

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,

[Shri S M Banerjee]

kindly hear me. I am not making any reference to the adjournment motion. This is about the wage board. He made a statement regarding the report of the central wage board for the coal mining industry.

Mr. Speaker: Will you kindly sit down You tabled an adjournment motion which I have not allowed, therefore you want to say ...

श्री सुधीर (मुन्नेर) : श्री जी
बकस्य प्रयासः त्रै उक्तं वारे ने यह वान
रह ।।

Mr. Speaker: I have stated that once the Minister makes a statement, if something else is to be done, let us have some discussion I have promised on the floor of the House that if you want something, I am prepared to allow But the moment a statement is made if there is a discussion, it will neither serve the purpose of the hon member, nor

Shri S. M. Banerjee: If I talk irrelevantly, kindly stop me.

Mr. Speaker: Now, let us go for food and come back at 2 P M

13 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch at Fourteen of the Clock

The Lok Sabha reassembled after Lunch at Fourteen of the Clock

[MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

REPORT OF CENTRAL WAGE BOARD FOR COAL MINING INDUSTRY—contd

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I was on my legs when the House adjourned

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The Speaker said that you might study the statement that was made and then later on you could see how you could pursue it If you want you can put a question,

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I want to clarify certain things. The hon. Minister has made a statement that he had issued a notification and the government resolution on the report of the wage board for the mining industry. He has further pleaded for the smooth sailing of the report and proposes to call a bipartite meeting with the employers and the employees I welcome this move. He has accepted the report of the wage board which is a welcome feature on the other hand in today's newspaper there is an unfortunate news that there is an integrated plan to freeze wages and prices and it is almost ready It further says that the measures envisaged include deferment of increased dearness allowance and other allowances of both the government and private employees

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I permitted you to put a question not to raise an issue about the speculative statement in a newspaper

Shri S M. Banerjee: If it were mere speculation, I would not have taken it up It is said that the Finance Ministry wants to have this wage freeze and defer increase of DA to government employees and other allowances to the employees of the private sector till 31st March, 1968 It is also written in this report that the Labour Minister opposed this scheme I want to know either from the Labour Minister or from the Finance Minister if there is any unity in the Cabinet Let them say that what is written here is wrong Otherwise we went to demand a discussion on that What is the information of the Labour Minister? He has accepted the report How does he propose to implement it?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am surprised at this He made a statement regarding the coal wage board.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Let them say: there is no basis for this report.