

Shri Y. B. Chavan: I do not think these comparisons are valid and necessary.

Wage Board for Working Journalists

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{ **Shri S. M. Banerjee:**
Shri D. C. Sharma:
 *424. } **Shri P. C. Borooah:**
Shri P. R. Chakraverti:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Wage Board for working journalists and non-working journalists has started its work;

(b) if so, what progress has been made; and

(c) whether the Board has recommended any interim relief pending submission of the final report?

The Minister of Labour and Employment (Shri D. Sanjivayya): (a) Yes.

(b) The Questionnaire approved by the Wage Board for Working Journalists was sent to the various newspaper establishments, and Workers and Employers' organisations on 15th April, 1964 asking for their replies by the 15th July, 1964. Following many requests for extension of the time limit, the Board has decided to take into consideration all replies received upto the 30th September, 1964. Notice required under section 10(2) of the Working Journalists (Conditions of Service) & Misc. Provisions Act, 1955 calling for representations from newspaper establishments, etc. was also issued on 15-4-64. The Board has held four meetings so far.

The Questionnaire approved by the Wage Board for Non-Journalists has also been issued and replies are due by the 15th November, 1964. The Board has held five meetings so far.

(c) No.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I want to know whether both the working journalists and the non-journalists have demanded immediate interim relief, and whether Government has issued any instructions to the Wage Boards for grant of interim relief to them?

Shri D. Sanjivayya: So far as the working journalists are concerned, the Indian Federation of Working Journalists requested the Government that interim relief should be granted. This request was made in April, and it was forwarded to the Wage Board in May. The Wage Board for Working Journalists is considering this question.

With regard to the non-journalists, the requests were made direct to the Wage Board, and the Wage Board is considering it.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: In view of the fact that the prices of all commodities have gone up, and there is a general increase in the cost of living index, I would like to know whether Government would issue the necessary instructions to the Wage Boards for paying interim relief at the earliest opportunity.

Shri D. Sanjivayya: That is what I have already said, but both the Wage Boards met on 22nd and 23rd September at Bombay and they have postponed further consideration of this question to 20th October, 1964. Probably they would meet in Delhi.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I submit that my information is that some of the employers did not want this interim relief to be paid. Will Government issue necessary instructions to see that before finalisation of the report, they consider this issue of interim relief, and not delay it, because it is being opposed by the employers?

Shri D. Sanjivayya: The very fact that we have referred this question

to the Wage Board goes to show that we are interested in giving some kind of interim relief to the working journalists and the non-journalists, but at the recent meeting of the Wage Board for Working Journalists held at Bombay, the management representatives raised the question of the capacity of the industry to pay. They wanted that question to be examined.

With regard to the Wage Board for non-journalists, they wanted to know whether this Board was competent to consider this question. They have made a reference to the Government with regard to that.

Shri D. C. Sharma: From the reply given by the hon. Minister, I find that the Wage Boards for Working Journalists and non-journalists are caught in the wheel of the *karma* of questionnaires and their replies, and I think it is a masterpiece of postponement of the decision. May I know if the Government has any power to act irrespective of the recommendations of the Wage Boards in view of the urgency of the situation and also in view of the soaring prices that are prevailing?

Shri D. Sanjivayya: This *karma* of issue of questionnaires and getting replies is the same with regard to all kinds of wage boards. It cannot be different for these Wage Boards for Working Journalists and non-journalists. We would see that matters are expedited as early as possible.

Shri A. P. Sharma: Are Government contemplating to set up any more wage boards and if so what are the industries which they are contemplating and will they be in the public sector or the private sector?

Shri D. Sanjivayya: It is a general question. However, I will answer it. There is a proposal to set up a wage board for port and dock labour and also for the engineering industries.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: May I know when this wage board was set up and what was the due date for the submission of this report and...

Mr. Speaker: That is enough.

Shri D. Sanjivayya: The wage board for working journalists was established on 12th November 1963 and the wage board for non-journalists was set up on 25th February, 1964. No time-limit had been fixed for the submission of their reports.

Shri K. N. Pande: Interim relief is also part of the wages and so does the Ministry think of referring this issue also?

Shri D. Sanjivayya: I have already stated that with regard to working journalists this issue has been referred to the board and with regard to non-journalists they have received representations direct.

काश्मीर में राष्ट्र संघ के पर्यवेक्षक

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* 425 { श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री :
श्री यशपाल सिंह :
श्री जगदेव सिंह सिद्धान्ती :
श्री विशानचन्द्र सेठ :
श्री रामेश्वर टाटिया :
श्री धवन :
श्री श्री० प्र० यादव :
श्री विठ्ठलनाथ पाण्डेय :

क्या बंदेशिक-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि काश्मीर में राष्ट्र संघ के पर्यवेक्षकों की संख्या बढ़ाने की दिशा में क्या प्रगति हुई है ?

बंदेशिक-कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती लक्ष्मी मेनन) : संयुक्त राष्ट्र अधिकारियों ने संयुक्त राष्ट्र प्रेक्षकों की संख्या 5 और बढ़ा दी है और प्रेक्षक दल को एक कैरीबू हवाई जहाज दे दिया है। आशा है कि इस हवाई जहाज से प्रेक्षकों को आने-जाने में अधिक सुविधा होगी।