

(b) if so, what are the details of the findings of the enquiry particularly the conditions responsible for accident;

(c) whether the Centre are aware that the safety rules in mines are often not followed which contribute towards such accident, and if so, whether all the coal mines in Orissa were thoroughly inspected to find out where such safety rules are not followed and when it was done last and the steps taken to ensure that such rules are not violated; and

(d) the names of the mines which have been found violating safety rules which lead to the death of miners?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) A Court of inquiry has been constituted on 1st September, 1981 to inquire into the causes of and the circumstances attending the accidents which occurred at Jagannath Colliery on the 24th June, 1981 and not on the 24th July, 1981, resulting in loss of lives.

(b) The inquiry is still in progress.

(c) and (d). The required information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

High Level Committee to Review the Gratuity Fund and Employment Scheme

679. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO:

SHRI E. BALANANDAN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have set up a high level Committee to review the feasibility of Gratuity Fund and Employment Scheme;

(b) if so, the terms of reference and the composition of the Committee; and

(c) whether the help of the States has been sought at this formative stage since such laws are mostly operated by them.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. VENKATA REDDY): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Committee has been constituted to examine in depth the suggestions regarding constitution of Gratuity Fund, introduction of Unemployment Insurance Scheme and a proposal to constitute a Fund to revive sick units. The composition of the Committee is as follows:

Chairman:

1. Smt. Ram Dulari Sinha, Minister of State in the Ministry of Labour.

Member:

2. Shri Sant Mehta, Labour Minister, Gujarat.
3. Shri N. M. Tidke, Labour Minister Maharashtra.
4. Shri S. Raghavanandam, Labour Minister, Tamil Nadu.
5. Shri K. P. Ghosh, Labour Minister, West Bengal.

Convenor:

6. Shri R. K. A. Subrahmanyam, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Labour.

(c) As the composition of the Committee would indicate State Governments are already associated in the examination of the proposals and they will continue to be consulted in the matter.

यूनिकेप लेबोरेटरीज पर कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा की बकाया राशि

680. श्री निहाल सिंह : क्या भ्रम मंत्री यूनिकेप लेबोरेटरीज पर ई० एस्० आई० की बकाया राशि के बारे में 21 सितम्बर, 1981 के अतिरिक्त प्रश्न संख्या 2580 के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार ने राज्य बीमा योजना के कारण यूनिकेप लेबोरेटरीज

पर 24,772.24 रुपये की घनराशि की त्वरित वसूली को सुनिश्चित करने के लिए कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा निगम को आदेश जारी किए हैं; और

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि इस सम्बन्ध में कोई कार्यवाही नहीं की जा रही है क्योंकि कम्पनी के कर्मचारियों और कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा निगम के कर्मचारियों में मॉठ-गंठ है।

भ्रम मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती राम बुलारी सिन्हा) : (क) और (ख). केन्द्रीय सरकार ने इस सम्बन्ध में कोई विशेष आदेश जारी नहीं किए हैं। तथापि, कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा निगम ने बकाया राशि की वसूली के लिए कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा अधिनियम, 1948 की धारा 45-ख के अर्धीन आवश्यक वसूली प्रमाण-पत्र दायर किए और वे देय राशियों की शीघ्र वसूली हेतु प्रयास कर रहे हैं।

Amendment of the Minimum Wages Act to the Basic Need

681. SHRI CHITTA MAHATA:

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE;

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to amend the Minimum Wages Act to the basic needs of workers at the level of the poverty line as defined by the Planning Commission; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) and (b). A Working Group of Labour Ministers have recommended that a provision should be made in the Minimum Wages Act to enable the appropriate Governments to fix a general minimum wage in respect of all employments not included in the

schedule thereto and that the general minimum wage should be fixed with due regard to the basic needs of the worker at the poverty line as defined by the Planning Commission.

This recommendation will be kept in view while formulating proposals for amendment of the Act.

Grant of Licences to FERA and large Companies

683. SHRI RAM SWARUP RAM: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the policy of Government in granting fresh licences to FERA and large companies;

(b) the details of deviations made to the policy of Government during the last two years on the grounds of exports import substitutions, wider disposal of ownership etc; and

(c) justification in each case?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND LABOUR (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) Under the existing policy of Government, companies coming under the purview of Monopoly and Restrictive Trade Practices Act and Foreign Exchange Regulations Act are eligible to participate in industrial activity connected with those industries which are included in Appendix-I to the press note dated 2nd February, 1973, without any restriction but after obtaining clearances from MRTP and FERA angles. In respect of industries not included in Appendix-I they will have to undertake a minimum export obligation of 60 per cent or more of the new or additional production which should be achieved within a period of three years. In respect of items reserved for small sector export obligation of a minimum of 75 per cent of the new or additional production to be achieved within a maximum period of three years is insisted.

(b) and (c). Selective liberalisation of the above policy has been made by Government in specific cases. In the case of leather industry, recently Government have liberalised the above policy in respect of leather footwear