

(Amendment) Bill, 1993, as passed by Rajya Sabha on the 9th December, 1993.

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11.07  $\frac{1}{2}$  hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON FOOD,  
CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC  
DISTRIBUTION**

**Second Report and Minutes**

[English]

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN (Murshidabad): Sir, I beg to present the Second Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Food, Civil Supplies and Public Distribution on Annual Report of the Ministry of Food (1992-93) and the Minutes of the sittings of the Committee relating thereto.

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11.08 hrs.

**STATEMENT BY MINISTER**

**Withdrawal of Postal Strike**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): I am happy to inform the Honourable Members of this House that the strike by the Postal employees and ED Agents stands withdrawn with effect from 5.00 P.M. of 10 December 1993. Having regard to the Honourable Members' concern expressed in this House, I had personally appealed to them to call off the agitation.

The strike has been called off without preconditions and the various pending demands of the Unions will be discussed with them. The package of benefits agreed to before the commencement of the strike will be given to them and orders will be issued immediately. Such of the demands as would be beyond the competence of my Ministry would be recommended for sympathetic consideration in the concerned Ministries at an early date.

I have agreed to increase the interim relief from Rs. 35/- per month announced earlier to Rs. 50/- per month to every ED Agent. Furthermore, a few benefits have been slightly expanded to reflect the wishes of the employees better.

I would like to assure the Honourable Members and the citizens of this country through this House, that our efforts to give better postal services as well as to grant the justified demands of our employees will continue. I am sure that the entire Postal fraternity will make sincere efforts to restore normalcy and maintain the high standards of postal services as they have been rendering in the past.

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11.10 hrs.

**BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): With your permission,