

**Shri Jaipal Singh:** Could we have a break-up of the number of quarters built out of the Fund and the number built under the subsidy scheme?

**Shri Abid Ali:** 2,153 by the Fund directly and about 1,000 under the subsidy scheme.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** In answer to Part (a) of the question regarding the wage bill, the hon. Minister said that the information is not readily available. In the case of ever so many industries, details of wage bills have been given. I want to know how long it will take to give us an idea of the total wage bill, referred to in Part (a) and whether we will be spared the necessity of putting another question on this?

**Shri Abid Ali:** I have the figure for 1955-56. If that would satisfy the hon. Member, this is from 358 collieries out of 853. The workers employed are 3,21,263 in these 356 collieries. They have paid Rs. 15,40,06,853.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Under the Payment of Wages Act, these collieries are expected to submit their returns. From the returns, we can calculate how much it is. What is the difficulty in getting the figure?

**Shri Abid Ali:** The difficulty is, they have not submitted the returns.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** May I know whether any collieries have been prosecuted for violation of the Payment of Wages Act, for not submitting returns?

**Shri Abid Ali:** Notice.

**Shri B. C. Bose:** May I know whether it is a fact that the Coal Mines Welfare Fund has now decided to construct houses at its own cost and if so, what is the bottle-neck in constructing more houses?

**Shri Abid Ali:** First, non-availability of land and secondly, steel and cement difficulties.

**Mr. Speaker:** The question list is over. I shall come back to those hon. Members who were absent at the time

when they were called. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** again absent. Then, there is a Short Notice Question in the name of **Shri Kasliwal.**

#### SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

##### Indian Officials held by Lahore Police

**S. N. Q. No. 1. Shri Kasliwal:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the P.T.I. report from Karachi appearing in the *Hindustan Times* dated the 10th May, 1957 to the effect that two senior officials attached to the Indian Deputy High Commission at Lahore were insulted, handcuffed and kept in police custody is correct; and

(b) if so, for what reasons?

**The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** (a) and (b). The Press report is in the main correct. The facts, as ascertained by us, are as follows:

On the night of May 7, five Indian nationals were arrested at 11 p.m. in Lahore by the local police on a baseless charge of creating nuisance in a public place. They were abused, handcuffed and manhandled, kept under police custody for a period of about six hours and subjected to needless medical examination on a baseless charge of being under the influence of alcohol. Of the five innocent victims, three were Indian Railway officials undergoing training at the United Nations Training Centre at Walton; the other two were diplomatic officers serving as Attaches in the Deputy High Commission for India.

Two other officers of the Deputy High Commission who came to know of the incident contacted them in the Mayo Hospital at 3 a.m. on the morning of 8th May. They informed the Sub Inspector that two of the persons arrested had diplomatic status. The Sub Inspector professed ignorance about their status and identity and gave an assurance that after consulting his superior he would immediately release them from custody. The Sub

Inspector however did not release these officers till ten minutes past five on the morning of 8th May and even then the car and the personal belongings attached from them were retained by the police.

Our High Commissioner in Karachi saw the Pakistan Foreign Minister on the evening of May 9th and lodged a strong protest, both orally and in writing, asking amongst other things, for exemplary punishment of the police officers involved. The Pakistan Foreign Minister replied that he would immediately look into the matter and get into touch with the West Pakistan Government. Our Deputy High Commissioner at Lahore also lodged a strong protest orally and in writing to the Governor of West Pakistan on 10th May afternoon. The Governor expressed regret at the incident and the embarrassment it had caused and promised a high level enquiry and serve punishment of the guilty persons if the complaint made is established. The Commonwealth Secretary also brought the full details of the incident to the notice of the Pakistan High Commission on 11th morning and lodged an emphatic protest against the barbaric behaviour of the police and asked for severe punishment of the offenders.

**Shri Kasliwal:** May I know whether any apology has been forthcoming from the Government of Pakistan for this dastardly act?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** I just read out a statement that the Governor of West Pakistan expressed his regret and he has appointed what is called a high level inquiry Committee and as soon as that report is out, he will take steps on it.

**Sardar Iqbal Singh:** May I know whether it is a fact that some of these officials were harassed because they were responsible for the recovery of some abducted girl in Pakistan?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** No. I have heard no such report.

**Shri Joachim Alva:** Is the Government aware whether the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps at Karachi has made any formal representation to the Government of Pakistan in regard to this unusual incident?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** No: This incident happened, as the hon. Member knows, in Lahore.

**Shri M. Khuda Baksh:** I read from the newspapers that a magisterial inquiry has also been ordered by the Government of West Pakistan and we are now informed by the hon. Prime Minister that a high level inquiry has been instituted by that Government. May I know whether this high level committee would be able to go into the matter on the plea that the matter is *sub judice*?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** I take it that both refers to the same committee. The words I used were the words used by the West Pakistan Government. The Governor has stated that he has appointed a committee and whether it is high level or not so high, it is not for me to judge.

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** May I know whether the Government has got any information with regard to the motive for this act which appears to be a deliberate and planned affair?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** How can I say? Motives there may be; we might perhaps connect with some incidents or some other matter. Hon. Members refer to something else, but we have no factual information about it.

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

##### First Five Year Plan Progress

- \*5. { **Shri A. K. Gopalan:**  
**Shri D. C. Sharma:**

Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state whether the Progress Report on the First Five Year Plan has been completed?

**The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra):** A review of the First Five Year Plan which combines