

(e) The question of determination of seniority of Material Clerks is sub judice in the Calcutta High Court and a decision will be taken after the court case is finalised.

### **Aid plan to reduce Child Labour**

2775. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:  
SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOW-  
DHARY:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government called "Aid plan to reduce child labour" in the country;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government are aware that the West Bengal Government has decided to introduce a scheme of financial assistance for non-institutional care of destitute children to reduce the number of child labour in the country; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The recommendations made by the Committee on Child Labour are under consideration by the Empowered Committee recently appointed by the Government.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Scheme is being studied.

### **Indo-Asean Cooperation in Trade, Industry and Technical Fields**

2776. SHRI P. M. SAYEED:  
SHRI GHULAM RASOOL  
KOCHACK:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Association of South-Eastern Nations have agreed

to take several steps to enhance co-operation in trade, industrial and technical fields;

(b) if so, whether talks in this regard were held in Kuala Lumpur in the month of May, 1980;

(c) what was the outcome of the talks held between Indian and ASEAN officials during the meeting meeting is laid on the Table of the try at present, State-wise?

(d) what are the other steps likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) A copy of the Joint Press Statement issued at the conclusion of the meeting is laid on the table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-994/80].

(d) Proposals under consideration will be discussed with the appropriate ASEAN authorities regarding their further implementation.

### **Unemployed Persons, State-Wise**

2777. PROF. RUP CHAND PAL:  
Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state the number of registered unemployed persons in the country at present, state-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH): The available information, which relates to the number of job-seekers (all of whom are not necessarily unemployed) who were on the Live Register of Employment Exchanges in each State/Union Territory as on 30-4-1980, is given in the statement attached.