

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO
QUESTIONS

Percentage of Women Workers in
Mining Industry

*49. SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the Mining Industry the percentage of women workers is more than men according to the Labour Bureau of Union Labour Ministry;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether it is due to the fact that the employment of women is cheaper than the employment of male workers?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION AND LABOUR (SHRI J. B. PATNAIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) does not arise.

(c) does not arise.

बोनस संबंधी विधेयक

*50. श्री चन्द्रपाल शैलानी :

श्री ज्योतिर्मय बसु :

क्या धर्म मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का विचार बोनस अधिनियम को व्यापक और स्थायी बनाने के लिए संसद में विधेयक लाने का है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो कब तक और तत्सम्बन्धी मुख्य बातें क्या हैं ?

एग्जेंट और नागर विमानन तथा धर्म मंत्री (श्री जे. बी. पटनायक) (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) सरकार को आशा है कि अगले त्यौहार मौसम से पहले एक विधेयक संसद में लाएगी । सरकार को इस संबंध में विभिन्न सुझाव प्राप्त हुए हैं जिनपर विचार हो रहा है ।

Condition of Indians in U.A.E.

*51. SHRI SHIV KUMAR SINGH:
SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the United Arab Emirates have taken drastic steps for exodus of Indians from that country;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard;

(c) the details of the persons affected as a result thereof;

(d) whether it is also a fact that UAE are discriminating against Indian nationals there; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken by Government for their rehabilitation in the UAE and India?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) to (e). In January 1980, the Government of the UAE announced certain measures for repatriation of expatriate workers of any nationality whatsoever, who might be staying in that country without proper documents and authorisation. These steps are not part of any new legislation of theirs, but rather measures to implement more stringently their existing regulations. Along with workers of other nationalities, these measures will indeed affect Indian workers staying in the UAE in an unauthorised manner.

2. The Government have been in constant touch with the UAE authorities in the matter. An official delegation headed by a Secretary to the Government recently visited the UAE and held discussions for minimising personal and economic hardships to affected Indian workers;

3. The details of the persons affected as a result of their measures are:

Those who had entered the UAE on employment visas but are no longer working with their original sponsors;

Those who had entered that country illegally without a valid visa; and

Those whose resident permits have expired.

4. The UAE authorities have stated that their measures are non-discriminatory and applicable to all expatriate workers of any nationality. Government have received no reports of discrimination against Indian nationals.

5. Our Embassy in Abu Dhabi and our Consulate General in Dubai are providing all assistance to workers affected by the recent measures. Our concerned offices are being kept open beyond office hours so as to deal with cases expeditiously. The UAE authorities have also been requested to adopt a liberal and flexible approach in the matter, recognising the humanitarian aspects involved, in determining the categories of workers who should eventually be asked to leave the country and further to ensure that those persons who have to leave the country are well treated and consular access and other facilities are allowed to them.

Visit of U.S. Congressional Delegation

*52. SHRI N. E. HORO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the U.S. Congress have kept India's views in mind while formulating a decision on the resumption of arms supplies to Pakistan; and

(b) whether any assurance was given by the Leader of the Six-member Congressional delegation which visited India recently?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) & (b). India's views have been made known to the Congressional delegation, and also to other members of Congress. The results of these efforts cannot be forecast as yet.

Child Labour in Plantations

*53. SHRI ANAND PATHAK: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the proportion of child labour in all the plantations rose from 4.9 per cent in the first survey to 8.4 per cent during the third survey; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION AND LABOUR (SHRI J. B. PATNAIK): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

The increase was entirely in the tea plantations. The Survey does not bring out the precise reasons for this increase.

Coal Transportation to Thermal Power Plants

*54. SHRI CHANDRABHAN ATHARE PATIL:

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to increase the supply of wagons for transport of coal for the thermal power plants in the country so that they have adequate stocks to avoid power breakdowns;

(b) if so, what is the extent of increase in the supply of wagons;

(c) what has been the number of wagons loaded each month for transport of coal for thermal power plants in the country during the last 3 years; and

(d) what steps have been taken to ensure regular and adequate supply of wagons for transport of coal for the said power units in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.