

tion of some of these officers in that country.

The Government of Pakistan have now informed us that they have requested their concerned authorities to make another attempt to trace these persons with the help of the additional information supplied by us.

Committee for Calcutta Port

1350. SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the West Bengal Government made a suggestion to him to set up a committee with the representatives of Calcutta Port Trust, the State Government and Unions to look into the problems of the Calcutta Port; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI BUTA SINGH):

(a) and (b). At a meeting held at Calcutta between the Chief Minister of West Bengal and the then Union Minister of State for Shipping and Transport on 29-10-1979, it was agreed to set up a Machinery for settling the various labour disputes in Calcutta Port. Accordingly a Committee was set up by Central Government on 9-11-1979 to look into and sort out labour disputes and problems afflicting Calcutta Port from time to time, with the following composition:—

- | | |
|---|----------|
| (1) Chairman Calcutta Port Trust | Chairman |
| (2) Joint Secretary, Union Ministry of Shipping and Transport | Member |
| (3) Labour Secretary Government of West Bengal | Member |
| (4) A senior Officer representing Union Ministry of Labour | Member |

It was envisaged that the various interests connected with the port operations and trade unions would be associated with the discussions of the Committee to the extent necessary from time to time.

Regional Minimum Wages in Beedi Industry

1351. SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation to have a regional minimum wages to the labourers in the Beedi Industry, at least, with regard to the States of Kerala, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) what action Government propose to take further to achieve this goal of Regional Minimum Wages in Beedi Industry with regard to the above States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Central Government has been persuading the concerned State Governments to reduce the disparities in the rates of minimum wages in beedi industry, with a view to achieving a certain measure of uniformity in the rates of minimum wages between the neighbouring States.

Provision of Sleeper Coaches

1352. SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations from passengers travelling from Ahmedabad to stations in Kerala, for the introduction of two direct sleeper coaches, one