

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: I want to submit....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. Let me conclude. Whenever I find that the hon. Members are just going about beyond the question and trying to find some more questions, then I ask them to stop and proceed to the next question. I am thoroughly satisfied that they have exhausted their questions so far as relevant questions are concerned. All right, Mr. Basu.

Shri K. K. Basu: Has the attention of the Government been drawn to a statement made by the Food Minister in the West Bengal Legislature that in spite of the recommendation of the Planning Commission sanctioning nearly Rs. 46 lakhs for the development of this particular area the Central Government has so far granted only Rs. 15 lakhs in spite of the repeated demands and requests made by the West Bengal State?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I would request my friend to address this question to the hon. the Finance Minister.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: The hon. Minister says that the scarcity conditions in the stricken areas are due to the lack of purchasing power of the people. Has Government any plan under their contemplation to bring down food prices within the purchasing power of the common people?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: As the Food Minister's speech has been referred to, I would suggest that if the hon. Members will look into it they will find that adequate relief measures are being taken by the West Bengal Government already.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What is it that the hon. Member Pandit D. N. Tiwary wanted to submit?

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: A similar question about Bihar was tabled but it has been replied that Government is not prepared to accept that question. May I know why there is this differential treatment?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. the Food Minister is absent. Even this question was tabled long ago. Therefore, in view of the pressure—hon. Members came and asked me that the hon. Minister, Dr. Punjabrao Deshmukh may be asked to reply—with some hesitation he accepted because he is not in full possession of the facts. Similar enthusiasm was not exhibited by the hon. Member?

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

ORDNANCE FACTORY A. BARNATH

*2199. **Shri Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether a memorandum was submitted to the Prime Minister during his visit in January, 1953 to Ordnance Factory, Ambarnath by the Ordnance Employees' Union;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister assured the representatives that he would look into the same and arrange for the redress of grievances mentioned therein; and

(c) what action has since been taken by Government in pursuance of that assurance?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) A memorandum was submitted to the Prime Minister by the Ordnance Factories Employees when he visited Ambarnath in January 1953 to perform the Opening Ceremony of the Machine Tool Prototype Factory.

(b) The Prime Minister agreed to have the representation examined.

(c) The different points brought out in the representation have been considered and wherever any action was required, that was attended to.

GANDHI MEMORIAL FUND'S INVESTMENT IN BONDS OF THE INDUSTRIAL FINANCE CORPORATION

*2209. **Shri Mohanlal Saksena:** (a) Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Gandhi Memorial Fund has invested rupees three crores and thirty-five lacs in 1964 Bonds of the Industrial Finance Corporation?

(b) What is the total amount of money paid by Government to the Corporation for paying the guaranteed dividend?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rs. 26.89,126/4/6.

HABITUAL OFFENDERS BILL.

*2214. **Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Habitual Offenders Bill, which was under consideration has been finalised; and

(b) whether State Governments have taken steps to enact measures to deal with the habitual offenders in the States?