

## PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

\*187. **Shri Gidwani:** (a) Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether Government have considered the recommendations of the Public Accounts Committee?

(b) If so, have any steps been taken to separate Audit from Accounts?

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

(b) Not yet, Sir.

INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF FARIDABAD  
(STRIKE)

\*188. **Shri Nambiar:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that industrial workers of Faridabad went on strike recently;

(b) if so, which of the concerns were involved and how many workers were affected;

(c) what were the demands of the strikers; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to meet the demands of the workers of Faridabad?

**The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain):** (a) and (b). Yes. Technical Institute workers were on strike. The strike started with 182 workers and the number rose gradually to 254.

(c) The demands of the workers were changing from time to time. Broadly speaking they can be summarised as follows:—

(i) higher scales of salary; and

(ii) suspension of the realisation of instalment due on account of the hire-purchase price of the houses.

(d) (i) After taking into consideration the rates of pay and allowance admissible to the employees of the Central Ordnance Depot, Delhi Cantonment, the Central Workshop, Amritsar and the Delhi State Electricity Board, new scales of pay have been sanctioned for workers in Faridabad. In addition to these scales of pay, they will be given dearness allowance at Punjab rates.

(ii) Individual cases would be examined and wherever it is found that the person concerned is unable to pay the whole or part of the instalment due in respect of the house, necessary relief would be given.

**Shri Nambiar:** May I know, Sir, whether at any stage the number of strikers went up to 1,000 which meant the whole industrial workers in that area?

**Shri A. P. Jain:** No.

**Shri Nambiar:** May I know, Sir, whether the population of that area being 27,000, the strikers and their families totalled up the whole population?

**Shri A. P. Jain:** No.

**Shri Nambiar:** May I know, Sir, whether Government would consider redress of their grievances at an early date?

**Shri A. P. Jain:** These grievances have been considered and necessary relief given.

**Shri Nambiar:** What is the source of livelihood of these men who are all refugees, if they are unemployed?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** A number of people are unemployed.

**Shri Nambiar:** They are refugees—they have no landed properties or other source of income.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I think Government is doing its best.

## GADGIL COMMITTEE REPORT

\*189. **Shri Nambiar:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) what action has been taken on the Report of the Gadgil Committee on the issue of merger of dearness allowance with pay; and

(b) when Government propose to take their final decision on the Committee's recommendations?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat):** (a) and (b). The Report of the Gadgil Committee is still under the consideration of Government and a decision is expected to be announced very shortly.

**Shri Nambiar:** May I enquire how much time it will take for the Government to come to a decision, since the Committee has submitted its report three months back?

**Shri B. R. Bhagat:** The examination is in the final stage and the Government's decision will be announced very shortly.

**Shri Nambiar:** Will the hon. Member give an assurance that the decision will not in any way prejudice the interests of the staff?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** What is this hypothetical question?

**Shri H. N. Shastri:** Is it proposed to announce the decision at the time of the Budget presentation?

**Shri B. R. Bhagat:** I cannot say definitely, but I hope so.

**Shri Nambiar:** Are Government aware that there is an apprehension in the minds of the Government employees that the decision will go against them?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** And therefore the hon. Member wants to suggest that they ought not to consider it!

**Shri B. R. Bhagat:** No, Sir.

**Shri Achuthan:** May I know whether the Government of India propose to consult the State Governments before taking a final decision in this matter?

**Shri B. R. Bhagat:** The Committee have already got the views of the State Governments while going into this matter.

#### ELECTRONIC INDUSTRY

**\*190. Kumari Annie Mascarene:** (a) Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state whether it is a fact that an agreement has been entered into with a French firm for starting an electronic industry in India?

(b) What are the terms of the agreement?

(c) Where is this industry to be established?

(d) What is the total capital outlay?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Satish Chandra):** (a) Yes.

(b) The agreement is a detailed document going into the various technical aspects. The French firm will act as the Government's technical advisers. It will initially provide some technicians for the setting up of the factory and for putting it into operation. It will also train Indian personnel, both in India and in France, to enable them to take over from the French personnel as soon as possible. A training School and a research and development section form an integral part of the factory.

(c) and (d). I would invite the attention of the hon. Member to the reply given earlier today to part (a) of Starred Question No. 170.

**Kumari Annie Mascarene:** May I know the date on which the agreement was entered into?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** It was on the 11th of December, 1952.

**Kumari Annie Mascarene:** May I know the capital that is contributed by India?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** It will be entirely an Indian Government concern; nobody else has contributed any capital.

**Kumari Annie Mascarene:** May I know whether there are any experts other than the French associated with this?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** No. The French experts only will assist us in setting up the factory. It will be run by the Government through its own staff.

**Shrimati A. Kale:** May I know whether there is any time-limit by which it will be entirely managed by Indians. The hon. Minister stated that it will be taken over from the French personnel as soon as possible. I want to know whether there is any time-limit.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Even from the start. That is what he said.

**The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** It is managed now, and always by Indians. There is some misapprehension. This is a technical firm of advisers. The question of management does not come in. It is all the time under Government management.

**Shri Meghnad Saha:** Is there a research and development section attached to this?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** Yes, Sir. I have said so in reply to the main question.

**Shri K. K. Basu:** May I know whether the advice given by these advisers will be mandatory?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Advice is advice.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** The hon. Member is trying to be humorous and intelligent. Here is a big project, one of the biggest undertaken by the Government, on which it is quite impossible, without the highest technical advice, for the Government of India or anybody in India to start. We went into the matter most carefully