

Some Hon. Members rose—

Shri Raghunath Singh: 17 minutes have been spent on one question only.

Mr. Speaker: Now, next question. We have already spent about 17 minutes on this question.

Recommendations of Wage Boards

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Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:

Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Shri A. M. Tariq:

Shri S. M. Banerjee:

Shri S. A. Mehdi:

Shri Jadhav:

Shri Pahadia:

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:

Shri Muhammed Elias:

Shri Tridib Kumar

*871. **Chaudhuri:**

Shri P. C. Borooah:

Shri Narayanankutty

Menon:

Shri Parulekar:

Dr. Samantsinhar:

Shri Hem Barua:

Shri Indrajit Gupta:

Shri Rajendra Singh:

Shri Jagdish Awasthi:

Shri Palaniyandy:

Will the Minister of **Labour and Employment** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1783 on the 28th April, 1960 and state:

(a) whether Government have received progress reports regarding implementation of the recommendations of the Wage Boards for Textile and Cement Industries in individual factories;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) at what stage is the proposal to set up a Tribunal to decide the disputes arising in the course of implementation of the recommendations of the Wage Boards?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) Yes.

(b) A large number of cotton textile mills have agreed to implement the recommendations. The cement factories are also taking necessary action in the matter in consultation with labour unions.

(c) The need for setting up a Tribunal has not arisen. If any disputes arise in the course of implementation it will be for the Governments concerned to deal with it appropriately.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: May I know whether it is a fact that some factories in the Punjab have been exempted, and if so, on what grounds, and what special procedure is being adopted in their case?

Shri Abid Ali: No special procedure is being adopted in this matter. Such of the mills as were closed were taken care of in this respect by the wage board report itself, and, therefore, there will not be any difficulty.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether it is a fact that the textile mill-owners in Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal have not yet implemented the recommendations in any of the mills, and if so, what steps have been taken by Government in this behalf, and what specific objections have been put forward by the mill-owners to the implementation of the recommendations?

Shri Abid Ali: Some of the mills in Andhra Pradesh have agreed to pay, and the Government of West Bengal are taking necessary steps in regard to the mills situated in their area.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether it is a fact that in UP, at the tripartite conference, only the mills in Kanpur, Saharanpur and Modinagar have agreed to implement this report, and if so, what steps have been taken to get it implemented in other areas of UP?

Shri Abid Ali: The UP Government are doing the needful.

Shri Prabhat Kar: The hon. Minister has stated that in West Bengal, no mill has up till now implemented the recommendations of the Wage Board. May I know how much more time will be given to the employers to take a decision about the implementation of the recommendations, and if they fail, what steps are going to be taken?

The Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri Nanda): Very recently, I placed myself in touch with the Chief Minister of West Bengal and reminded him that he had undertaken to invite the representatives of the parties and to bring about a settlement on this matter and to secure the implementation of the recommendations of the Wage Board. He held a conference, and he thought that this would be carried out, and the implementation would start. But it has taken some time. So, again, two days ago, I consulted him, and he said that he had hoped that this would have gone on. He is again going to make enquiries and ask the people concerned to see that it is expedited. I hope it will be done; if it is not implemented for a considerable time, we shall take further steps.

Shri K. N. Pandey: Is it a fact that the implementation of the recommendations of the Cement Wage Board has been delayed because Government authorities have referred the matter for clarification to the Ministry of Labour here, and if so, how far the matter has gone, and what steps are being taken to see that the recommendations are implemented?

Shri Abid Ali: About cement, we had a tripartite conference of this particular industry recently, and, there, agreements were reached in consultation with the union representatives and accordingly, action is being taken.

Shri Damani: May I know the State-wise percentages of increase in the wage bill due to implementation of the Wage Board's recommendations?

Shri Abid Ali: That is in the Report of the Wage Board. The hon. Member can find out from there.

Shri Damani: I wanted to know the percentage of increase in the wage bill consequent on the implementation of the Wage Board's recommendations?

Shri Abid Ali: The figures have not been issued. For calculation purposes, I have referred the hon. Member to the Report.

श्री रामसिंह भाई बर्मा : गवर्नमेंट नोटिफिकेशन के अनुसार कुछ टैक्सटाइल मिल्स के बारे में, जिन के ऊपर जांच कमेटियां बैठी हुई थीं, वेज बोर्ड की सिफारिशों पर धमल करना विचाराधीन रखा गया था। इस प्रकार के कारखाने शोकि चालू हैं और जिन में काम करने वाले मजदूरों का वेतन वेज बोर्ड की सिफारिशों के अनुसार अभी तक नहीं बढ़ाया गया है, उनके बारे में शासन क्या कर रहा है ?

श्री आबिद अली : जो कारखाने बन्द हैं या जिन के बारे में चौकसी हो रही है, वहां तो इसको बढ़ाना मुश्किल है क्योंकि वहां सब से पहला सवाल तो यह है कि जो बन्द हैं वे खुलें और जो चल रहे हैं लेकिन ठीक तरीके से नहीं चल रहे हैं, वे ठीक तरीके से चलें और इन कारखानों के बारे में आज हालत यह है कि उनके मजदूरों को पूरी तनखाह ही नहीं मिल रही है।

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether it is a fact that the Bengal Mill-owners' Association has demanded of Government that there should be no implementation of the Wage Board's recommendations towards a rise in wage and dearness allowance until there is implementation simultaneously of the recommendations towards rationalisation of the industry? If so, what is the reaction of Government to this attitude?

Shri Nanda: This is not a question which has arisen only in that area. It arose in other States also and it has been settled. It is not that the whole programme of rationalisation has to be carried out, but some kind of understanding has to be reached and it was not very difficult to bring that about in other places. It should not be difficult there also.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: May I know whether Government are setting up separate Wage Boards for tea, coffee and rubber or are they setting up one Wage Board for all the plantation crops?

Shri Abid Ali: According to the decision taken in the conference in consultation with the employers and employees' representatives, there would be separate Wage Boards for these, one for tea, one for coffee and one for rubber.

श्री रामसिंह भाई बर्मा : मेरा सवाल बन्द कारखानों के बारे में नहीं था। मेरा सवाल यह है कि जो कारखाने चालू हैं और जिन के ऊपर इन्क्वायरी कमेटी बिठाई गई थी, जिनके बारे में जांच चालू थी, गवर्नमेंट नोटिफिकेशन के मुताबिक उनके बारे में वेज बोर्ड की सिफारिशों के अनुसार अमल करना विचाराधीन रखा गया था लेकिन आज वे कारखाने कमा रहे हैं लेकिन फिर भी वेज बोर्ड की सिफारिशों को इन कारखानों में अमल में नहीं लाया गया है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इसके बारे में सरकार क्या कर रही है ?

श्री नन्दा : अगर ऐसी हालत पैदा हो गई है, अगर फायदा हो रहा है, तो वहाँ पर भी जरूर सरकार इसको अमल में लाने की कोशिश करेगी।

Shri K. N. Pandey: May I know whether the representative of the Government cement factory in UP had participated in the tripartite conference? If so, had he assured that it would be prepared to implement the recommendations?

Shri Abid Ali: Yes, the UP Government representative was also present when the decision was taken. However, he did not raise any objection so far as this decision was concerned. During the discussion, he placed the UP Government's point of view.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: May I know the numbers respectively of the cement and textile factories which have not

implemented the recommendation and the number of employees involved in each case?

Shri Abid Ali: Out of 480 mills, about 50 are under investigation. Out of the remaining, I think 300 have agreed to implement it.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The hon. Minister stated that if the millowners did not implement it within a reasonable time, further steps would be taken. I want to know what actually is the denition of 'reasonable time' and what further steps will be taken if they do not implement it, and whether those steps will also be legal.

Shri Nanda: The position is that it is not simply making the mills pay the increase in wages and dearness allowance through some process or another. But there are other recommendations of the Wage Board which cannot be made a subject-matter of legislation. Therefore, the effort is to see that the parties come to an understanding regarding those matters, rationalisation etc. They are trying to secure that. That hope is progressively being realised in one or two places. I hope that will also be done. Then will remain the question of a residual number of concerns where for one reason or other they are not making the payments now. We will try to persuade them. If we fail in that, then such action as may create the necessary sanction will be taken.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether in case the millowners of South India, West Bengal and some millowners in UP also fail to be convinced of the arguments of Government, as they seem to be, the Government propose to promulgate an Ordinance to enforce the Wage Board's decision?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Nanda: I have answered that.

Mr. Speaker: Question No. 872, Shri Vidya Charan Shukla.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: Question No. 903 may also be taken up with it.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: They are separate. I think they should not be clubbed together.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: It refers to the same matter.

Mr. Speaker: Has the hon. Member any objection to answering them together?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri P. S. Naskar): No objection.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: One is about the bad working of tractors and the other is about the good working of tractors.

Mr. Speaker: What is his difficulty, if the Minister is prepared to answer them together? We will assume that we have reached question No. 903. Does he not want to put the question?

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: I want to put question No. 872. The other question is not to be put.

Mr. Speaker: All right. It will not be answered.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Can he do so?

Mr. Speaker: I cannot force an hon. Member to put a question.

Shri Hem Barua: The question has been put down in the list of questions. Now it cannot be done.

Mr. Speaker: I am really surprised that after so many years of presence in Parliament, the hon. Member does not understand this. If an hon. Member does not get up to put his question, am I to put the question? It is open to a Member who has tabled a question to keep quiet. Then he won't be called. I will consider, when he is present here and does not put question, whether the printed answer should be published or not. I will score out that also. I would not allow him the advantage of having his name published elsewhere in the newspapers when he is physically present here and refuses to put the question. The printed answer would not be published.

Tractors at Dandakaranya Project

***872. Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) how many of the D 80 class Japanese tractors of Dandakaranya Project which went out of order, have been put back to service;

(b) what is the total expense incurred in making them serviceable; and

(c) what part of this expenditure will be borne by the seller of the machines?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri P. S. Naskar): (a) Seven, out of the eight D-80 tractors, that went out of order were repaired and put back into service.

(b) The repairs were carried out by the Director General of Ordnance Factories, who supplied the tractors.

(c) The expenditure is to be borne by the supplier.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: The answer to part (b) concerning the total expenditure in making them serviceable, has not been given.

Shri P. S. Naskar: As I said, the expenditure is borne by the supplier, the DGOF. We have no information as to how much expenditure they have incurred.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: May I know for what time these tractors which were out of order were immobilised?

Shri P. S. Naskar: They were immobilised for a certain number of days. They were required on the site. They were not taken out of the site. I presume not much time was taken for the repairs.

Shri Jaganatha Rao: What exactly are the defects in these tractors?

Shri P. S. Naskar: A little bit of mechanical defects, consumption of air cleaner oil and consumption of engine oil, more than usual etc.