

taken up in conciliation from 1st January, 1960 upto 1st April, 1962;

(b) what were the main disputes;

(c) what was the result of the conciliation;

(d) whether any dispute is at present pending before the conciliator; and

(e) if so, what is the dispute?

The Minister of Labour in the Ministry of Labour and Employment (Shri Hathi): (a) 64.

(b) The main disputes are absorption of Nominal Muster Roll and work-charged employees in regular cadres; payment of production bonus and mining allowance; arrangements for water supply, housing and transport; non-payment of wages, increments and retrenchment compensation; reduction in wages of certain workmen; and grant of leave with wages etc.

(c) Out of the 64 disputes, 56 were either amicably settled or withdrawn or closed due to failure of parties to attend conciliation proceedings. In 8 cases, failure reports were received.

(d) Yes.

(e) (i) Withdrawal of mining allowance in Nandani mines from work-charged employees.

(ii) Profit Sharing Bonus.

Iron Ore in Ratnagiri District

1909. Shri Nath Pai: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the total quantity of iron ore from the Reddi mines in Ratnagiri District that was exported during the past two years?

The Minister of International Trade in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): Total quantity of 6.96 lakh tons of iron ore (3.68 lakhs in 1960 and 3.28 lakhs tons in 1961) was exported during the past two years from the Reddi mines in Ratnagiri District.

Kathmandu-Dacca Air Link

1910. Shri P. C. Borooah: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan and Nepal are negotiating for a possible Kathmandu Dacca air link; and

(b) if so, what are the possible repercussions of the deal in case of its finalisation on Indian aviation trade?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Yes, Sir. According to our information there was some talk between representatives of the two Governments about establishing such an air link sometime ago.

(b) The proposed link, if established, is likely to affect the tourist traffic, now carried by Air India International and the I.A.C., to some extent.

Bhutan as a Member of Colombo Plan

1911. Shri P. C. Borooah: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has solicited the support of all members of the Colombo Plan to the proposal for Bhutan's admission to the Plan; and

(b) if so, with what response?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Yes.

(b) Of the 19 full Members of the Colombo Plan, seven have expressed their support for the proposal. Reaction of the other eleven countries has not yet been received.

Disarmament Conference

1912. Shri P. C. Borooah: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian delegate to the 17-Nation Disarmament Conference had of late suggested a new arms inspection formula;

(b) if so, what were the outlines of the scheme suggested; and

(c) what was the response to this move from the conference?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru). (a) to (c). The only proposal regarding inspection so far put forward with India's sponsorship is contained in a memorandum on the question of nuclear tests submitted on April 16, 1962, by the 8 new members of the Disarmament Committee. A copy of this memorandum, which the nuclear powers agreed to consider as a basis for discussion, is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 13].

Speaking in the 18 Nation Disarmament Committee on May 3, 1962, the Indian representative made an informal suggestion for resolving the difference between the two main power blocs regarding the extent of control necessary to ensure observance of a treaty on complete and general disarmament. Both sides agree that there should be an International Disarmament Organisation empowered to verify that each party to the treaty is reducing its forces and arms by agreed quantities. The Western powers maintain that this organisation should also verify that the levels retained at any given time do not exceed agreed limits. This is opposed by the Soviet group as unjustified inspection over armaments rather than disarmaments. The idea put forward by the Indian representative was that the treaty should, to some extent, provide that, as the disarmament process is implemented, countries concerned may invite the control organisation to visit increasingly larger areas of their territories, in addition to the verification of actual reduction of various weapons and forces. This was not a formal proposal, but an informal suggestion. Other delegations expressed interest in this idea which may, in the process of negotiations, be developed further.

National Productivity Council

1913. Shri Maheswar Naik: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the nature of research work entrusted to the Economic cell constituted under the National Productivity Council; and

(b) the extent to which the results of the research so far achieved have contributed towards attainment of the objectives of the Council?

The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) NPC has recently constituted an Economic Cell in its Secretariat to:

(i) measure industrial productivity and to construct Index Numbers;

(ii) evaluate the effectiveness and utility of training programmes; and

(iii) collect and analyse statistics on industrial productivity.

In addition, the Cell has also been entrusted with the task of promoting and stimulating research in the field of productivity in the country.

(b) Research constitutes only a part of the activities which are being organised by the Council and considerable work has yet to be done before anything could be said about the achievement of results.

Raw Materials for Production of Atomic Energy in Kutch

1914. Shri Yajnik: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the parties sent by the Atomic Energy Commission have been prospecting in Kutch for raw material for the production of Atomic Energy during the last 2 years;

(b) whether any reports have been received from them showing deposits of zinc and lead and uranium in those areas; and