

(b) The recommendations, broadly speaking, envisage a scheme of aggregation of cargoes, establishment of a centralised cargo booking agency for through-bookings and creation of a Freight Equalisation Fund to compensate the shippers against higher freight rates charged by the Conference Lines.

(c) and (d). The proposal for centralised cargo booking agency involves complex issues and needs thorough examination taking into account varying view-points. Also the shipping industry was facing severe crisis for the past few years. It was not, therefore, possible to take a decision in the matter earlier. It would take some more time to take a final decision.

Bonus Formula

1319. SHRI P. M. SAYEED:
SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief of the Employers' Federation of India has suggested that the bonus formula adopted by Government for its departments should be made applicable to industrial undertakings in the country in view of its soundness; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH): (a) and (b). The President of the Employers' Federation of India in a Memorandum submitted to Government, on behalf of the Federation has stated that the concept of Bonus linked with Productivity deserves to be promoted and that the principle of productivity-linked bonus accepted in respect of railway workers should be extended not only to those covered by the Bonus Act, but also to other categories of employees who are demanding payment of bonus.

This suggestion along with other suggestions for amendment of Payment of Bonus Act is receiving the attention of the Government.

Legislation for Unorganised Labour

1320. SHRI P. M. SAYEED:
SHRI K. MALLANNA:
SHRI ARJUN SETHI:
SHRI GHULAM RASOOL
KOCHACK:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce legislation to regulate the working conditions of unorganised labour;

(b) whether the proposed law will help in improving the lot of agricultural labour, of whom women constitute much higher percentage;

(c) if so, the main features thereof; and

(d) when it is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH): (a) to (d). The Central Standing Committee on Rural Unorganised Labour had constituted a Sub-Committee to go into the details of a Central Legislation for agricultural workers. The Sub-Committee has submitted its report with a draft Agricultural Workers Bill. The Central Standing Committee will consider the Draft Bill and advise Government suitably. According to the 1971 Census out of a total of 47.5 million agricultural labourers, men constituted 31.7 million and women the remaining 15.8 million.

Riveters of Integral Coach Factory

1321. SHRI E. K. IMBICHIBAVA
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether the semi-skilled riveters working at the Integral Coach Factory, Madras whose nature of work require very high skill