

Mr. Speaker: A number of hon. Members are interested in this.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: But I am afraid it is a trifle too long.

Mr. Speaker: I would not allow any supplementaries. If it is very long, I will treat it as a statement laid on the Table.

Shri Nath. Pal: Only one or two supplementaries may be allowed.

Mr. Speaker: How many pages is the answer?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: A little over a page.

Mr. Speaker: Then he may read it.

India Security Press, Nasik

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*1414. { **Shri Jadhav:**
Shri B. K. Galkwad:
Shri D. A. Katti:
Shri Goray:
Shri Nath Pal:
Shri S. A. Dango:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Prabhat Kar:
Shri Ghosal.
Shri Jagdish Awasthi:
Shrimati Parvatibai Krishnan:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the workers of the India Security Press, Nasik, have served a notice of strike on the 15th November, 1957,

(b) if so, what are their demands;

(c) whether it is a fact that these demands have been submitted since long; and

(d) if so, what action Government have taken in the matter?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) One of the workers' unions at the India Security Press, Nasik Road, namely the India Security Press Mazdoor Sangh, served a notice of strike on the 15th November, 1957.

(b) The demands were under 16 heads and ranged over a wide field.

Among the 16 demands were these: the present placings of the various jobs and workmen should be changed and placing done afresh in consultation with the Mazdoor Sangh; every employee without any discrimination should be provided with residential quarter immediately; the Labour Exchange should be directed to give preference in the matter of employment at the Press to relatives of workers already employed there; a Joint Committee with the representatives of the Sangh and the management should be set up to be used in place of the existing Works Committee to undertake an experiment to give workers a share in the management and to act as an arbitration body; and the Government should set up a Commission of Inquiry consisting of Members of Parliament both of the Government and Opposition Benches to go into the matter of management and smooth working of the Press.

(c) Some of the demands which accompanied the strike notice had been made in the past in the same or slightly different form, and some were added as supplementary demands in September, 1957

(d) Government considered the demands as and when they came up, took necessary action and kept the Sangh informed. The strike notice of 15th November was considered carefully and it was found that the demands were either unrealistic or such as no responsible Union would turn into a cause for strike. The Sangh was told that if a strike was engineered Government would stand firm.

Shri Nath Pal: Is it not a fact that in these demands, the workers also indicated their willingness not to go on strike provided one simple demand was granted—that is, to refer all the other demands to arbitration? Also in pursuance of this, the President of the Union came and tried to see both the Finance Minister and the Labour Minister and it was tendentiously rejected, indicating that he will be welcome only in his personal capacity

and not as President. Is it not contrary to the policy of conciliation, negotiation and arbitration?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: It is such a lot of jumble of words that I do not know what reply I should give. I can only say 'No'. (*Interruptions*)

Mr. Speaker: 'No' is the reply.

Shri B. K. Galkwad: May I know whether it is a fact that the labour leader, Shri Khedgikar had been to Delhi and tried his best to see the Labour Minister and the Finance Minister and settle the dispute?

Mr. Speaker: The same question is being put. Shri Nath Pai put the same question.

Shri Nath Pai: But the Minister concerned refused to give the answer.

Shri B. K. Galkwad: May I know whether the Minister concerned refused to see the labour leader?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abd All): I may submit that I met him in the Central Hall and one hon. Member opposite suggested that he should meet us and discuss this matter in detail. I gave him an appointment with the consent of the hon. Member opposite at 5-30 in the evening. But he did not come to meet me.... (*Interruptions.*)

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Mr. Pillai.

Shri Anthony Pillai: What is the difficulty experienced by the Government in the matter of referring the dispute to arbitration to a Tribunal? It may be that the Government considers the demands unjust....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. No arguments in this matter. The hon. Member put a question: what are the difficulties in the way of this matter being referred to arbitration? (*Interruptions.*) Order, order. Let there be some decorum and order here.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: When these demands were sent up to the Government by the Manager, it was indicated to him how they could be

dealt with, what were the demands in which the Government would be able to meet the workers and what were the demands which the Government would be able to consider. There are certain matters in the Security Press which it is no use referring to arbitration. We are not in a position to accept the question of placing a watch and ward, the seniority or the question of superseding the Works Committee in the manner that was suggested. Some of the demands made are such as could not be decided by arbitration considering the particular nature of the Press. So far as I was concerned, I asked the Manager to indicate that any reasonable demand, made, would be considered. For instance, a demand like furnishing houses forthwith to all these people is a thing which obviously cannot be met even by arbitration. The nature of the demands are such that quite a number of them could not be dealt with even by arbitration. (*Interruptions.*)

Mr. Speaker: We go to the next item. There are two short notice questions.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Indo-Pak Canal Waters dispute

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S. N. Q. { Dr. Ram Sabbag Singh:
No. 7. { Shri N. R. Munisamy:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether talks were recently held in Delhi between World Bank representatives and representatives of India and Pakistan on agreement relating to *ad hoc* transitional arrangements for a further period; and

(b) if so, the outcome of those talks?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As a result of prolonged discussions with the parties, the Bank representatives have informed themselves fully of the views and requirements of both sides in connection with