

रही है और प्राप्त होते ही उसे समा-
पटल पर रख दिया जाएगा।

Reinstating dismissed employees of P & T Department

617. SHRI F. H. MOHSIN: Will the
Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be
pleased to state:

(a) whether the dismissed employees
of the Post and Telegraph Depart-
ment during the past strikes have been
reinstated;

(b) if so, how many have been re-
instated and how many remain to be
reinstated;

(c) whether the period between the
dismissal and reinstatement could be
considered as on duty and the re-
muneration would be paid to them
for the period and the estimated ex-
penditure on that account; and

(d) whether after reinstatement of
such dismissed employees, any retren-
chment of the existing staff would
take place, if not how will they be
accommodated?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICA-
TIONS (SHRI GEORGE FERNAN-
DES): (a) and (b). Yes Sir, except-
ing one case which is also being pro-
cessed in consultation with U. P. S. C.

(c) The issue of instructions in this
regard is being finalised in consulta-
tion with Department of Personnel
and Administrative Reforms.

(d) No retrenchment is involved.

Child Exploitation

618. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY:
Will the Minister of PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be
pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware
that there is widespread prevalence

of child labour and that at least there
are 25000 of them in the capital itself;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) what remedial steps Govern-
ment have been taken or propose to
take to abolish child exploitation?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR
(SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a) to
(c). According to the 1971 Census, the
total number of workers below the age
of 15 years was 10.74 million, includ-
ing 17,000 in the Union Territory of
Delhi.

Employment of children is regulated
or prohibited under various Labour
enactments, such as:—

(1) Children (Pledging of Labour)
Act, 1933.

(2) Employment of Children Act,
1938.

(3) Factories Act, 1948.

(4) Plantations Labour Act, 1951.

(5) The Mines Act, 1952.

(6) Beedi & Cigar Workers (Con-
ditions of Employment), Act, 1966.

A working Group on Employment
Children set up in April, 1974 by the
Department of Social Welfare in the
Ministry of Education & Social Wel-
fare has made some recommendations
on the subject which are under the
examination of the Government.

Creation of posts of postmen and Class IV employees in P&T

619. SHRI BHAGAT RAM. Will the
Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be
pleased to state:

(a) whether All India Postal Em-
ployees' Union Postmen & Class IV
submitted "standards for creation of

posts of Postmen & Class IV" after thorough study by its General Secretary, in the year 1966-67;

(b) if so, whether the P&T Board has considered the above suggestions of the Union; and

(c) whether the new Ministry is considering cancellation of ad hoc standards and acceptance of standards prescribed by the Union after mutual discussions?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES):

(a) to (c). The All India Postal Employees Union Postmen and Class-IV had suggested certain standards for the creation of Posts of postmen and Class-IV in 1966-67. Keeping these suggestions in view certain standards were evolved by the Work Study Unit and orders have been issued after the approval of the P&T Board in 1974, for Class IV (Postal) and in 1975 for the Postmen for implementing the standards. There is no proposal at present for cancellation of these standards.

Rolling Mill for Bokaro Steel Plant

620. **SHRI D. D. DESAI:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been decided to manufacture the rolling mill for Bokaro steel plant in India itself;

(b) if so, reasons thereof; and

(c) whether this will involve any delay in the completion of the Bokaro steel plant at 4 million tonnes stage?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK): (a) Yes, Sir, so far as it relates to the Cold Rolling Mill Complex (4 MT Stage) of Bokaro Steel Plant.

(b) It is considered that the Indian Organisations such as Metallurgical and Engineering Consultants (India) Limited, Engineering Projects (India) Limited, Bharat Heavy Electricals

Limited, Heavy Engineering Corporation Limited and other Indian manufacturers in the public and private sectors between themselves possess the capability of undertaking this work with minimum foreign assistance; their being on trusted with this work will not only create a wide technical base but also lead to much greater self-reliance in an area of highly sophisticated technology in the steel sector.

(c) No, Sir.

Uniform prices of Iron and Steel Products

621. **SHRI RAMJI LAI YADAV:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of Iron and Steel products are not the same for large consumers, lifting rake-loads and those lifting less than a rake load from stockyards of Hindustan Steel Limited;

(b) if not, whether this policy has not resulted in price preference to large scale consumers; and

(c) whether a uniform policy for all types of consumers of Iron and Steel is proposed to be followed?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK): (a) and (b). According to the policy in force while consumers requiring steel in rake-loads can get supplies direct from the Steel Plants at JPC price, others have to get their requirements from the producers' stockyards at stockyard price which is normally higher than the JPC price. State small Scale Industries Corporations, Railways and Defence, however, enjoy the facility of direct despatches from the Steel Plants at JPC price even if they are in wagon loads.

(c) No, Sir.