

by amending the Local Self-Government Acts ?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: That would naturally have to be referred to State Governments. I am not responsible as to how State Governments function.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether as a result of this Enquiry Committee, Government have evolved any central plan for local self-governing institutions?

Mr. Speaker: The Committee was for considering financial aspects only, not the general aspects.

Shri K. K. Basu: May I know whether Government have fixed any time-limit as to the State Governments making up their minds as to the recommendations of this Committee.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: It is very difficult for Government to fix any time-limit, but we remind the State Governments and ask them to let us know what they are doing from time to time.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION

*195. **Shrimati Jayashri:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the 34th Session of the International Labour Organisations Conference held in Geneva in June 1951, the subject of "Equal Pay for Equal work to be performed by men and women workers" was discussed; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the India Government voted against the introduction of a convention on this subject?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) Yes, the 34th Session of the International Labour Conference held in Geneva in June 1951 discussed this subject and adopted a Convention and a Recommendation on Equal remuneration for men and women workers for work of equal value.

(b) The principle of equal-remuneration has been incorporated in the directive principle contained in Article 39(d) of the Indian Constitution and accepted by the Central Pay Commission, the Fair Wage Committee and a number of Industrial Tribunals also. But the actual application of the principle would have to be gradual in view of the practical difficulties involved. A machinery must be set up for objective appraisal of job contents without which the principle could not be applied. The 34th Session adopted a Convention as well as a Recommendation on the sub-

ject. The Government of India's delegate abstained from voting on the Convention, but voted in favour of the Recommendation. A statement on the action to be taken on this Convention and Recommendation by the Government of India and its delegation's Report explaining the position, will be placed before the Parliament soon in accordance with Article 19 of the L.L.O. Convention.

Shrimati Jayashri: May I know whether Government has any intention of instituting machinery for fixing the job rates?

Shri V. V. Giri: Yes, Sir.

Shri K. P. Tripathi: Is it a fact that the Government delegate actually adopted the position that women in India should get lesser wages than men?

Shri V. V. Giri: I do not think so.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know the reasons that prompted the Indian delegate to vote for the Convention and abstain from the recommendation?

Shri V. V. Giri: A statement will soon be placed on the Table of the House explaining the reason.

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair: May I know whether Government is aware that in fixing the minimum wages in the tea planting industry, a difference has been maintained based on the assumed intention of the Government of India to fix different scales of wages for men and women?

Shri V. V. Giri: I am sure that is not the intention of the Government of India. At any rate, the Government of India's decision is to gradually adopt the Convention to see that there shall be no difference.

Shri K. P. Tripathi: Is it a fact that the average woman plucker in a tea garden is better than the average man, and in spite of that fact, the men get higher wages for plucking than the women?

Shri V. V. Giri: I will take the information from the hon. Member.

TRAIN RUNNING BETWEEN KAVALI AND MADRAS

*196. **Shri K. S. Rao:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether Government have received any representations from public bodies or individuals, requesting for re-starting of the train running between Kaval and Madras on the Southern Railway?

(b) Do Government intend to re-start the train?