

की बात भी लगी हुई है कि हड़ताल करना या स्ट्राइक करना यह कहां तक मुनासिब है, इसलिए यह जरा टेढ़ा सवाल है और इन दोनों का साथ ही साथ फैसला होगा।

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether it is a fact that the employees' representatives and the representatives of the various organisations including federations will once again be consulted before finalising this at the Cabinet level?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: I do not think that that would be necessary, because they have already been consulted, and they have expressed their views. But in case the Ministries concerned and I myself feel that on certain points further consultation is necessary, we shall gladly do that.

Shri A. P. Sharma: Is it a fact that most of the employees' trade unions, in the course of the consultations with the Labour Ministry were opposed to the setting up of the Whitley Council as is being proposed? Is it also a fact that in spite of the opposition of most of the trade unions, Government still propose to proceed with the setting up of the machinery?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: I am not aware of the details of the discussions which took place between the Labour Minister and the different employees' unions. What the form or pattern should be, whether it should be called as the Whitley Council or as, something else and so on is a different matter. But I do not think there is any objection from any union to set up some kind of negotiating machinery between the employees and the employers.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether Government are going to take a decision regarding this joint consultative machinery with regard to P. & T., the Railways, Defence etc. or also with regard to the autonomous corporations?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: We have, for the time being, confined ourselves

to the various Departments of the Government of India.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : श्रीमन् कुछ समय पहले शासन की ओर से एक विधेयक इस आशय का तैयार किया गया था कि सरकारी कर्मचारियों को हड़ताल करने के अधिकार से वंचित कर दिया जायेगा लेकिन हाल में अखबारों में इस तरह की रिपोर्टें निकली हैं कि उस विधेयक को समाप्त किया जा रहा है अतः मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस समाचार में कहां तक सत्यता है ?

श्री लाल बहादुर शास्त्री : जब उस का फैसला हम कर लेंगे तो उस के साथ ही साथ इस विधेयक का भी फैसला हो जायगा।

Backward Classes

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*841. { **Shri P. R. Chakraverti:**
 Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India have decided not to draw an all India list of Backward Classes and have advised the State Governments to apply preferably economic tests than those based on caste;

(b) if so, names of the State Governments which have accepted this advice; and

(c) what criteria have been chosen by these State Governments for defining backwardness?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). As far as known to us no State Government has so far adopted the economic criterion for defining backwardness, and the lists based on caste are still being followed. However, for the limited purpose of grant of freeships, the Maharashtra and Gujarat Governments are treating as backward Classes, persons with

incomes not exceeding Rs. 1,200 a year.

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: Is it not a fact that the existing system of demarcating backwardness perpetuates caste and sub-caste distinctions?

Mr. Speaker: That is a matter of opinion.

Shri Datar: It is a question of opinion.

Shri Shivaji Rao S. Deshmukh: May I know whether it is a fact that certain castes from the backward classes are more backward than the Scheduled Tribes?

Shri Datar: It is a matter of opinion.

Shri Basumatari: It has been stated that economic condition is taken into consideration. May I know whether the classification of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has been effected on this basis?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister has said that that has not been done.

Shri Basumatari: I want to know whether that criterion has been followed in regard to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Mr. Speaker: He says that only castes are being taken into account.

श्री बड़े : क्या काका कालेलकर की बैकवर्ड क्लासेज कमिशन की रिपोर्ट आने के बाद मध्यप्रदेश गवर्नमेंट को लिखा गया था कि इस में बैकवर्ड क्लासेज का जो क्लासिफिकेशन किया गया है वह कास्ट्स पर न होते हुए एकोनामिक बेसिस पर होना चाहिए ?

Shri Datar: This is quite correct. After the report was received when it was found that it did not give a proper or conclusive criterion, the Government of India requested the various State Governments to adopt the economic standard for backwardness as far as possible.

श्री बड़े : मध्य प्रदेश गवर्नमेंट का क्या कोई जवाब इस के बारे में आया है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मंत्री महोदय ने बतलाया तो है कि उन को लिखा गया था ।

श्री बड़े : इस को किसी ने एंड्रॉप्ट भी किया है या नहीं ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : दूसरा सवाल करने की इजाजत तो मैं ने दी नहीं थी । लेकिन खैर अगर इसका जवाब दे सकते हैं तो दे दिया जाये ।

Shri Datar: So far as the Central Government are concerned, they have already advised State Governments to adopt the economic criterion for the purpose of deciding backwardness. It is for them to consider the matter.

Shri M. K. Kumaran: The Jayaprakash Narain Committee which was appointed to go into the question of the welfare of the weaker sections of the community has made some valuable observations which have relevance in this matter. It says:

"In dealing with the question as to who are the weaker sections....".

Mr. Speaker: I will not allow all that to be read out here.

Shri M. K. Kumaran: May I know whether Government will take into consideration the observations made by the Jayaprakash Narain Committee that 'caste is a strong and unpleasant reality and that permanent barriers have been built up in the status between caste and caste'?

Mr. Speaker: Government agree with that and that is why they have written to State Governments.

The hon. Member, instead of trying to elicit information, is giving information.

श्री रामसेवक यादव : क्या मंत्री महोदय यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि पिछड़े वर्ग आयोग ने जो अन्य पिछड़ी जातियों के आरक्षण इत्यादि के बारे में लिखा था उस पर अमल किया गया है या नहीं ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : उन्होंने बतलाया तो कि नहीं किया गया है ।

श्री क० ना० तिवारी : क्या गवर्नमेंट यह बतलाने की कृपा करेगी कि प्रान्तीय सरकारों ने आर्थिक बेसिस पर बैकवर्ड क्लासेज के क्लासिफिकेशन करने के बारे में क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

Shri Datar: It is for the State Governments to accept the advice or to continue the criterion as it is at present.

Shri D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether Government have any idea about the percentage of the population whose income is less than Rs. 1,200 per year?

Shri Datar: We have no need to work it out.

Shri Shivananjappa: May I know whether this action of Government is in consonance with the recommendations of the Backward Classes Commission?

Shri Datar: I have already pointed out that the recommendations of the Backward Classes Commission were entirely of an inconclusive nature. We also submitted a memorandum in that respect. Therefore, Government had to consider the whole matter.

Shri Shivaji Rao S. Deshmukh: Are Government aware that even the economic criterion is fraught with danger?

Shri Datar: It is being worked out in respect of one subject in Maharashtra and Gujarat. Let us see how it works.

Iron Ore in Madras

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*842. { **Shri Raghunath Singh:**
Shri Sezhiyan:
Shri Balakrishnan:

Will the Minister of Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that iron ore has been found in Karaikudi in Ramnad district of Madras State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri Thimmaiah): (a) and (b). On examination by the Geological Survey of India only low grade lateritic iron ore was found at about ten to twelve kilometres from Karaikudi town. Recovery of iron from this ore is not considered to be economical.

Shri Raghunath Singh: What is the percentage of the content of iron in the ore in this area?

Shri Thimmaiah: The percentage in this area is not calculated. But it is felt by the Geological Survey that the recovery of iron ore from this area is not economical, and the lateritic ores could not be used.

Mr. Speaker: He cannot give the proportion of the content.

Coal Deposits in Orissa

*844. **Shri Venkatasubbaiah:** Will the Minister of Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the biggest concentrated coal deposits in the world have been found in the Orissa State;

(b) if so, whether any comprehensive report has been submitted to Government; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to start mining operations in that area?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Mines and Fuel (Shri Hajar-navis): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir, but a report on the final phase of Exploratory Operations in Talcher coalfield has been received from the Indian Bureau of Mines in October, 1961.

(c) Three new coal mines have been planned for exploiting these reserves.