

(b) if so, the details thereof; and
(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) to (c). According to a report received from Embassy of India, Cairo, a group of Indians came to Cairo with the connivance of a recruiting agent. On receipt of a report by the Indian Embassy in Cairo about the difficulties being faced by these Indian nationals, an official of the Embassy interviewed these persons and gave them such assistance as possible. Since then six of these Indian nationals have returned to India and the rest have proceeded to Ankara. These Indian nationals had return tickets for India. None of these Indian nationals is now in Cairo.

Employment of women

1326. **SHRI K. MALLANNA:** Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the employment of women in the organised sector has been growing at a faster rate than the general employment since 1972; and

(b) whether Government propose not to allow the women in night shift particularly in industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH): (a) Yes, Sir. The employment of women in the organised sector has been growing at a faster rate than the total employment in the organised sector, the average annual rate of growth of women employment from 1972 to 1979 being of the order of 4.2 percent as compared to the average annual rate of growth of 2.9 percent in total employment in the organised sector.

(b) According to the Factories Act, 1948, women are not allowed to work in night shifts and there is no proposal to amend this.

High price of Report of Committee on Child Labour

1327. **SHRI K. MALLANNA:** Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that report of the Committee on Child Labour is unlikely to be within the reach of most of the persons at it has been priced at Rs. 75.10;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the book running in to only 112 pages of printed matter is of particular interests to voluntary organisations in child welfare correctional institutions and other social works; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard and the reasons for high price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH): (a) to (c). It is true that the report of the Committee on Child Labour is a small volume of interest to Government as well as voluntary organisations dealing with Child Welfare. The price of the report has been fixed at cost as per norms prescribed by Government. Any reduction in the price would have involved a subsidy which was not considered necessary.

Road projects in Assam

1328. **SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:** Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approved a number of road projects in Assam; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The position is as under:

(i) Road/Bridge works of a total cost of Rs. 37.34 crores have been sanctioned in Assam from 1st April 1969 so far under the various Central Road Programmes.

(ii) Road/Bridge schemes of a total cost of Rs. 9.60 crores have been sanctioned under the North Eastern Council Programme since the 1st April, 1974 so far.

(iii) In addition, development of over 1400 Kms. of roads was sanctioned as part of the work being