

action to recover the dues payable under the law would be taken against the defaulting employer(s) by the State Industrial Relations Machinery.

### Labour Unrest

155. SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an increase or decrease in labour unrest in the current year as compared to the previous year;

(b) the facts thereof giving the major areas where the change is noticed; and

(c) the effects on production and economy generally thereby?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY):

(a) to (c). According to available information, the number of man-days lost due to strikes and lock-outs during 1974 was 31.7 million (provisional) as compared to 20.65 million during 1973. The States which accounted for a significant increase in the number of man-days lost during 1974 were Maharashtra where the number of man-days lost due to strikes and lock-outs during 1974 was nearly three times over the figures for 1973 (about 3.6 million), and West Bengal where the number of man-days lost during 1974 were nearly double than the figure for 1973 (about 5.9 million). As regards production loss according to available information, the value of production loss, in respect of 1,227 (out of 2,514) cases for which information is readily available with the Labour Bureau Simla, was Rs. 72.18 crores.

**Bharat Gold Mines running at a Loss**

\*156. SHRI SARJOO PANDEY:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Gold Mines has been running at a loss;

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(b) if so, the financial position of the company during the last three years; and

(c) the steps being taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV): (a) and (b). Because of the obligations of Government *vis-a-vis* the International Monetary Fund all gold produced in the Kolar Gold Fields, which have been entrusted to the Bharat Gold Mines Limited from 1.4.1972, have to be sold to the Government at the International Monetary Fund price of gold despite the fact that both internal market price as well as international market price of gold have been much higher. Mainly because of this, even in the last year (1971-72) of departmental working of these mines, the revenue deficit was Rs. 4.89 crores. While entrusting the mines to the Bharat Gold Mines Limited, accordingly, Government agreed to separately assist Bharat Gold Mines Limited towards that difference keeping in view the cost of production; the results in the last two complete years have been: Loss of Rs. 58 lakhs and Rs. 162 lakhs respectively, after allowing for the assistance of Rs. 4.25 crores and Rs. 4 crores respectively.

(c) With a view to improve the financial results, the company has taken up various steps for modernisation, expansion, diversification locating new sources of ore with a view to increase the output, reduce the cost and reduce the losses.

**'Mystery Diseases' among Harijans in Karnataka**

\*157. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN:  
SHRI K. MALLANNA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention is invited to the 'Daily Action' dated the 31st January, 1975 that Doctors are unable to diagnose a 'mystery disease' which has left about