

revised Statement of Policy is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-365/77].

In the past the manner of implementation of Family Planning Programme aroused considerable public resentment, and it is the firm view of the present Government that Family Welfare Programme has to be implemented on a voluntary basis. Any coercion or compulsion has to be ruled out totally from this welfare programme.

There is no reason to believe that if the Family Welfare Policy Statement is properly implemented in the right spirit, the goal of reducing of birth to 30 per thousand at the end of Fifth Plan and 25 per thousand at the end of Sixth Plan will not be achieved.

(d) A provision of Rs. 9867.67 lakhs including Rs. 50.00 lakhs provided in the budget of Ministry of Works and Housing for Building of National Institute of Health and Family Welfare has been proposed during 1977-78 for implementation of Family Welfare Programme during 1977-78.

**Conference to solve Labour Problems**

689. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:  
SHRI PRASANNBHAI  
MEHTA:

Will the Minister of PARLIAMEN-  
TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be  
pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are seriously considering to have a fresh look at the labour policy or the whole country to eliminate labour unrest;

(b) whether the labourers are greatly agitated over the lack of work, benefits and increase in prices;

(c) whether he convened a conference of all the labour wings in the country to consider their demands; and

(d) if so, the suggestions made, conclusions arrived at and the steps taken to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-  
TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR  
(SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a)  
to (d). Government convened a Tripartite Labour Conference on the 6th and 7th May, 1977 to discuss certain aspects of labour policy. To make the Conference as broad-based as possible, representation was given to Central and State Governments, employers in the private and public sectors, the recognised Central Trade Unions and Trade Unions which claimed to be of all-India character.

The main conclusions of the Conference are given in the Statement laid on the Table of the House.

In pursuance of these Conclusions a Committee has already been set up to review the various aspects of Consumer Price Index Numbers for Industrial Workers. It has also been decided to set up a Committee on Comprehensive Law on Industrial Relations and Composition of Indian Labour Conference and a Committee on Workers' Participation in Management and Equity. The Organisations which participated in the Conference have not yet sent their suggestions regarding the "Gratuity Fund" and "Labour in unorganised sector".

**Statement**

**TRIPARTITE LABOUR CONFERENCE**

(New Delhi, May 6-7, 1977)

**MAIN CONCLUSIONS**

ITEM 1: Certain issues relating to Comprehensive Law on Industrial Relations.

ITEM 4: Composition of Indian Labour Conference.

It was agreed that a tripartite working group should be set up to

discuss and study in-depth all the problems relating to Comprehensive Industrial Relations Law and composition of the future Indian Labour Conference. It would give its report by the end of August 1977.

The composition of the group and its terms of reference were left to be determined by the Labour Minister.

#### ITEM 2: *Worker's Participation*

The general consensus that emerged in the Conference was that a Compact Committee should be set up to study the matter in-depth and give its recommendations to enable the Government to formulate its policy on the subject. A special reference was made to the need for studying the implication of the concept of trusteeship in industry in evolving a viable scheme for worker's participation in management. It was also suggested that academic institutions should be associated with this Committee.

#### ITEM 3: *Setting up of a Gratuity Fund.*

There was a general agreement to have some sort of insurance cover for the gratuity payable to the workers under the payment of Gratuity Act. There was, however, no consensus on the exact form it should take. It was decided that the organisations represented at the Conference would send their specific suggestions on this point as well as on other aspects of the Gratuity Act which would be taken into consideration while formulating comprehensive amendments to the Gratuity Act, if necessary, after further consultation with workers and employers.

#### ITEM 5: *Labour in unorganised sector—(Contract Labour, Construction Workers Rural Workers and Bounded Labour).*

Regarding unorganised labour specially the rural workers (agri-

cultural labourers, share-croppers and small land owners, artisans etc.) the consensus was that owing to lack of time and non-availability of sufficient material, it would not be possible to discuss this in detail and do justice to the various complex issues pertaining to this vast sector. While the Conference could discuss issues relating to contract labour and construction workers, a special Conference should be convened as early as possible to consider problems relating to rural workers. It was agreed that the participating organisations in the present Conference would send their suggestions to the Ministry of Labour within 20 days, about the nature of participants for the Special Conference and the nature of subjects to be discussed at the Conference.

#### *Consumer's Price Index*

With reference to the points raised about the deficiencies in the compilation of the Consumer's Price Index, during the general discussion, the union Labour Minister agreed to constitute a Committee consisting of representatives of trade unions, employers and experts to study the existing procedures of price collection and desirability of associating trade unions in the compilation of primary data. The Committee would submit its report latest within two months.

#### *Bases of Diego Garcia*

690. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Government have drawn attention of the U.S. Government to the Diego Garcia bases in the Indian Ocean and requested them to dismantle bases as there are a great threat to the Indian security; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the U.S. Government in the matter?