

Report of Committee on Consumers' Price Index Numbers

2687. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:
Will the Minister of PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be
pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee on Con-
sumer Price Index numbers submitted
its report to Government in February,
1978;

(b) if so, the reasons why the said
report has not been laid on the Table
of the House;

(c) whether any member or mem-
bers of the Committee attached notes
of dissent to the report; and

(d) if not, the salient features of
those notes?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR
(SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a)
to (d) Yes, Sir, the Report including
three separate Minutes of Dissent by
five members representing the interest
of employers and workers is under
study. The Hindi version of the Re-
port is under preparation and will be
ready shortly. The Report will soon
be laid on the table of the House.

**Definition of Casual Workers as
Workmen**

2688. SHRI K. A. RAJAN:

SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN
NAIR:

Will the Minister of PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be
pleased to state:

(a) whether the Madras High
Court has made a judgement that the
workers employed on a casual or
ad hoc basis are "workmen" within
the meaning of the term defined in
the Workmen's Compensation Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have a
proposal under consideration to ex-
tend this statutory recognition to
other labour legislations also; and

(d) if so, the details?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND
PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR.
RAM KIRPAL SINGH): (a) and (b)
The Madras High Court is reported to
have held that a casual labourer,
Per se, cannot be denied the rank of
a workman contemplated under the
Workmen's Compensation Act. Casual
or non-regular employment has not
been excluded from the ambit of the
statute.

(c) and (d). Casual Labour emp-
loyed in connection with employer's
trade and business are already covered
under the Workmen's Compensation
Act, 1923, subject to the conditions of
wage limit etc., being satisfied. The
judgment of the Madras High Court
confirms this legal position. The In-
dustrial Disputes Act, 1947, Minimum
Wages Act, 1950 and the Factories
Act, 1948 etc., are already applicable
to casual workers who fulfil the con-
ditions laid down in the respective
Acts.

**Appointment of D. D. General (Tech).
ICMR**

2689. SHRI BHAGAT RAM: Will
the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMI-
LY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a
retired medical scientist from some-
where else, has been appointed
as one of the Deputy Director Gene-
rals (Technical) of the ICMR;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Gov-
ernment thereto; and

(c) whether Government is consi-
dering to take necessary steps to
amend the bye-laws of the ICMR
suitably and bring the superannuation
age of the medical scientists in the
ICMR at par with the counterparts in