

**Mr. Speaker:** All right.

### Interim Award of Jute Wage Board

\*261, **Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether the interim award of the Jute Wage Board has not yet been implemented in jute mills in U.P.;

(b) if so, the reason therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government?

**The Minister of Supply in the Ministry of Economic and Defence Co-ordination (Shri Hathi):** (a) to (c). Two mills have implemented the recommendation fully and one has done so partly. The question of implementation in the remaining one mill is under active consideration of the State Government.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** In regard to No. 258, I want to know which are the interests which are hampering the work and which do not want this to be accepted?

**Shri Hathi:** In the implementation of the recommendations of the wage board, of the four mills in U.P. two have fully implemented: one has partially implemented. The difficulty with the mills is that it has not got the necessary finances and therefore, it entered into an agreement with the workers that they were to be paid in certain instalments and they paid upto June 1962 and then they stopped. In September again they have started. So far as the fourth mill is concerned, the question was whether that mill was covered by the recommendations of the wage board. That matter has now been clarified.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** I wanted to ask that question about 261. But the main question is 258 about the wage board. Hon. Minister said that there were some interests. I want to know which are those interests.

**Shri Hathi:** No, no. I have never said that there were any 'interests'.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Is there no agreement between employers and representatives of the workers.

**Shri Hathi:** I said that out of the four mills, two have implemented. There is no question of any interest.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** I am completely satisfied with the answer to question No. 261. I am concerned with 258 now. I am asking about the non-submission of the report. The hon. Minister has stated that there are some difficulties. I want to know what the difficulties are and whether any agreement has been reached with the members of the Wage Board or is there any difference.

**Shri Hathi:** There is no difference between the members of the Wage Board. The only difficulty is that, as hon. Members know, some members of the Board are Members of Parliament and there are others who are also busy, and they could not find time and therefore the meeting has to be postponed.

**Shri Daji:** What about Uttar Pradesh? I would like to know, out of the several jute mills in the country, how many of them have as yet not implemented the interim award given by the Wage Board.

**Shri Hathi:** Out of the 84 mills, all have implemented, except the mills in Uttar Pradesh.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** I want to know whether any time-limit has been fixed and whether the members have been requested or an appeal has been made to them to see that the report is submitted.

**Shri Hathi:** The members have been requested to expedite, but no time-limit has been fixed.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know if the Government will appoint such persons as members of this Board as will have time to attend the meetings?

**Mr. Speaker:** It is a suggestion for action.