

Mr. Speaker: No, no. I am on my legs. Everybody understands the difficulties of Kerala. The food problem is very serious, very acute. The hon. Members also came to me and represented to me about this matter. Naturally, I am sure the Minister will also take whatever steps are possible. I do not know myself, they are also not aware of it. The promised quota apart, something must be done immediately, that is why they represented. I am sure the Government of India and the Minister will do something, whatever is possible, maize, wheat or something I am sure will be rushed there, so that the people will be helped immediately.

Dr. Ranen Sen (Barasat): The Kerala members said before, now both Kerala and West Bengal members will do it. Instead of giving food to West Bengal and Kerala, he is giving food for thinking only (Interruptions).

Shri Jyotirmoy Basu (Diamond Harbour): He is a very good salesman of promises

12.56 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

NOTIFICATION UNDER INSURANCE ACT

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (Shri K. C. Pant): I beg to lay on the table a copy of Notification No. SO 2246 published in Gazette of India, dated the 8th July, 1967, exempting Boda Bros. Private Limited from operation of section 2C of the Insurance Act, 1938, under subsection (2) of section 2C of the said Act. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1152/67].

12.57 hrs.

REPORT OF CENTRAL WAGE BOARD FOR COAL MINING INDUSTRY

The Minister of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation (Shri Nathi): I place on the Table of the House

copy of Government Resolution dated 21st July, 1967 on the Recommendations of the Central Wage Board for the Coal Mining Industry, which will come into effect from the 15th August, 1967. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1153/67]

The Resolution contains a summary of the Board's recommendations on the matters referred to it for report and Government's decisions on these recommendations. The recommendations on several issues were not unanimous and minutes of dissent by Members were appended to the Report. Questions connected with the total financial implications of the wage increase etc recommended by the Board had also to be examined. I had discussions with employers' and workers' representatives regarding measures for the smooth implementation of the recommendations as accepted by the Government. I am glad to notice appreciation by both sides of each other's difficulties. Both sides have desired further discussion for the same purpose. I propose to initiate such bipartite discussions shortly. I hope that these discussions will assist in the smooth implementation of the recommendations in an amicable and peaceful atmosphere in the coal industry.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): The hon. Minister has made a statement regarding the wage board for the coal mining industry. I invite your kind attention to a news item which has come out in the newspapers, especially the Times of India and others, regarding the integrated plan to freeze wages..

Mr. Speaker: May I know how it arises out of this?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I am not talking of the adjournment motion. This is implementation of the wage board award.

Mr. Speaker: Whatever it is, how does it arise?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: It does arise,