

[Shri Raghu Ramaiah]

- (2) A statement showing reasons for delay in laying the above Notifications.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-740/68.]

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER THE FOOD CORPORATIONS ACT, 1964

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Food Corporations (Thirteenth Amendment) Rules, 1968, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 579 in Gazette of India dated the 21st March, 1968, under sub-section (3) of section 44 of the Food Corporations Act, 1964. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-741/68].

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): Sir, if you look at this item, it refers to a copy of the Food Corporations (Thirteenth Amendment) Rules, 1968 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 579 in Gazette of India dated the 21st March, 1968, under sub-section (3) of section 44 of the Food Corporations Act. Last time I asked this question and today I am repeating it. I would like to know whether the hon. Minister has been able to take a decision regarding bringing in a legislation for safeguarding the interests of the employees who have gone over to the Food Corporation of India, about which there was a hunger strike and so on. I would like to know from him whether that legislation will be brought forward in this House during this session or not.

MR. SPEAKER: He can take some other occasion for raising it. The Demands of the Ministry of Food are going to come up. He can take it up at that time. I cannot allow this now.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: This is a specific question.

MR. SPEAKER: I know. But now only papers are being laid on the Table. At that stage you cannot ask a question.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: I may be allowed today. I am not arguing every-day.

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry.

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER THE COAL MINES PROVIDENT FUND AND BONUS SCHEMES ACT

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI S. C. JAMIR): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy each of the following Notifications under section 7A of the Coal Mines Provident Fund and Bonus Schemes Act, 1948:—

- (a) The Andhra Pradesh Coal Mines Bonus (Second Amendment) Scheme, 1968, published in Notification No. GSR 312 in Gazette of India dated the 17th February, 1968.
- (b) The Rajasthan Coal Mines Bonus (Second Amendment) Scheme, 1968, published in Notification No. GSR 313 in Gazette of India dated the 17th February, 1968.
- (c) The Assam Coal Mines Bonus (Second Amendment) Scheme, 1968, published in Notification No. GSR 315 in Gazette of India dated the 17th February, 1968.

- (ii) A Statement showing reasons for delay in laying the above Notifications.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-742/68.]

- (2) A copy of the Employment Exchanges (Compulsory Notification of Vacancies) Amendment Rules, 1968, published in Notification No. GSR 548 in Gazette of India dated the 23rd March, 1968, under sub-section (3) of section 10 of the Employment Ex-

changes (Compulsory Notification of Vacancies) Act, 1959. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-743/68].

12.36 hours

STATEMENT RE. AT CALCUTTA PORT

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING (DR. V. K. R. V. RAO): Sir, I am glad to announce to the House that the strike at the Calcutta Port which began on the morning of 29th March has been called off from this morning as a result of an agreement which was reached yesterday between the parties. Now that the strike has been called off, I do not propose to go into all the details of the circumstances under which the strike began and the details of the negotiations. I would, however, mention that the Calcutta Port Shramik Union had sent a letter dated the 4th March, 1968, to the Chairman, Calcutta Port Commissioners, in which they had listed 20 demands which were of a local nature. There were discussions between the Port Commissioners and the Union representatives and a number of issues were settled by the process of direct negotiations. Unfortunately, a few demands remained on which no agreement had been reached by the 28th March and the Union launched the strike from the morning of the 29th. Immediately, the Regional Labour Commissioner intervened and conciliation proceedings were continued. The main demands to which these conciliation talks related were the following:

- (1) The lifting up of the 'B' and 'C' category gangs to 'A' category.
- (2) The promotion of L.D. Clerks to U.D. posts on the basis of seniority instead of written examination.
- (3) Restoration of Shri Saroj Ranjan Kar, an employee of the Port Commissioners who had been punished with reduction

in rank under the disciplinary rules for assaulting his superior officer, to his former position with full pay and allowances.

As a result of further discussion yesterday, a settlement has been reached on these items and the terms of settlement have been agreed upon and signed last night. On the first issue it has been agreed that on an *ad hoc* basis 300 workers of the existing 'B' category would be promoted to 'A' category, and all existing 'C' category workers numbering about 60 would be absorbed in 'B' category, and further discussions will be held on the filling up of vacancies in 'A' category and further promotions from 'B' to 'A' category.

On the second issue it has been agreed that this will be further discussed separately and if no agreed decision is reached the matter would be referred to adjudication on the basis of agreed terms of reference.

As regards the last item, the parties have agreed to differ.

I think Honourable Members will agree that it is a matter for satisfaction that local demands have been settled by negotiations at the local level.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): May I know.....

MR. SPEAKER: We have been following a particular procedure. Why do you want to break it? No questions are allowed when a Minister makes a statement of his own.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Alipore): The strike went on for seven days. All these days you did not allow even a single Calling Attention or Short Notice Question. The work was paralysed for seven days. But you did not allow it then. Perhaps, because it was not considered important. Now that the strike is over, this has been allowed.