

quickly as possible. But, as has been explained by the Deputy Minister, there are certain cases where final settlement is not possible unless all the documents are made available from the different sections which are concerned with it. Even in these cases certain percentages are paid to the employees before the final settlement is made and only a portion is retained, to see if any arrears are outstanding against the employee which may be adjusted against the portion that is held up with the administration. But we are trying to see that those difficulties are also overcome and there may be very few cases where the final settlements may remain outstanding beyond ten days or two weeks.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** The hon. Minister explained that the payments had not been made possible because of certain reasons. Is it not a fact that in 90 per cent of the cases, the delays are due to the Governmental reasons but not because of the individual not giving documents, etc.? Is it not due to the Government imperfections?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** No, Sir; I will not agree. Wherever settlements remained overdue, there are causes. There are cases where full information is not supplied by the employees concerned and whenever full information is supplied by the employees concerned, every effort is made to expedite the settlement.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** He has not replied to that definite question. If the employee dies before the final settlement, is that amount paid to the heir of the employee?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** That is paid to the heir.

**Shri Narayanankutty Menon:** May I know, Sir, . . .

**Mr. Speaker:** No, Sir. It is not a debating hour. If any information is still to be elicited, there are other methods.

### Report of the Officer on Special Duty on Port and Dock Workers' Demands.

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\*398. { **Shri Tangamani:**  
**Shri S. M. Banerjee:**  
**Shri Dasaratha Deb:**  
**Shri Narayanankutty Menon:**  
**Shri A. K. Gopalan:**  
**Shri Punnoose:**

Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state the progress made so far regarding the implementation of the recommendations made by the Officer on Special Duty to enquire into the demands of Port and Dock Workers?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** Government's decisions on the recommendations have been indicated in the Resolution of the 20th July, 1958. A statement showing the progress made in implementing the decisions is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 66.]

**Shri Tangamani:** In reply to an earlier question No. 156, dated 16th May, 1958, the hon. Minister stated that on the question of retirement benefits the recommendations of the P. C. Chaudhuri Committee cannot be accepted by the Government till after the Second Pay Commission report was out. May I know whether since that date, the Government had revised their views about it?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** I do not think that anything justifying the revision of our view stated in the resolution has happened since then.

**Shri Tangamani:** Serial No. 14 refers to the setting up of an Advisory Committee of Trustees for the ports of Madras, Bombay and Calcutta. May I know when the Advisory Committee for Madras will be set up?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** The decision is applicable only to the three major ports of Bombay, Calcutta and Madras. The Bombay Port Trust had already

set up an Advisory Committee and Madras and Calcutta are expected to do so soon. The case has been put up to the Port Trusts in the second half of November, 1958.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** In the statement there are 29 decisions out of which only in eight cases they have been implemented. May I know what is going to be done with the other 21 decisions? When are the other decisions likely to be taken up for implementation?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** My estimate of the number of recommendations actually implemented would be a little more optimistic than that of my hon. friend. It may be seen, if an account is taken, that many of them have been implemented and some of them have been implemented more than half and a few are under consideration for reasons which have been stated.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Against the point relating to the rationalisation of pay scales and the setting up of a committee for classification and categorisation of class III and class IV posts of major ports, the position given is that a Committee was set up on the 29th August, 1958 and is already engaged in its work.

May I know when this work is likely to be completed and what is the composition of the Committee?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** The composition of the Committee had already been announced by a regular resolution which I may quote for the benefit of the hon. Member. The Committee composes of Shri F. Jeejeebhoy (Chairman), Shri S. Nanjundiah, Shri K. M. Palekar, a representative of the Port under examination to be appointed by the Port Authority concerned, and three representatives of labour: Shri G. H. Kale, Shri Mahesh Chatterjee and Shri Kali Mekerjee.

This was announced by a Resolution published in a Gazette Extraordinary on 29th August, 1958. As the hon. Member might have known from the

statement, the port authorities have been asked to put up their schemes in regard to the classification and categorisation of class III and Class IV workers. Thereafter, the labour representatives would be asked to submit their views. The Committee would itself take some time to consider the views of the Labour and the schemes put up by the Port Authorities. It is expected that the Committee may be in a position to submit its report by April, 1959.

**Shri Narayanankutty Menon:** On a previous occasion, it was mentioned that the Port Authorities before submitting the recommendations to the Committee would be consulting the unions concerned. May I know whether they have consulted the unions before making their recommendations to the Committee?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** I think the Committee has asked the Port Authorities to submit their schemes by 20th December. I do not think that in this particular case, the Port Authorities have been enjoined upon to consult the labour unions because the representatives of the labour unions will themselves be given an opportunity to put forth their views or objections to the scheme whenever it is put up for consideration to them.

**Shri Tyagi:** Are these workers also made to undertake the accomplishment of any prescribed work-norms every day?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** Where the piece-rate system obtains, there are certain norms of work per day or per shift but where that does not obtain, it is generally not so.

**Shri Tyagi:** Is it the intention of the Government to prescribe work-norms for these workers?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** The matter relates to the improvement of efficiency of the ports or the improved outturn of the port which is constantly under examination. I cannot say exactly in respect of which items of work or by

what process these norms could be worked out or whether it is possible for all of them. We have got our eye on the improvement of efficiency, however, that is an essential thing.

**Shri Tangamani:** May I know whether the pay scales recommended by the Chaudhuri Committee had been implemented in the ports of Cochin, Vizag and Kandla and may I also know whether the introduction in contracts awarded by the Port Authorities of the usual 'fair wage' clause has been concluded in all the major ports?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** The question does not appear to be clear. In the very first item in the statement, we have stated about the appointment of a Committee for this purpose. Certain pay scales have been adopted tentatively and against those pay scales the process of classification and categorisation will be carried out. I do not think the implementation or the grant of pay scale, as recommended by the Chaudhuri Committee, which also is an incomplete thing, can be visualised in this context.

**Shri Tangamani:** Regarding the contracts—the second part of the question—the question was whether the fair wage clauses are included when workers are engaged by contractors in all the three major ports of India?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** That is kept in view as the statement would show.

#### Seizure of Food grains

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1958.	{	Shri S. M. Banerjee:
		Shri Shree Narayan Das:
		Shri Tangamani:
		Shri Ram Krishan:
		Shri Sarju Pandey:
		Shri Muhammed Elias: Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the

total quantity of foodgrains seized from hoarders and traders by the Centre and the various State Governments during the year under Essential Commodities Act?

**The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas):** The information asked for is being collected from the State Governments and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha on receipt.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** From the reply of the hon. Deputy Minister, it seems the figures are not available. May I know how many persons had been prosecuted in various States and also whether the Ministry has got any information under the present Act?

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** We have not got the details with regard to them. If a separate question is tabled, we will get that information.

**Shri Basumatari:** May I know whether it is a fact that the rice mill owners themselves are hoarders of rice in the State of Assam?

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** In Assam, about 21.54 maunds of sah paddy, 1,728 maunds of aus paddy and 464 maunds of aus rice have been seized from unauthorised dealers. That is the information that we have got from Assam.

**Shri Basumatari:** Sir, my question has not been answered. I wanted to know whether the rice mill owners are the owners of foodgrains in Assam.

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** I could not follow the question.\*

**Mr. Speaker:** He wants to know whether the rice mill owners themselves are the hoarders. Has the hon. Deputy Minister got that information?

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** We have not got that information. With regard to the quantities seized and the quantities requisitioned we have asked for