और न मालूम किस तरह के समझौते करेंगे, जिन का कुछ पता नहीं लगता है। यह इन लोगों के बारे में मेरा अनुभव है।

अभी परसों इन्होंने भोपाल में समझौता किया है। भोपाल और इन्दौर में १२० मील का फ्रंट है। भोपाल में हमारी यूनियन नहीं है। इन्दौर में हमारी यूनियन है। इन्दौर में ये भुख हड़ताल करते हैं। क्यों भुख हड़ताल करते हैं। इस लिए कि इन्दौर में बड़ा जुलूम हो रहा है। क्यों जुलूम हो रहा है? इस लिए कि वहां पर कांग्रेस का मिनिस्टर है। उन का कहना है कि मिनिस्ट्री कांग्रेस की रहे, लेकिन लेबर मिनिस्टर कम्युनिस्ट रहे। यह कैसे हो सकता है? मजदूरों को इन्दौर में ज्यादा मिल रहा है, इस लिए ज्यादा नहीं मिलना चाहिए। क्योंकि उन को ज्यादा मिल रहा है, इस लिए हम उन में असंतोष नहीं भड़का सकते, हड़ताल नहीं करा सकते और हमारी पार्टी कामयाब नहीं हो सकती, इस प्रकार ये लोग सोचते हैं। इन का उद्देश्य यह है कि कम से कम दिलाना और मजदूरों में गर्बनमेंट के प्रति असंतोष पैदा करना यह उन की लेबर मूवमेंट है। मैं ने बताया है कि परसों उन्होंने भोपाल में समझौता किया

है। उस रोज मैं वहां पर था। वहां के कम्युनिस्ट नेता शाकिर अली खां साहब हैं। उन्होंने स्पिंग के अन्दर मिल मालिक के साथ समझौता किया कि ६२० आदमियों में से २८० आदमी कम कर दिए जायें। वहां मिनिमम वेज २६ रुपए है। उन्होंने समझौता केवल इस बात के लिए किया कि उन के आठ आदमियों न मिल में मजदूरों को पीटा था और मजदूरों को चोट आई थी। मिल मालिक ने डिस्प्लिनरी एक्शन ले कर उन आठ आदमियों को निकाल दिया। गर्बनमेंट कुछ नहीं कर सकी और वे लोग वापस मिल में नहीं जा सके। उन्होंने इस तरह के काम किए थे, मजदूरों को पीटा था। यह कोई मजदूरों और मिल मालिक का झगड़ा नहीं था—यह तो मजदूरों और मजदूरों का झगड़ा था। कम्युनिस्टों ने मजदूरों को पीटा, इस लिए उन को निकाल दिया गया। चूंकि आठ मजदूर मिल में नहीं आ सकते इस लिए उन्होंने मिल मालिक के साथ यह समझौता किया कि ६२० आदमियों में से २८० आदमी हम कम करा देंगे, हमारे इन आठ आदमियों को मिल में दाखिल कर लो। मिल मालिक ने कहा कि २८० जाते हैं और आठ आते हैं, ऐसा समझौता तो हम रोजाना करने के लिए तैयार हैं। जब कोई मजदूर कार्यकर्ता सही बात रखने के लिए जाता है, तो वे चेलों को छोड़ कर गुरू के पास जाते हैं और गुरू को गालियां देना शुरू कर देते हैं। इस की यह पालियामेंट कभी बर्दाश्त नहीं करने वाली है। उस ने तो सच्चाई के आधार पर देश का उत्थान और मजदूरों का कल्याण करना है। इस लिए मैं ने वे दो शब्द पालियामेंट के सामने रखे हैं। मुझे आशा है कि यह हाउस इस पर विचार करेगा। मुझे इतना ही निवेदन करना है।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Braj Raj Singh. He knows what time he wanted.

श्री ब्रजराज सिंह : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय बड़े दुख के साथ यह कहना पड़ता है कि देश

के सिर्फ पञ्चीस तीस लाख जो संगठित मजदूर हैं सिर्फ उन्हीं के सम्बन्ध में इस सदन का श्रीरम मंत्रालय का ध्यान जाता है। श्री असंगठित मजदूर इस मुल्क में हैं—खास तौर से खेतिहर मजदूर और ऐसे दूसरे लोग जो कि संगठित नहीं हैं उन की तरफ न ती श्रीरम मंत्रालय का ध्यान जाता है और न ही सदन का ध्यान जाता है। यह बड़े दुख का विषय है कि श्रीरम मंत्रालय की तरफ से उन के लिए न अब तक कुछ किया गया है और न आगे ही करने की कोई योजना है।

पहले आप खेतिहर मजदूरों के सवाल को लें। उन में करोड़ों लोग ऐसे हैं जिन को आठ घाने रोज से ज्यादा मजदूरी नहीं मिलती है पंद्रह रुपए माहवार से ज्यादा मजदूरी नहीं मिलती है और साल में सात आठ महीने से ज्यादा काम नहीं मिलता है। मैं पूछना चाहता हूं श्रीरम मंत्री महोदय से खेतिहर मजदूरों का दशा पर भी विचार करने की उन की कोई योजना है और अगर कोई योजना है तो क्या वह कोई कमीशन बिठा कर यह जांच पड़ताल करना चाहते हैं खेतिहर मजदूरों के बारे में—उन की मजदूरी वगैरह के बारे में—कानून बनाया जाय।

सदन में अभी आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० के बारे में बड़ी बड़ी बातें कहीं गईं। अभी पूर्वक्ता महोदय ने उस की निष्पत्ति को जतलाने का कोशिश की। मैं कांग्रेस और कम्युनिस्टों के अगड़े में नहीं पड़ना चाहता लेकिन मैं इतना कहना चाहता हूं कि जब खुद पूर्वक्ता महोदय मानते हैं कि सिर्फ कागज पर मजदूरों का नम्बर लिखा जाता है और उससे रजिस्ट्रार महोदय जांच करते हैं कि किसी संस्था की—यूनियन की रिप्रेजेंटेटिव कंपैसिटी क्या है तो इतना जरूर मानना पड़ेगा कि जिस आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० को नौ लाख मजदूरों की संस्था कहा जाता है उस को कारखानेदारों का सहयोग और उन की हमदर्दी प्राप्त है। नौ लाख मजदूर बाकई उस में नहीं हैं। आज देश में बार बार यह बात कही जाती है कि आई०

एन० टी० यू० सी० के साथ पक्षपात होता है। उस का जन्म कब हुआ? जन्म के बाद उस की ताकत दूसरी सेंट्रल केन्द्रीय मजदूर संगठनों से इतनी बढ़ जाती है तो सैं तो कहूंगा कि जरूर दाल में कुछ काला है। इस लिए आप को इस बात पर विचार करना चाहिए कि जब तमाम लोग इस बात को कहते हैं कि आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० के साथ पक्षपात होता है तो वह कोई हंस कर उड़ा देने की बात नहीं है बल्कि उस पर विचार करना चाहिए। इस सम्बन्ध में मैं चाहूंगा कि आपको एक स्पष्ट मजदूर नीति निर्धारित करनी चाहिए। बार बार यह कहा जाता है कि इन संगठनों पर राजनीति का असर न हो। ठीक है राजनीति का असर नहीं होना चाहिए। लेकिन यह तथ्य है कि आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० पर भी कांग्रेस पार्टी का असर होता है और यह कहने की कोशिश की जाती है वह उस पार्टी से सम्बन्धित है तो मैं समझता हूं कि वह एक निष्पक्ष नीति का परिचायक नहीं है।

इस सम्बन्ध में हमारा यह भी निवेदन है कि हम जो कुछ करना चाहते हैं जो हमारे उद्देश्य हैं अगर किन्हीं कानूनी दिक्कतों की वजह से उन उद्देश्यों की पूर्ति नहीं हो पाती तो सरकार को उस सम्बन्ध में कुछ कार्यवाही करनी चाहिए। अभी माननीय सुप्रीम कोर्ट के द्वारा जो फ़ैसला हुआ उसमें श्रीमजीवी पत्रकारों की समस्या हल नहीं हो पाई मैं बड़े जोरदार शब्दों में कहना चाहूंगा कि सरकार को इस और तुरन्त ध्यान देना चाहिए आखिर पंद्रह बीस लोग मुल्क में ऐसे हैं जो कि फ़ोथ एस्टेट के नाम से पुकारे जाते हैं—अखबार वाले बड़े बड़े लोग। अगर हजारों श्रीमजीवी पत्रकारों की दशा को न सुधारा जाय और सरकार जो कुछ करना चाहती है उस में कानूनी रुकावटें आ जायें तो इस विषय में शान्ति के साथ बैठने से काम नहीं चल सकता है। मैं निवेदन करूंगा कि श्रीमजीवी पत्रकारों की दशा को सुधारने के लिए सरकार जल्दी से जल्दी कुछ कार्यवाही करे।

[श्री बजर राज सिंह]

श्रम में रोजगार की सम्बन्ध में कुछ निवेदन करूंगा। इस पंच-वर्षीय आयोजन में ८० लाख लोगों को रोजगार देने की योजना है। हम सभी जानते हैं कि करीब २० लाख नौजवान कालिजों, यूनिवर्सिटियों और स्कूलों से हर वर्ष निकलते हैं जिन्हें नौकरी की जरूरत होती है। इस तरह पांच साल में एक करोड़ ऐसे नौजवान हो जायेंगे जिन्हें नौकरी की जरूरत होगी। इस पंच-वर्षीय आयोजन के खर्च होने के बाद बीस लाख और ऐसे लोग नौजुद हो जायेंगे जिन को नौकरी की जरूरत होगी। मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि हमारी जो नीति है उस में क्रान्तिकारी परिवर्तन की जरूरत है। हमारे यहां पंद्रह हजार की पूंजी लगाने के बाद एक भादमी को कारोबार में लगाने की योजना में परिवर्तन करना होगा। हिन्दुस्तान जैसे पिछड़ी अर्थ-व्यवस्था वाले मुल्क में पंद्रह हजार रुपए से एक भादमी को कारोबार मिल सके यह कोई उचित बात नहीं है। यहां पर एक ऐसी नीति निर्धारित करनी होगी जिस में आप हजार भाठ सौ रुपए की पूंजी लगा कर एक भादमी को रोजगार दिला सकें। तब हम देखेंगे कि हम ८० लाख लोगों के बजाय बारह करोड़ लोगों को रोजगार दिला सकेंगे। मेरी मंशा है कि हम ज़ाँट उद्योगों, गृह उद्योगों की तरफ चले।

16.00 hrs.

बीड़ी पूंजी लगा कर लोगों को रोजगार दिलाने की कोशिश आपको करनी चाहिए। एम्प्लॉयमेंट एक्सचेंजिस कायम कर देने से ही काम नहीं चल सकता है। जैसा कि माननीय उपमंत्री महोदय ने कहा है कि रोजगार दिलाने वाले दफ्तरों का काम यह ही नहीं है कि वे रोजगार दिला दें तो ऐसी सूरत में हमें यह देखना पड़ेगा कि किस तरह से लोगों को रोजगार पर लगाया जा सकता है। इसके लिए आपको कोई नीति निर्धारित करनी पड़ेगी और वह यह हो सकती है कि कम से कम पूंजी लगा करके लोगों को रोजगार दिलाने

की व्यवस्था की जाए। जब आपने ऐसा किया तभी रोजगार की जो समस्या है वह हल हो सकेगी।

आप रोजगार की समस्या को तब तक हल नहीं कर सकते जब तक आप यह कहते हैं कि बहुत अधिक पूंजी लगा कर ही एक भादमी को रोजगार पर लगाया जा सकता है। आप इस मामले में यूरोप और अमेरिका की नकल करते हैं जोकि हम से बहुत आगे हैं। वे इंडस्ट्रियली बहुत एडवांस्ड हैं और वहां पर उद्योगों में बहुत अधिक पूंजी लगी हुई है। उनकी नकल करके हम इस मुल्क में नहीं चल सकते हैं और न ऐसा करके हम बेकारी की समस्या को ही हल कर सकते हैं। हमारे यहां पर हर साल पचास लाख नए मुंह पैदा हो जाते हैं और उनके लिए भी हम को रोजगार का प्रबन्ध करने का फिकर करना है। आपकी इस सम्बन्ध में जो पालिसी रही है, उसमें मौलिक रूप से परिवर्तन किया जाना चाहिये। प्लान में यह सोचा गया है कि १५,००० की पूंजी लगाने के बाद एक भादमी को रोजगार मिलेगा। मैं समझता हूँ आप १,००० या ८०० की पूंजी लगा करके भी एक भादमी को रोजगार पर लगा सकते हैं जब आपने ऐसा किया तभी मैं समझता हूँ कि यह बेकारी की समस्या हल हो सकेगी। हमें यह देखना होगा कि कम से कम पूंजी लगा कर के लोगों को किस प्रकार रोजगार पर लगाया जा सकता है और जब आपने इसका कोई हल निकाल लिया तभी हमारी जो बढ़ती हुई बेरोजगारी की समस्या है उसका हल किया जा सकेगा।

Shri Oza (Zalawad): The hon. Member from Indore has effectively replied to the rather baseless allegation from the Opposition Benches that the I.N.T.U.C. is being boosted up by the Government. I join with him in rejecting that plea. We all know that the I.N.T.U.C. is wedded to the

Gandhian approach for solving industrial disputes. We also know that this method was tried long before, 1947, when we were not independent in this field and that too very successfully. At that time the Government was alien, was not at all sympathetic. The employers also were not sympathetic, and still in the labour field this method had yielded very good dividends, and as all know, as has been recently pointed out by the hon. Member from Indore, how the rights of labour were vindicated. At that time, even under the guidance of Mahatmaji, labour participated in the freedom struggle, when some other friends were rather trying to support the alien rule. Even then it could stand on its own ground and protect the rights of industrial labour. Now we have enacted so many laws in favour of the employees protecting their rights in various fields. They have also a Government which is a democratic Government. So, I wonder why they need the help of Government, or for the matter of that, any outside agency. It has been rightly asserted by my friend that the I.N.T.U.C. is strong enough not to need any such props which were needed by some other parties at various times in Indian history.

Reverting to other matters, the friends who have participated in this debate were mostly concerned about the industrial relations prevailing at present in this country. They were rightly concerned. Though industrial labour forms a very small part of the working population in this country, because it is engaged in production (except agricultural production) of all the vital necessities of the community, it holds a very strategic position. It is numerically very small, but, of course, now we have set the pace for industrial development in this country and we want to shift more and more of the working population to the secondary sector of industry from the primary sector of agriculture. But even at present, whatever may be the percentage of the industrial workers, because of their peculiar employment

in production, we are rightly concerned to see that industrial relations are harmonious and peaceful, so that the production targets that we have placed before us may be easily fulfilled.

In maintaining good industrial relations, three parties are mainly concerned—the employers, the employees and the Government. Talking about the Government, I think it has been playing its part properly, and I join with my friends here who congratulated the Ministry on its work during last year. I think it has effectively discharged its duties, and properly too, in seeing that industrial relations are peaceful and production is not hampered. I would even suggest that it has gone farther to the point of seeing that it is responsible for more or less spoon-feeding. To that extent it has gone and tried to see that industrial relations in this country are peaceful. So, so far as that part is concerned, I think we cannot lodge any complaint against it.

So far as the employers are concerned, we know that in season and out of season these friends say that they want to adopt the latest technology in production. They want automatic looms, they want automation to be introduced in industry so that the cost of production may go down and production may increase. They want rationalisation, and in so many other aspects they want to copy the industrialists of the progressive parts of the world, of the western countries, but so far as industrial relations are concerned, when the question of personnel management comes, they refuse to follow their counterparts in more progressive countries. I think they must change their attitude. If they want to develop industrial relations on proper lines in this country, they cannot have latest technology introduced in industry and have an out-moded outlook on industrial relations. What is called the carrot and stick method or mentality must go—either offering a temptation, as the washerman offers the carrot to his pet animal to make it work, or using the stick to make it work. We must realise

[Shri Oza]

that in this new context neither the carrot nor the stick is going to help the employers in establishing peaceful industrial relations and seeing that production goes up. If they are trying to copy the latest technology of the western countries, they should also try to see what has been done there in maintaining good industrial relations. That side of personnel management which tries to find out what are the points of irritation, why the job does not give satisfaction, why there is frustration or fatigue, will have to be scientifically looked into from department to department. The social psychology of industry has laid down that every group has to be studied, and we must avoid all points of friction. So, I think if the employers also play their role properly, industrial relations will improve definitely.

I have a word to say about the employees also. Employees clamour that they must have a voice in management, they want to participate. They say it cannot be kept a closed book. They want to know and to be taken into confidence as to where the raw materials are purchased from, how the affairs are being managed, where the products are sold etc. When they insist and want to participate in the management, they should also try to behave like the employers. They cannot afford to behave irresponsibly. When they want to be managers in the concern, the outlook of the employees also should improve, should advance, and they should approach all the problems in that way, not in the way of indiscipline, insubordination, or at the cost of production in the particular industry. So, the employees also shall have to bring that sort of attitude, and a frame of mind will have to be developed about production in industry. If there is such an attitude, quite a lot of leeway can be covered, and industrial relations will improve.

With your permission, I shall say one word about the employment as-

pect of this Ministry. The report of the Ministry has recently been placed at our disposal, and I wish to touch only one point, viz., the occupational pattern. If we study the statistics of the employment exchange, we find that the percentage of the applicants that come to the employment exchange seeking technical jobs is only 8.3. Twenty Nine per cent. were seeking clerical jobs; 4.4 per cent. were in search of teaching jobs; and 53.5 per cent. were unskilled persons. So, the requirements of the industry and of Government in the public sector are in regard to the technical jobs, while a larger percentage of applications is for unskilled jobs or the clerical type of avocations. So, nearly 80 per cent. of the persons who apply to the employment exchanges are not properly trained, and they do not fulfil the requirements in regard to recruitment. I think there is a scheme in the Second Plan for opening technical schools and craftsmen's schools and so on. But I think the tempo should be further and further developed. And even in the secondary schools, before a boy leaves the school, if broad landings are provided for carpentry, blacksmithy, the work of turners, fitters and so on, then I think we shall be able to take off so much of the load from the secondary schools, and we shall also be able to meet the requirements of those employers who come to the employment exchange for recruitment.

The Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri Nanda): Last year when I stood before the House to reply to a similar discussion, my connection with the Ministry was of a very brief duration and, therefore, I could then talk only in terms of the future, what obligations we were prepared to undertake what we proposed to do in different directions, and how we were dealing with the problems which we were then facing.

Now, I am called upon to acquaint the House with whatever attempts have been made in these directions

and whatever progress has been achieved. As I look back at the record of the year under review, I believe that the Labour Ministry is entitled to a measure of satisfaction. Mention was made here just a few moments ago about the code of discipline which has been evolved, and which has now been ratified by all central organisations of labour and all the principal organisations of the employers. It has been hailed as a big achievement, as a significant development, as opening a new chapter in this field. Of course, it all depends on what actually follows in the shape of implementation. And with the assurance that I have now received, I have no manner of hesitation in saying that we will be able to render a good account of ourselves in that matter also, and that may become a stage in a different kind of revolution. For instance, there is workers' participation in management. That is a small beginning. It is a good beginning on a voluntary basis. But it has got all the elements of very large growth both in content and in extent. And I think that with goodwill on all sides and with a proper appreciation of what is at stake in this country, the parties will co-operate not only in giving it a good chance, that is, to whatever has been started, but in developing it in the directions which we are visualising.

We have made a start with the workers' education. We have other small things also. We have now set up a steering group for study of wage problems. It is an important step. Here, the parties co-operate and collaborate; there are experts and there are representatives of the parties.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

That is something very different from what they attempted in the United Kingdom in the shape of the Cohen Committee's report; and they got very indifferent results.

That was imposed on the parties; that had not got the backing, the good will and the confidence of the working classes. But here, in whatever we are attempting to do, from the very beginning, and through all stages and steps, there is full collaboration of all sections of the workers and the employers, and their full association. That is a good augury for the future.

When I say all that, let it not be understood that I am not aware of numerous imperfections in our working. I do not say that everything has been done in the best possible way. But when I weigh the case of the Opposition in its totality, and all that has been said including those very pleasant expressions, and very dignified language which came from the mouth of an hon. Member who is not here at the moment, namely 'barbarous Hitler', 'stooges' and so on.....

Shri Rajendra Singh: I am here.

Shri Nanda: Thanks very much. It might possibly help the hon. Member to listen. With all that, I am prepared to say that in the totality, that case does not amount to so much, and I feel reassured. In the course of the discussion, numerous matters, individual cases, and matters of detail were brought up, and considerable ground has been covered by the Deputy Labour Minister regarding those matters. It should be possible for us to deal with them at individual level and at committee levels to save time. There were also other things which occurred in the debate which fall within the purview of the States or within their jurisdiction, although we may have passed certain laws about those matters. It will not be proper to discuss those things on the floor of this House. This applies particularly to the things which the hon. Member who just spoke from that side with great vehemence referred to. I am helpless; I am not concerned with those things. And as has been already stated from this side, those things are not true.

[Shri Nanda]

Regarding the question of States, I may add, however, that, of course, we are able to help; we can exercise a sort of influence; we have various methods and means of doing that. The Labour Ministers come together; then, we have the Indian Labour Conference where we are able to exercise considerable influence on the working of the States in this field. We propose to do that and to continue to do that.

I shall, therefore, take up some of the major points of criticism which have arisen in the course of this discussion. But before I proceed, I would like to clear the ground by disposing of some of the things which were said against the general administration of the Labour Ministry. The hon. Member, Shri Prabhat Kar, initiated the discussion and led the attack. I gather that he based what he said on some of his personal experiences, but very much on the strength of plentiful surmises and guesses. Another hon. Member followed in the same strain. But having pondered over all those things which were said, I feel that I had not imagined that there was so little to say against the Labour Ministry.

I have a particular aspect in mind. I feel a sense of delicacy about it. But I have to address myself briefly to that task also—things which were said against the general administration and the personal aspect of it, which was quite gratuitous. There was a personal reflection cast on the Deputy Labour Minister and, therefore, I think, on me. It is said that I have very sincere intentions and am making sincere efforts, I am a good trade unionist, but I am being misled. Sir, I could not be worth my salt at all and it would not be proper for me to remain here for a day if that were so. I do not want to be modest. I know my competence to deal with this kind of work, and I am doing the part of a Labour Minister. My hon. colleague, the Deputy Labour Minister, in an exceedingly able and loyal way, is doing his part. Things have been said

about him. Some case was pointed out. It was said he had shown some kind of personal partiality on political grounds. Now, until one knows what the material is, one cannot give an opinion. It is very likely—it is certainly so, as my colleague has pointed out—that when you see the facts, you will have a very good explanation.

Now, I will not labour this point very much. But there was something else said about the 'bias' imported into the administration of our work, both by the officers and by the Ministers. Two kinds of bias were mentioned—one anti-labour and another, some kind of a hostile attitude to other organisations. Now, so far as the officers are concerned, the Speaker pointed out, properly,—it was very well that he drew the attention of hon. Members to that—that it was not a very fair thing to do. But now that I have recalled what was said then, I must say that the Labour Ministry is very fortunate in its officers. They are doing their job in an excellent way in the face of great difficulties. They have very complex duties to perform, and so far as their 'anti-labour bias' is concerned, it is something which I have heard for the first time. I have had to encounter a different kind of criticism of the officials of the Labour Ministry, that they display excessive zeal and enthusiasm on behalf of labour. This is what I have heard so far. If at all, the Labour Ministry exists to safeguard the interests of labour and it should take a human view of its duties. If this is told to me, who has spent 25 years doing regular full time day to day work in one of the best organised and biggest unions in the country, who started in those days when the conditions of the worker were in every respect appalling, if I am told about the human aspect of it, what can I say in answer?

But what about this allegation of bias? Two things were specifically mentioned. One was that whereas representatives of employers and

industrialists had access to us, the workers' representatives had not. So far as I am concerned, this is startling and puzzling. With regard to the affairs of this Ministry, I may not have met any of those friends, industrialists and others, more than two or three times as against a hundred times and more that I have met the representatives of workers.

Shri Prabhat Kar: No charge has been levelled against him.

Shri Nanda: I thank him. But still the charge remains. The charge is against the Ministry and I am identified with the Ministry. There also I am absolutely sure. I know these officers. I know how many matters are referred to them by me, people whom I send to them, workers. They get a hearing. They closely interest themselves in the needs and conditions of the workers. But if there is anything specific, let me know. As far as my knowledge goes, even regarding the Ministry, this is not borne out by facts.

Then there is another aspect of bias mentioned. Two cases were cited, of amendments of law. They were supposed to be running in a direction counter to the interests of workers. Now, it is quite possible that if there is a certain feature in an Act which is found unworkable or which created any serious repercussions, it may have to be amended in one sense or the other. But what is the character of the whole series of laws that have been passed by this House, at the instance of the Labour Ministry. I would not take the time of the House because Members are familiar with that. Even not very long ago, the Industrial Disputes Act was amended, first by promulgating an Ordinance and then of course, by passing a Bill replacing it, when the Supreme Court judgment disentitled certain categories of workers from getting retrenchment compensation. Where closures were on *bona fide* grounds, then there should be no retrenchment compensation. That was the view taken. But we took a diff-

erent view of our duties and our obligations towards the workers. And what did we do? We did not take any time over it. We promulgated an Ordinance. This is only an illustration. There is so much else which I could put forward here, but I do not want to take up the time of the House.

Then another complaint against the administration was that it did not take sufficient initiative in coming to the rescue of workers in resolving disputes, and there were delays. There were one or two cases mentioned, where it was said that answers were being received, 'matter is under consideration', 'matter is under consideration'. Yes. If there are matters which cannot be disposed of in a month or two, it does not mean that progress is not being made. It may take a longer time; it depends upon the nature of the complaint.

Regarding these two specific cases where the answer is evident, I will send the information to the hon. Member. I will not detain the House on that. Nothing else was possible regarding those matters. The Supreme Court was dealing with the matter in some way.

Hon. Members will remember that there was an award in the coal industry and that was held up by a reference to the Supreme Court. If we had left things at that, the workers in the coal industry would not have got their wages still because that reference is still pending. But, we called the employer, the workers and we came to an agreement and wages are being paid.

I will be asked as to what happened in the case of working journalists where there is a reference to the Supreme Court. We could not do anything. I am sorry. I will come to that later on. But, if it is intended that we should go on intervening in every disputes where the leaders of workers get into difficulties—if they started going the wrong way, on wrong lines and have made a mess of the situation, if they had gone on

[Shri Nanda]

strike without going through all the various procedures and facilities and all that—I do not think we are prepared to do that. Those cases have arisen and we have not cared to interfere; and we may not do that again. But, why should that arise at all? We have made a whole series of procedure and also the machinery at various levels is available for all kinds of disputes. Why should not that be availed of? It is a part of the Code of Discipline that we should have recourse to that machinery, and not do something in contravention of that. That is the position regarding the other charge against us.

Last year the question was raised about implementation and non-implementation. When I surveyed the whole position, I found that things were highly unsatisfactory. Then, I thought I should do something about it. We are doing something about it. The results are not immediately available because it will take some time. But the line of action we have adopted is full of very great promise. Hon. Members would be possibly aware of that. We started in the Ministry a Department, which we call the Department for Evaluation and Implementation. We have asked the States to set up similar departments and to proceed on the same lines. This Department has already started functioning very actively. It issued a questionnaire to all organisations of the workers, to all employers and to the States; and, in all directions, it moved. I wrote a letter to Members of Parliament. We wanted to know what the situation was and where were those cases of non-implementation, breaches of agreements and of awards. We have got plenty of information. I am surprised that hon. Members connected with some of the organisations should not have taken notice of that fact. The Hind Mazdoor Sabha has sent me a number of cases, cases relating to U.P., Bihar and one or two other places. The A.I.T.U.C. has also

sent me some cases. So, they are co-operating. We are taking action on all those cases. This will be through various channels.

Ultimately, if this Code of Discipline has any meaning, has any value, it has to have bearing on all these things. If any employer or any concern fails to implement, not only are all those courses of action under the law open to us and we should take recourse to them to the fullest extent, but the representatives of the employers will be called upon to go to their constituents and get the things done. Otherwise, how can they expect the workers to produce more and to do this and that? For those who defy and who have no respect even for their own organisations and for any such kind of code, if they do not implement, for them we may have to think of amending our legislation so that much more deterrent punishment is provided. That will be the course of action.

So, regarding this question of implementation, I believe the various directions in which we are moving will together enable us to cope with this problem effectively. At the moment I cannot say that there are not cases of non-implementation. But, I hope that in the course of a few months we will be able to show that this evil, this malady, has been greatly reduced.

There was one other aspect brought out in the initial discussion here, the question of discrimination and partiality. We have accustomed ourselves to a kind of ritual which is being religiously observed from year to year. (Interruption) Members from that side bring up charges and allegations of partiality and the Government give certain facts and figures. The matter does not rest there. Next year, again, the same charges are made and the same facts and figures are given. It is not said that the facts and figures are wrong. They are true and correct; and yet the same charges are repeated. I think there should be an end to this kind of game. Let us sit

together and find out what exactly is the matter so far as facts are concerned

This charge relates to two or three aspects. One is that the machinery for industrial relation does not work in an even manner, in an impartial manner; and, particularly, applications for adjudication are not treated sympathetically in the case of the other organisations and the I.N.T.U.C., probably, is receiving partial treatment. I can show the figures here again. I will be repeating the same kind of performance.

Shri Feroze Gandhi (Rae Bareli): What is the use? Next year it will come again.

Shri Nanda: A much large percentage of the cases brought up by the A.I.T.U.C. and the Hind Mazdoor Sabha goes to adjudication. I have been advised not to give figures because it is going to be a futile performance and they will be ignored. So, I would rather not take the time of the House in reading all those columns of figures—year to year. Another part is...

Shri Feroze Gandhi: But do give the final figures. Here are the figures. In 1956-57, 41.12 per cent of the cases of the I.N.T.U.C. were referred to adjudication against 36 per cent in the previous year and 47 per cent in the year prior to that. In the case of the A.I.T.U.C. the figure is 42 per cent as against the 41 per cent in the case of the I.N.T.U.C. In the case of the Hind Mazdoor Sabha, the percentage is 47. It is in the ascending order in proportion to the strength of the feelings expressed here against the Government. It is 55 per cent for the U.T.U.C. I hope it will suffice.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: There is a fallacy in these figures.

Shri Nanda: Either it could be discussed later on or if there is any special point, I am prepared to deal with it even now.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: The fallacy lies in this fact that the A.I.T.U.C. exerts itself much more in the interest of the workers and therefore more disputes are referred for adjudication while the I.N.T.U.C. does not exert itself. One is an active policeman while another is sleeping policeman.... (Interruptions)

Shri Nanda: This is not the number; it is the proportion.

Sardar A. S. Saigal (Janjgir): The number of cases brought up by the other organisations is larger than the cases of the I.N.T.U.C. That is his presumption.

Shri Nanda: It is not so.

Shri Keshava (Bangalore City): The grievance is that the Government prefers the other organisation. That is the partiality that they say they are aggrieved at.... (Interruptions)

Shri Nanda: I will read out the figures. For the first year, 1954-55, it was 2243 for the I.N.T.U.C. 1769 for the A.I.T.U.C. 1077 for the Hind Mazdoor Sabha and 274 for the U.T.U.C. It is the same kind of story again and again.

Shri Anthony Pillai: Is it not a correct explanation that more genuine cases are taken by them?

Shri Nanda: Sir, I may give this information to the House. I attach such importance to the whole question of industrial relations that in spite of the fact that improvements have occurred, I still think there is room for further examination and joint action. I am having another session of the Indian Labour Conference very soon in May and the one major subject for discussion is the industrial relations. We will have an opportunity to examine every aspect of it at very great length. I want to give good satisfaction all round regarding this matter. This discrimination is alleged not only regarding adjudication but also regarding some other questions.

[Shri Nanda]

This was repudiated here several times. They say that Government is not fair in according representation to the different organisations on various committees and that the I.N.T.U.C. receives preferential treatment. I can give a very categorical answer to that. I can invite the hon. Members or a committee of them to come and have a look into the figures. There are very definite instructions to the officers that in this matter as well as in all other matters, there has to be an absolute impartiality. I am an I.N.T.U.C. man but as a Minister I have to be fair and even-handed to all. These instructions are being carried out.

Representation is on the basis of the numerical strength of the membership of the various unions, with something added to that. There is a little weightage for those who are, may be, less strong than the strongest organisation. In several cases, we do not even consider the numerical superiority of the I.N.T.U.C. We give parity and on a number of committees and groups, there is one person from I.N.T.U.C. and one from the other organisation. That is how we function.

Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya (West Dinaipur): The other party will take advantage of your impartiality to gain power.

Shri Keshava: May I know how it compares with matters connected with the Kerala Government?

Shri Nanda: I am in fairly close touch with what is happening in Kerala. I have been there and spent several days there. I have a record here with me about that. But that is not relevant here.

About International representation, it is not our discretion. We are governed by certain directives and we have to comply with those directives. There is nothing that we can do in this matter.

But there was one particular complaint which has a bearing on my answer. It is that the verification process is itself not fair, that is to say, the membership is verified by the Government and on the basis of those figures a decision is taken. It is a question of administration of certain procedure. If there is any flaw in that procedure, let us consider it, improve it and set it right. The procedure is being followed with complete fairness. There is no purpose for anybody to deal with it in any different manner. Only the other day, I had a talk on the telephone with my hon. friend opposite about this procedure for verification. I said: 'Have you any suggestions so that it may be made more satisfactory from your point of view'. One or two suggestions were made and I am considering whether we should accept them. I need not go into details. But the procedure will be made as satisfactory as possible from every point of view and there will then be no such room for any kind of complaint.

This complaint about partiality brings me to another aspect of the situation in the country—lack of unity in the ranks of the trade unionists. The result is this. They are weak. They could not have that powerful voice and they could not develop that strength which could so very well be used for the good of the workers and for the progress of the country. All these great possibilities which reside in the working class are not being fully used. The shortcomings of leadership are there of course but this aspect of the matter is itself very disturbing. I wish it were possible to set aside all these divisions in the ranks of the workers and have a single organisation everywhere. But the difficulty is that the political parties like to push their power aims through trade unions.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: What about your Party?

Shri Nanda: I have said that political parties are doing so. I did not say that some one party did so. Why should he think that I am singling out one Party?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member does not belong to any Party and so the hon. Minister need not worry himself.

Shri Nanda: If they could refrain from exploiting them or using them for political ends, I think we will be rid of numerous difficulties which now beset the path of the workers. That may not be capable of immediate realisation. Still something next best can be done, and that is what I have offered to do. I have written to the various organisations: Why could they not come together, have some kind of accord among themselves, just as we have evolved a code of discipline for the workers and the employers? Sir, it will take me time to read some very interesting features of it. So I will not do it. But I was thinking of the other stages. Why not all the organisations come together and at least come to some kind of an understanding that such courses of action on the part of any union which may damage the interests of the workers of the industry should be avoided? I think it should be possible. I have written to them offering my good officers in that behalf. This course I propose to pursue, that is, trade union unity to be developed in the country.

There were references to that. And after having heard one hon. Member, in particular the hon. Member sitting there, one was afraid whether we could come together, if we are going to call each other as Hitler and barbarous, and whether there will be any atmosphere for unity. But, Sir, I am reassured that possibly that hon. Member does not represent the views of any one on the side of the Hind Mazdoor Sabha also. I am in very close touch with them and I am...

Shri Rajendra Singh: What is the basis for your presumption?

Shri Nanda: Sir, I shall proceed.

Mr. Speaker: If the hon. Member can presume, the Minister also can presume.

Shri Nanda: Sir, it is not merely a presumption on my part: I said I am in touch with them. I am writing to them. I have written to their President to come and meet me regarding certain matters. The other friends are there and they have raised certain doubts, and I am going to clear them up. So I will not take up more time on this particular issue.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: Sir, before the hon. Minister finishes with this point, in fairness to the hon. Member who questioned about Kerala State—the hon. Minister said that there are a lot of records—can the hon. Minister point out if, out of the thirty-eight committees appointed by the Labour Department of the Kerala Government, even in one committee the INTUC is not represented?

Mr. Speaker: What I heard the hon. Minister to say was that he has a bundle but he is not willing to open all that. Why should the hon. Member try to get it opened? We do not know what it contains.

Shri Nanda: I do not want any inference to be drawn one way or the other from what I said.

Shri Feroze Gandhi (Rai Bareilly): Only very little time is left. You may deal with the newspaper proprietors.

Shri Nanda: I pointed out one very unsatisfactory feature of the industrial relations, that is trade union disunity. A still more unsatisfactory feature had been the question of delays in the working of this machinery. And we have in the Ministry done something about it to expedite matters, to ensure that so far as we are concerned from stage to stage things proceed quickly. Certain instructions have been given and model rules have also been conveyed to the States.

[Shri Nanda]

But there is another way in which things get held up. That is, we may make things as prompt as possible on our side. But we cannot help people exercising certain rights under the Constitution. I do not want to pronounce on the merits of the Supreme Court judgment regarding the working journalists. It is not for me. Any citizen can exercise his rights under the Constitution.

Shri Jadhav (Malegaon): It will be very difficult for you to solve this problem.

Shri Nanda: Let me have my say first. This matter affects not only the working journalists. It is not only the Supreme Court. There are the High Courts also. Large numbers of cases go to the High Courts too—though I may say that during the last year there has been some decline in these references, particularly to the Supreme Court, much fewer references have gone.

I cannot say immediately what the remedy is going to be generally. But I am absolutely sure that this is a deplorable state of affairs, for this reason. It is not a property suit where you go and remain in court for ten years or twenty years, and your heirs will get the money. Here is the workers' life, from day to day they have to live. The suspense and irritation which are caused do create harm. Here it is not only the worker, it is the industry. What atmosphere of goodwill can be created if there are delays and irritating delays to which there can be no end—two years or three years? (An Hon. Member: More than that). This is the situation. It is not a matter of a kind of a civil procedure; it is a matter like one at a criminal procedure level. That is the kind of despatch that should be there about such things.

But what is the way out of it? We may be examining other possibilities, other avenues of reducing these delays under the Constitution. But there is

one remedy which I am absolutely sure we could apply. After all, who goes to the courts? It is the employers who go to the courts mostly. If the employers want these other things from the workers—productivity and discipline and this and that—they have on their side to show to the working classes that they will not permit any kind of frivolous references to be made. There will have to be a sieve provided through which all these have to go, so that only such as are of big magnitude as involving big issues that can be allowed and the rest should be held up. And I believe that when we sit together again, we are going to consider this matter of conventions to be established.

And there is something else also. What I am trying now, possibly we might convey in other ways also to the courts. They function under the Constitution. We cannot say anything about them. But there is some urgency about these matters, and we may take steps to see that these references before the courts are expedited. Ways could be found..

Shri Prabhat Kar (Hooghly): That step may be taken now. I am suggesting to the hon. Minister that if the Labour Ministry at least takes up this matter with the Supreme Court Office, the cases may be expedited, the hearing may be expedited. That could be done by them.

Shri Nanda: That is what I was thinking of. There may be a Special Bench for such cases. Various ways could be thought of. All this will have to be done.

The question of working journalists particularly is a special case. I have been with them in this agonizing suspense—over what a long period? I think the Press Commission came some time in 1952, and then various things, the Press Commission Report, the passage of the Act here and the appointment of the Wage

Board and then its decision. And after that there is nothing. Now, certainly this cannot be tolerated. I congratulate the working journalists on the extreme patience they have shown. (Interruption.) And, therefore, they should not be over-taxed. I agree that their endurance should not be tried too far.

Shri Jadhav: These are crocodile tears!

Shri Nanda: We are fully conscious and aware of our obligations.

Sir, when your way is not clear you try to find out some other way. One way was that we might again make an effort—it was unsuccessful before—to bring the parties together and tell them that this will not do. The Supreme Court has done us a service also. I have read very closely and carefully the judgment of the Supreme Court. It has cleared the ground in a number of ways. It has shut out the various references of other kinds on grounds which might possibly have tempted other people to again go to the Supreme Court. It has also shown the way how to avoid their jurisdiction coming in—to some extent some light has been thrown on that. We might try to explore those possibilities also.

The two parties will be brought together very soon. The very first day of the Supreme Court judgment we wrote to both the parties asking them to meet us as soon as possible. It so happens that both the parties say that they will take another ten or twelve days. Therefore, it is only a question of days and not more. Let us hope that good sense will prevail on all sides and something will emerge out of these discussions which will be of a fair nature and satisfactory to all.

It may be said that we tried it once and we failed, and a question may be asked, supposing we fail again then where are those people? I would not like to give an answer now because we are going to make a genuine effort. So far as I am concerned, I told the working journalists and also the

employers then that, if on any technical grounds the Supreme Court throws out the decision of the Wage Board then it is our moral obligation to see that as soon as possible something is done which will carry out the intentions of Parliament. The intention was that there should be a Wage Board. The intention was that the demands of the journalists should be settled in a proper way. That intention somehow or other has been frustrated. There is understandable frustration on the part of the working journalists also; I quite realise that. Therefore, it will be up to us all to see and find a way for that. It may be that we can think of a National Tribunal or another Wage Board. It may not all be free from objection, and able to prevent further delays occurring. We will have to try and devise a way which will be the most expeditious. I think, Sir, I should let this rest here.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: You are at your wits' end; you do not know what to do.

Shri Nanda: There are some people who have so much wits that they can live by them.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: We expect something better from the Minister than such vague observations.

Shri Nanda: Well, Sir, sometimes the best thing is.....

An Hon. Member: Wait.

Shri Nanda: The best thing is not to do a thing which will lead to absolutely no result whatever. It takes an amount of time to reach a certain conclusion, it cannot be helped.

I have dealt with this aspect of the question of delays. I may say, Sir, that generally the industrial relations machinery has worked fairly well. The number of settlements has been very considerable. About half the number of cases have been settled without going to any adjudication. The number of adjudications, of course, has been very small relatively. So far as industrial peace is concerned, during

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the last two or three years the situation has improved though I am not at all satisfied. With the help of various measures that have been taken—the code of discipline etc., if they are worth anything—we should be able to bring about a considerable reduction in industrial unrest, in the number of strikes, sabotages, etc. I have particularly made it very clear to the parties, namely, the new direction in which we have moved—the workers' participation. It is not simply that that thing is all that is intended; we want to go ahead very quickly in all these matters. In a period of another year or so I believe much more should be done than has been done so far.

I have dealt with several aspects of this vexed problem of delays and other features of industrial relations in the country. I would like to refer to another very difficult problem, the problem of employment and unemployment. That has been mentioned by several hon. Members in the course of their speeches. I must say that I do not feel that I am in a position to render a very good account on this score. I do not feel quite happy myself. That is the position. But that does not mean that the best possible is not being done; the best possible is not quite adequate. Employment is increasing. Unemployment is, at the same time, increasing, because the number for which provision has to be made is so large. Taking a person away from agriculture, because land cannot bear any larger burden, and putting him in industry requires investment which varies from a few hundreds of rupees to several thousands of rupees, 15,000, or so. An advice was given that if you have a smaller investment per head, you can employ a larger number of people. Then the average comes to about Rs. 6,000 or so. But should we not have our steel works? Should we not have our big industries and heavy industries? For the sake of employing a larger number now, immediately, if we reduce investment, what will happen? Well, the whole foundation

of development will be impaired. What is that large amount of investment that is being made in these steel works and in the other heavy industries today? In the last two years or so, the employment potential was reduced because of this. But later on it would be increased again because of this, because that investment having been made now, the further stages will be more labour-intensive. So, we have invested in the public sector about Rs. 1,500 crores, within these two years, and the rate of it is going to be stepped up. This Rs. 1,500 crores in the two years was much more than what we had in the last year of the first Plan but for the average of the first Five Year Plan, so that the stepping up of the investment is there. There are already difficulties being felt and experienced in implementing this Plan. The friends over there are very keen, as we are, that this Plan should be implemented fully. The best is being done. Therefore, if still there is unemployment, it means that it is a problem which can only be solved over a period. A particular aspect of this problem again is this question of educated persons and their unemployment. The matter is more acute in their case. But one reason is this. I would not go on giving all the figures regarding the circumstances which produced this problem. The number of persons who matriculate and who graduate every year and the rate at which it increases, compared to the rate at which, say, the income increases and the tempo of investment goes up, is far greater. The latter is nothing when compared. So, there is an inherent difficulty in that. But we have to correct the situation in both these matters. Certain steps are being taken regarding educated persons, which have yielded a measure of success. These orientations, the training centres, production centres—and there are other schemes also—have not yet made very big progress but we have tested the ground and we feel that there is a way of improving the situation to an extent. The function of the Labour Ministry, Sir, should be made

clear. In the matter of employment, it has a very limited function. It is the function of the whole plans of economic development to produce employment. The Labour Ministry has a restricted role in this matter. It has to assess the situation regarding employment and unemployment. It has to see how the plan is progressing, in what direction in what regions are things worse than in others and so on. Regarding this matter of information, we are improving the position. The employment market information schemes are adopted in Delhi and they are adopted everywhere. They gather the information regarding these things.

Then, there is the question of closures. May I know how much time I may take?

Mr. Speaker: I am expecting the hon. Minister to close at any time. I am prepared to sit as long as the House is prepared.

Shri Nanda: The question of wages—25 per cent. increase—was also referred to. If hon. Members want to have any answer from me....

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: There is another point also.

Mr. Speaker: We can sit till 5-30. Let the hon. Minister give satisfaction to hon. Members.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: There is another point also. For instance, railway employees in the light railways in Bihar and district board employees are not being given their salaries for the last five months. They have been virtually thrown out of their work and they are starving. Can the Government do anything about it?

Shri Nanda: It is a very important thing, but it is not of that order of difficulty as the question which we are discussing.

I was very agreeably surprised, rather glad, when I found Mr. Somani referring to the question of employ-

ment and closures. He is upset about it and he wants that something should be done. I think if we two together tackle this problem, we will solve it. Closures occur because in most cases, mismanagement has been rampant in certain industries or certain units over a period and this situation arises when a plant cannot continue to function. It is not profitable at all and it has to close down. When it becomes unfunctionable, to go to the rescue of that plant raises big problems: Who is to give the money, how long will it take to come back and so on. That has happened in certain cases. So, to my mind it appears that this problem has to be solved in a more radical way. This uneconomic unit will become a drag on the general working in other ways also. For instance, in the problem of wage fixation, if they are to be taken into account and if they also do not have any production, what is going to be the position regarding the claims of the workers?

So, this problem has to be tackled. We have set up again a group of experts to look into this problem. Some work has been done on that. The first thing is to see that there is a more active role assumed by the States in this matter. We have got the Industries Development Regulation Act which has been used I think about eight times or so for the purpose of investigation. When a particular establishment is in difficulties, then we order investigation. Perhaps some further action can be taken. But it has not proved to be very fruitful. So, I think our responsibility lies in two stages. The first is this. It is not purely the concern of the employer as to what he does, because ultimately the lives of thousands of workers and also production and other interests in the community are affected. Therefore, there should be a watch on a part of the community's apparatus of production. It does not mean that private enterprise can have things their own way altogether irrespective of the consequences

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for others. So, some way has to be found whereby early timely action is taken, precautionary measures are taken, so that these concerns do not sink down to that level. When such a thing does arise, it takes a long time to take necessary steps for liquidation etc. Meanwhile, the whole thing is in a state of suspense. So, we should take measures which will enable us to make a quick transfer, change-over of the concern, and remove the burden of liabilities which it has incurred owing to mismanagement in the past. Then, if the physical assets are all right, if the machineries are in running order, if those burdens are removed, the workers can get employment and the industry will work smoothly. We are working in these lines, and we hope to find out some way of dealing with this matter.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: How do you get over the mortgagee's interest? It is not so easy as all that.

Shri Nanda: In liquidation these are all lawyers' problems. We can find some lawyers who will solve these problems.

Shri Sonavane rose—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister has no time to reply to questions.

Shri Sonavane: It is a very important problem.

Mr. Speaker: If it has not been already referred to, it is not important.

Shri Sonavane: It has been referred to by hon. Members.

Mr. Speaker: Then the hon. Minister may or may not reply. He may go on. I will not allow interruptions hereafter.

Shri Sonavane: There are hon. Members who are asking questions. Why are we not allowed to put questions? I come from the constituency where this problem is agitating the minds of the people.

Mr. Speaker: The last straw on the camel's back.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: Otherwise, he will not get votes.

Mr. Speaker: What is it that the hon. Member wants to know?

Shri Sonavane: The hon. Minister has said just now that the machinery that has been there under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act has not been fruitful and investigations have been ordered. I want to know how much time it will take to complete that investigation, because already six months have passed and there is yet no report. The management has gone to the sink. May I know the steps that will be taken against that particular unit?

Shri Nanda: Which is that particular unit?

Shri Sonavane: The Sholapur Spinning and Weaving Mills.

Shri Nanda: I will answer that in a minute. I have been personally attending to that matter. I called the employers' and the workers' representatives together and some decisions were taken on some kind of unemployment relief and about the working of the concern. That was only a few days ago.

Shri Jadhav: The Committee has not condescended to go to Sholapur yet.

Shri Nanda: I need not pursue this matter. As I said, this is being attended to.

I will now come to one of the most vital issues for the working class and the industry and that is the question of wages. I have before me the charter of demands, to which reference was made, the charter of demands which was presented to the Prime Minister and also to the Chief Ministers of the various States. The first demand is a minimum increase in all current wages by 25 per cent.

as an interim step towards prescribing the long-promised fair wages in all the organised industries; secondly, immediate merger of dearness allowance with basic wage and thirdly, immediate introduction of price control of essential commodities etc.

These three things go together. The most spectacular demand is the first one—a 25 per cent. increase in wages. There are two divergent views about this question of a wage increase, standing on two extreme ends. One view is that because of our problem of economic development, the needs of investment and the Plan and the inflationary pressures that are being generated, the workers should stay their hands, should exercise forbearance and there should be a wage restraint and nothing should be done. So much so that when we set up a Wage Board some time back, I saw a number of newspapers in which the working journalists are of course naturally employed, enquire, "Why this setting up of a Wage Board under these conditions? Will it not generate inflation and create a price spiral?" I am totally out of sympathy with that attitude. I do not believe in a wage freeze. I want the success of the Plan also. But what does it mean? These plans will proceed from one five-year period to another five-year period. Pressures are not going to be relaxed. The need for investment is not going to disappear. Therefore because of that has nothing to be done for the improvement of their living standards? If that is the question, the answer will be 'no'. These inflationary pressures do not arise only out of the workers' wages. It is perfectly true but on the other side this kind of a demand, irrespective of anything else, that there should be an increase of 25 per cent. immediately for all workers, does not appear to me to be a reasonably conceived proposal.

Shri Anthony Pillai: What, do you think was justified?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister should not be interrupted.

Shri Nanda: The Plan has laid down some kind of a view of the future. What does the Plan envisage for the working class? It says that real wages should increase. The wage structure should be of that kind with an increasing real wage. We want real wages to increase progressively and for larger and larger number of persons, not only for a few persons and not to do things which may give them an increase now and create for them a situation which happened in Sholapur, for example—not a wage increase of that kind, unemployment and the workers clamouring for something to be done, even accepting two-thirds of their wage scale. Therefore these are two connected aspects. Our objective is not wages only. We have another objective also, that of employment—not only employment for the present workers but we want to have such wages and such standards made available to a larger and larger number of workers in the country. That is our problem and our programme. So, it appears to me that those, who made the demand, had something in mind. They have mentioned it here that the wages have not increased in proportion to the rise in cost of living, that the wages have not increased in proportion to the proportion of productivity, that the wages have not increased in keeping with the rise in national income and things of that kind. I have a whole set of papers regarding that and I accept their yardstick. But when you apply that yardstick, you find that they do not at all lead to any such conclusion that a 25 per cent. increase or anything even near that can be justified in the face of these figures.

Real earnings are derived from gross earnings and adjustment for changes in the cost of living which is reflected in our All-India consumer price index. It is found that there has been, taking 1947 as the base, an increase of about 20 per cent. in real earnings. That means cost of living has been fully

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allowed for. Compare productivity also. There has been more than an increase in productivity during this period. So, where is the case? But I will be told to go back to 1939 and even if I am not told I will state the position. I am taking 1947 as the base. There was a period between 1939 and 1947 when real wages fell down. There was a very very steep fall. Therefore if we take that period, the workers have recovered lost ground and have made some gains apart from certain other advantages and benefits which they have got through social security and other measures. It is very clear that on the basis of these considerations, they cannot ask for this. Will they say that even in an industry like coal which has had a big increase only last year, they should have 25 per cent.? That is what they do not mean. I saw in the A.I.T.U.C. Shri S. A. Dange saying that it is flexible, it is not a mechanical proposition. It means that it should be according to the situation in each industry. That is what it comes to.

Regarding this question of income also, how much has it increased? Has the national income increased by 18 per cent., per capita income by 11 per cent. and consumption by 7 or 8 per cent.? Compare it with what the workers have got. They have got more. Has the consumption increased for the whole of India? They may be thinking that the 25 per cent. relates to the 25 per cent. which is expected of the Plan to produce over a five year period. But that is yet to come. Therefore, judging by those very standards which they apply, this should not be pursued in that manner. In the other manner, I can certainly go with them. Let us have a look into all the claims for each industry. That is what the Wage Boards are there for.

There was some complaint that we have not set up wage boards for all industries immediately. It takes time. We have to find out the coverage, etc.

Preliminary work has to be done. We have already introduced Boards in three industries. We had to hold our hands for a time because of the suspense on account of the Supreme Court reference also. That was one thing which had some kind of a retarding influence. But, meanwhile let it not be imagined that because there is no Board, in that industry there is no way for the workers to get their just claims settled. There is the procedure of the tribunals all the time. In the course of the last year, several hundreds of awards have been given on the question of wages. Therefore, the demand for wages, if it had been a just demand, it would not have mattered so much. This is being backed by some kind of agitation, rallies, processions may be, and there are threats of direct militant action. I know that there will be no such action, because when we sit across the table, we will find what is possible and what is not. Since a way has been found, nobody would like to knock at a wall when there is a way of getting along in progress. But some harm will have been done. The workers will have been entertaining some expectations, and the kind of influences which we have ourselves generated and impressions which we have created among the workers, may recoil. It is good not to pursue that. It may be that some organisations want somehow to extend their influence among the workers. There should be other healthier ways of doing that. When an organisation becomes weaker, it thinks of these things. It was the H.M.S. which took the initiative. It was the H.M.S. which wanted a token strike. But, the A.I.T.U.C. exercised a restraining influence and said, don't have a token strike, immediately, let us make a demand. The irritations which were expressed here also are indicative of that feeling of weakness. That is not going to be improved or corrected by this kind of tactics.

Shri Anthony Pillai: May I remind the hon. Minister that the demand was originally raised by the I.N.T.U.C.

prior to elections? They have conveniently forgotten that after the elections.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: The hon. Minister said that 25 per cent. was justifiable then along with Shri Khandubhai Desai.

Shri Nanda: Some kind of demand is one thing. Demand for 25 per cent. immediately for everybody; that is another thing. I say, I welcome these demands, let them be examined in a proper way. Government can do other further things also. If the capacity does not exist now, steps can be taken to improve the capacity of the industry by modernisation and in other ways helping the industry in order that its productivity may increase, and there the workers can take a hand also. It may not be possible immediately, but with all the things we are doing productivity may increase, and what is not possible today may become feasible tomorrow.

I have come to the limit of the time which was allotted to me.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Workers in local bodies and light railways have been thrown out of their work as they are not getting their salaries for the last four or five months.

Shri Nanda: I have reached the very limit which you gave me, and I do not want to abuse this generous privilege you have given me.

The last thing I have to say is that it has been an exhilarating experience during this year to see the amount of co-operation and collaboration that I have received from all sections of the employers and workers. I can congratulate the workers also on creating more peaceful conditions, on agreeing to all those mutual obligations for discipline etc. and I hope they will be, and should be, rewarded for all that, because for all of us, as has been mentioned several times by the friends opposite, the successful implementa-

tion of the Plan is the goal, and all these things will count and will contribute towards the success of the plan.

Mr. Speaker: Now I put the cut motions to the House.

The cut motions were negatived.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the fourth column of the order paper, be granted to the President, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1959, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 72, 73, 74 and 126, relating to the Ministry of Labour and Employment."

The motion was adopted.

[The Motions for Demands for Grants which were adopted by the Lok Sabha are reproduced below—Ed.]

DEMAND NO. 72.—MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 16,01,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1959, in respect of 'Ministry of Labour and Employment'."

DEMAND NO. 73.—CHIEF INSPECTOR OF MINES

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 21,12,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1959, in respect of 'Chief Inspector of Mines.'"

**DEMAND No. 74.—MISCELLANEOUS
DEPARTMENTS AND OTHER EXPENDI-
TURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR
AND EMPLOYMENT.**

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 8,06,82,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1959, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment'."

**DEMAND No. 126.—CAPITAL OUTLAY OF
THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND
EMPLOYMENT.**

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 10,59,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1959, in respect of 'Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Labour and Employment'."

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, the 9th April, 1958.

[Tuesday, 8th April, 1958]

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| PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE | 8811 |
| A copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 184, dated the 29th March, 1958, making certain amendments to the Coffee Rules 1955, was laid on the Table under Coffee Act, 1942. | |
| REPORTS OF ESTIMATES COMMITTEE PRESENTED | 8812 |
| Sixth and Seventh Reports were presented | |
| STATEMENT BY MINISTER | 8812-13 |
| The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali) made a statement regarding laying on the Table of Lok Sabha of the Annual Reports, the Audited Accounts and the Budget Estimates of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation. | |
| DEMANDS FOR GRANTS | 8813-8964 |
| Discussion on Demands for Grants in respect of the Ministry of Labour and Employment concluded. The Demands were voted in full. | |
| AGENDA FOR WEDNESDAY THE 9TH APRIL, 1958. | |
| Further discussion on Demands for Grants in respect of the Ministry of External Affairs. | |