

**Shri Krishna Menon:** I informed the House some time ago that we have got one helicopter from the Soviet Union; we have got another from the United States. Further negotiations are going on, and when the Air Force is satisfied, whichever aircraft it is which negotiates the heights, further steps will be taken in the matter.

**Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri:** May I know if the helicopter requirements of the Government are met in full or they are short of helicopters?

**Shri Krishna Menon:** We are short of helicopters.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** How long will it take Government to get going with this factory for the manufacture of helicopters?

**Shri Krishna Menon:** I said just now that there are no definite plans for the manufacture of helicopters. But all types of aircraft are generally developed and experiments go on in the Aircraft Manufacturing Depot which, until it is developed, it is premature to publish.

**Shri Nath Pai:** Is there any substance in the report which appeared in the *London Times* last month that having taken into consideration the peculiarities that this kind of helicopter would be required to satisfy, the Indian Government had finally decided to place orders with the Soviet Union; and is there any substance in the report that the orders having been placed, they are not being fulfilled, because of Chinese interference?

**Shri Krishna Menon:** Not at all, Sir.

**Shri Nath Pai:** 'Not at all' means, which?

**Mr. Speaker:** Neither. I will apply "Not at all" to both.

### Labour Laws

\*261. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether Labour Laws applicable to other public sector undertakings have since been made applicable to the three Steel Plants; and

(b) if not, the reason, for the same?

**The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** May I know whether the attention of the hon. Minister has been drawn to the various statements made by the Labour Minister of Orissa and the Labour Commissioner, Orissa that there is gross violation of labour laws in the Rourkela steel plant? I want to know whether the labour laws have been implemented in Rourkela or not.

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** I am aware of the comments that appeared in the press. I also had an occasion to look at the report. Most of the things which are mentioned in that report have been rectified. There was one main point in which the labour officers of the Orissa Government insisted that each unit of the plant as it is getting ready should be separately registered under the Factories Act. There was some dispute on that. Action has since been taken to implement all the various things that were pointed out in that report.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** I want to know whether under the Industrial Disputes Act and Rules the Works Committees, Production Committees and Safety Committees are functioning in all these three steel plants; and, if not, why?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** It should be remembered that production has started not long ago in these various steel plants. Even then, all the various departments of the steel plants have

not gone into production. Therefore, the normal set-up that is to be there when full production starts has not yet been actually enforced. But, by and large, all these various legislative measures, point out the necessity of certain requirements and they are being complied with.

**Shri Palaniyandy:** May I know whether it is a fact that there are more workers who have not been made permanent even today, and as a result of that there is discontent among the workers?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** This is much too general an assertion, and I do not accept it.

**Shri Viswanatha Reddy:** May I know whether, after the steel factories have come into full production, it is the intention of the Government to remove this insulation of factories from the labour laws?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** There is no insulation of the factories from the labour laws. Therefore, the first part does not arise.

**Shri Tangamani:** May I know whether it is a fact that some controversy arose over the labour laws, concerning the industrial relations adopted by the Government of Madhya Pradesh, and whether a new formula has been adopted to avoid the previous labour trouble?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** I am not aware of the controversy which the hon. Member is mentioning as having arisen between the Government and the project; there is no such conflict between the Government of Madhya Pradesh and the project authorities.

**Shri Supakar:** Even after the Government of Orissa pointed out the irregularity and violation of labour laws, it still continued. May I know what was the time when these violations were removed—like the employment of women beyond the prescribed hours? What was the time inter-

val between the time when it was pointed out and the time when the defects were rectified?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** I could not give the time between the pointing out of the defects and the rectification thereof. But the project authorities have reported that most of the things have been rectified.

**Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri:** May I know if the Government of Orissa formally wrote to the Union Steel Ministry about these things, or the Union Steel Ministry came to know of these things from press reports only?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** No, it is not customary for the State Government to write to the Central Government or the Ministry in charge of a particular project. It is essentially a matter between the project authorities and the State Government. If any of the points mentioned in the inspection reports are not accepted by the project authorities, the project authorities are under these very labour laws entitled to represent, or even to appeal against certain of the observations or points that might have been made.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** My question was about the formation of the works committee, the production committee and the safety committee. I can understand that till the factory goes into production, the formation of the committee....

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. Hon. Members cannot argue over the matter. What is the question?

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** The question is, whether the works committees are functioning in the three steel plants or not, and if not what is the reason?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** I would require separate notice for this specific point.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** May I know if the Employees Provident Fund Act, 1952 is implemented in these three steel plants and may I also know if it is a fact that the Labour Ministry has drawn the attention of the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel to violations of the law?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** I think that the Employees Provident Fund Act does apply to the employees, and I have no knowledge of any point that might have been referred to the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel by the Labour Ministry.

**Shri Panigrahi:** May I know whether it is a fact that the authorities of the Rourkela Steel project did not accept all the points which were pointed out by the Labour Commissioner to the Government of India with regard to the violations of labour laws in the steel factory and, if so, what are the points of dispute between the project authorities and the State Government?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** The project authorities are entitled to point out if they do not accept entirely the points that might be raised in an inspection report just as any other private sector plant is entitled to represent those points which have been thrown up and are not acceptable to the project authorities. I have already said that on one point particularly, namely, as to whether the project as a whole should be registered under the Factories Act or each department separately there was a difference of opinion, and I may also be permitted to inform the hon. House that works like the Tata Works are registered as one unit under the Factories Act and not as individual departments thereof. I would not be surprised if there was any difference of opinion about what was thrown up in the report as between the project authorities and the inspector concerned.

### Air Space Violation by Chinese

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\*262. { **Shri Bhakt Darshan:**  
**Shri P. G. Deb:**  
**Shri S. A. Mehdi:**  
**Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:**  
**Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:**  
**Shri Rameshwar Tantia:**  
**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:**  
**Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:**  
**Shri Hem Barua:**  
**Shri Koratkar:**  
**Shri Khushwaqt Rai:**

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

- (a) whether China has rejected India's note on Air Space Violations;
- (b) if so, the details of the same; and
- (c) any further action taken in the matter?

**The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon):** (a) Yes, Sir; that is the case in regard to the protests made up to 16th September, which is the last letter of the Chinese Government.

(b) and (c). In this connection, attention is invited to White Paper No. IV laid by the Prime Minister or the Table of the House on the 14th November, 1960.

**Shri Bhakt Darshan:** As all our protests have been rather ignored so far, has the Government considered or is considering the taking of any stringent measures in this connection?

**Shri Krishna Menon:** Government have made a protest in regard to violations after that time which is seen in paragraph 3 of the latest letter from the Government which the Prime Minister laid on the Table of the House. In regard to violations by helicopter on the 18th September, we have received no reply to that so far.

**Mr. Speaker:** He wants to know, apart from mere protests, whether any further action has been taken or not.