

[Shri R. K. Khadilkar]

We have had no report so far from the Government of Maharashtra who are primarily concerned as the appropriate Government in this case, both in regard to the maintenance of law and order and the enforcement of the Payment of Wages Act. I am told the Home Ministry has got some report. However, according to the information made available by the Central Industrial Relations Machinery, discontent among the workers in the steel factory of the KT Group of Industries, Ambernath had been brewing for some time over the question of low wages. The trouble is reported to have flared up on the night of April 25, 1972 when the management failed to pay to the workers arrears of wages due on April 22, 1972. The workers are reported to have decided to stay on in the factory premises till they received their dues. The management sought the assistance of the Police to get the workers removed from the factory premises. This was resented to by the workers and there was a scuffle between the workers and the police. The Police are reported to have resorted to lathi charge to clear the workers from the factory premises and the workers retaliated by pelting stones.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour) : I had been there, Sir. This is wrong.

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : The police opened fire as a result of which 14 persons sustained bullet injuries and nine of these are reported to have succumbed to bullet injuries... (*Interruptions*) Ten police personnel are also reported to have received injuries. The Collector of Thana District has ordered a magisterial enquiry into police firing.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Let there be a judicial inquiry. Nine people have died.

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : The Government of Maharashtra have also announced the institution of a judicial inquiry by a Sessions Judge. That is the position.

The Government of India deplore it very much that a dispute arising from delay in the payment of wages should have led to these serious developments involving the death of such a large number of workers...

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Large number ? Had it been only one killed, you would have been satisfied ?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR ; Beyond this we have no other information. As I said, the Home Ministry has got some information. As soon as we have got all the information, we will study them in order to decide on the steps that may be necessary to prevent such tragic occurrences in the future.

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA (Domariaganj) : May I know from the Minister the cause for the delayed payment. Why was the payment delayed ?

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Has the employer been prosecuted ?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : The hon. Minister has very skilfully evaded many issues. He has given only partial information. The Police chained the workers within the factory and shot and killed them. It is a shameful thing for the country... (*Interruptions*)

13'15 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER CUSTOMS ACT, 1962,
CENTRAL EXCISES AND SALT ACT, 1944,
FINANCE (NO. 2) ACT, 1971, EMERGENCY RISKS (GOODS) INSURANCE ACT, 1971, ETC. ETC.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH) :

I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962 :—
 - (i) G. S. R. 251 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th April, 1972 together with an explanatory memorandum.

- (ii) G. S. R. 252 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th April, 1972 together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (iii) G. S. R. 441 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th April, 1972 together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (iv) G. S. R. 442 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th April, 1972 together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (v) S. O. 285 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th April, 1972 together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (vi) S. O. 969 and 970 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th April, 1972 together with an explanatory memorandum. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT—1935/72*]
- (2) A copy of the Central Excise (Sixth Amendment) Rules, 1972 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G. S. R. 47 in Gazette of India dated the 1st April, 1972, under section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944 [*Placed in Library. See No. LT—1936/72*]
- (3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 51 of the Finance (No. 2) Act, 1971 :
- (i) G. S. R. 208 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th March, 1972.
- (ii) G. S. R. 237 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th April, 1972.
- (iii) G. S. R. 238 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th April, 1972. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT—1937/72*]
- (4) A copy of the Hindi version of the Emergency Risks (Goods) Insurance Scheme, published in Notification No. S. O. 5483 in Gazette of India dated the 10th December, 1971, under sub-section (6) of section 5 of the Emergency Risks (Goods) Insurance Act, 1971. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT—1938/72*]
- (5) A copy of Notification No. S. O. 5485 (Hindi version) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th April, 1972 regarding list of goods not insurable under the Emergency Risks (Goods) Insurance Act, 1971, under sub-section (2) of section 3 of the Emergency Risks (Goods) Insurance Act, 1971. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT—1939/72*]
- (6) A copy of the Emergency Risks (Undertakings) Insurance Scheme (Hindi version) published in Notification No. S. O. 5486 in Gazette of India dated the 15th April, 1972 under sub-section (7) of section 3 of the Emergency Risks (Undertakings) Insurance Act, 1971. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT—1940/72*]
- (7) A copy of the Eighth Valuation Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Life Insurance Corporation of India as at 31st March, 1971, under section 29 of the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT—1941/72*]
- (8) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under the Central Excise Rules, 1944 :
- (i) G. S. R. 247 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th April, 1972 together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (ii) G. S. R. 250 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th April, 1972 together with an explanatory memorandum. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT—1942/72*]