

in this coalfield from 16th to 27th June, 1977.

The estimated net loss during the nine effective working days of the strike was about Rs. 1 lakh per day.

(c) to (e). The strike was called off on 27th June, 1977 after an agreement was reached between the management and the representatives of the Samyukhta Khadan Mazdoor Sangh (AITUC). The demands of the workers would be dealt with, in accordance with the terms of this settlement.

**Publication 'Victory of Indira' by
Amrita Bazar Patrika Group**

3456. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:
Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Amrita Bazar Patrika Group had taken out a publication titled 'Victory of Indira';

(b) if so, whether the DAVP had given advertisements; and

(c) if so, of what value and whether publication has been taken out at all and whether the advertisements have been given and payments made for the same?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) to (c). It is not within the knowledge of the Government if such a publication was brought out by Amrita Bazar Patrika Group. In any case, D.A.V.P. did not give any advertisement to it.

Pension to Freedom Fighters

3457. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN:
Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news appeared in Times of India on 27th June, stating that the Prime Minister is against the scheme

of political pension to freedom fighters; and

(b) whether the Government will explain in this context how this position would affect the freedom fighters pension which is already granted and the cases which are pending decision?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHARAN SINGH): (a) and (b). The Freedom Fighters' Pension Scheme is under review and no final decision has yet been taken.

**News Item "All was ready for J.P.'s
Cremation"**

3458. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:
SHRI MRITUNJAY PRASAD
VERMA:
SHRI RAGHAVJI:
SHRI S. KUNDU:
SHRI CHANDRADEO
VERMA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a news published in 'Hindustan Times', New Delhi dated the 28th June, 1977, under the caption "All was ready for JP's cremation";

(b) if so, the detailed facts thereof; and

(c) the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHARAN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Government of Bihar have intimated that since the health of Shri Jayaprakash Narayan

was causing serious anxiety, the State Government had prepared a contingency plan for meeting the situation arising out of the unfortunate eventuality of his death on the presumption that his cremation would take place at Patna. Since it was anticipated that people in large numbers would like to pay their last homage to Shri Jayaprakash Narayan, the contingency plan was prepared for orderly public participation in the funeral and ensuring the maintenance of law and order. The State Government have denied categorically that any plan was made for a secret cremation of Shri Jayaprakash Narayan.

Strike in H.M.T. Kalamassery

3459. SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA:
SHRI P. K. KODIYAN:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a strike at the Kalamassery Unit of Hindustan Machine Tools;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to bring normalcy; and

(c) the estimated loss every day?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY
(SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a)
Yes, Sir.

(b) All the 10 Unions in the Kalamassery Unit of HMT submitted an urgent Charter of Demands on 20th

May, 1977. The major demands included: payment of annual bonus for the year 1975-76, revision of rates provided in the Incentive Scheme, grant of higher grade of pay to all employees, grant of City Compensatory Allowance, reinstatement of employees whose services have been terminated, restoration of leave facilities and other facilities, revision of the cost of living index, improvement of working conditions and payment of an interim relief of Rs. 100 per month from 1-1-1977.

Discussions were held with the Unions regarding the above demands. There were conciliation meetings before the Deputy Labour Commissioner. The Management offered during the conciliation negotiations, 15 days' recoverable salary advance to be recovered/adjusted pending discussions and settlement of the scheme of payment of annual bonus, linked to productivity. This offer was rejected by the Unions.

The workers have gone on strike since 23rd June, 1977. The situation is being carefully watched. The Management are prepared to negotiate further so that a satisfactory settlement is reached.

The State Government have been requested to assist in resumption of negotiations and towards the conclusion of reasonable settlement for ending the strike.

(c) The estimated production loss is Rs. 3.00 lakhs per day.