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Title : Regarding release of a new series of Consumer Price Index for the Industrial Workers with the base year 2001.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): Sir, the Ministry of Labour has resorted to the arbitrary step of releasing new series of Consumer Price Index for the Industrial Workers with the base year 2001 as 100 points ignoring the unanimous opposition from all the Central Trade Unions.

Sir, in order to determine about the base year of the Consumer Price Index for the Industrial Workers, three meetings were held. The national level Index Users' meeting was held in the month of May, 2005. The meeting with the Central Trade Unions was held in the month of September, 2005. Recently, a special meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee on Statistics of Price and Cost of Living was held. In these three meetings, the representatives of all the Trade Unions voiced their concern over the faulty procedure adopted in the compilation of the new series of Price Index. The Government had deliberately failed to consult the Trade Unions, prior to the compilation of the new series, on the methodology to be adopted – the methodology regarding family budget survey, consumer basket, selection of centres and markets, etc.

Sir, the Government, in fact, turned a deaf year to the demand of the Trade Unions for the appointment of the Index Review Committee.

Sir, the Government turned a deaf ear to their demand for the implementation of the Rath Committee Report on the Consumer Price Index. These new series of Consumer Price Index will have an adverse effect on the Dearness Allowance of crores and crores of industrial workers. That is why, all the Central Trade Unions are opposing this and they are demanding the withdrawal of the new series of Consumer Price Index.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government that it should review and withdraw the new series of Consumer Price Index where the base year has been taken as 2001, which will adversely affect, rather scuttle the Dearness Allowance of crores of industrial workers.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Santosh Gangwar.

...(Interruptions)

श्री बासु देब अचारिया (बंकरा) : सर, श्रम विभाग ने औद्योगिक मजदूरों के लिए नया सीपीआई (2001) जारी करने का निर्णय किया है। यह निर्णय औद्योगिक मजदूरों के हितों के विरुद्ध है।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will try my best to accommodate you.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will try to accommodate you all. I will call you one by one. I cannot call all of you at the same time. I know how to accommodate you.