

The Employees' Provident Funds Act, 1952, has been extended to manganese mines with effect from 30th November, 1957; all the State Governments agreed to this extension.

Textile Wage Board

1437. { Shri Jadhav:
Pandit K. C. Sharma:

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

(a) the progress made by the Textile Wage Board; and

(b) when the final report of the Board is expected to be out?

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

(a) and (b). A detailed questionnaire has been issued by the Wage Board and replies to it are still awaited. It is not possible at this stage to give any indication as to when the report of the Wage Board will be ready.

Landslide in N.E.F.A.

1438. { Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
Shri Radha Raman:
Shrimati Maftida Ahmed:
Shri Bhagavat:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a press report published in the *Statesman* of Delhi of October 26, 1957 to the effect that Aka, a village in the Kameng Frontier Division of the North East Frontier Agency is feared to have been wiped out with about 400 inhabitants when a dam created by a heavy landslide across the river Towang chu suddenly gave way; and

(b) if so, what are the facts about it?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Government have noticed the Press report referred to. On inquiry, it was found that the report is without foundation.

A river, called Chuchu, was blocked as a result of a landslide but the level of the river is subsiding. There is no Aka village near this blockage.

Dock Workers Advisory Board

1439. Shri Tangamani: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) when the Dock Workers Advisory Board was formed and how many times they have met;

(b) what advice was tendered by this Board;

(c) the action Government have taken thereon;

(d) whether the Board have met in 1957-58 so far; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) The Dock Workers Advisory Committee was set up on the 11th February 1950 and it met only once.

(b) The main recommendation of the Committee was that an Enquiry Committee should be appointed by Government to enquire into the working of the Dock Workers (Regulation of Employment) Schemes in the ports of Bombay, Calcutta and Madras.

(c) The Committee's recommendation was accepted and a Dock Workers Enquiry Committee was appointed in January 1955.

(d) No

(e) A meeting of the Committee is proposed to be convened in the near future.

Trade with Burma

1440. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state what is the conclusion of the recent talks between the Government of India and Burmese trade delegation in connection with the promotion of trade between the countries?