

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

for Cochin/Trivandrum and the other for Mangalore to be attached to any of the trains leaving Ahmedabad for Bombay; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government in this respect?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes.

(b) Introduction of a through coach between Ahmedabad and Trivandrum/Mangalore via Bombay is not operationally feasible as transference of a through coach from Western Railway to Central Railway and vice-versa via Dadar will affect the operation of train services including suburban services. Provision of a through coach by 145/146 Express has also not been found feasible due to lack of room on 145/146 Express and 19/20 Madras-Trivandrum Mail. Besides, shunting involving 145/46 Navajivan Express at Arakkonam for attaching/detaching the through coach will also cause detention of these trains at Arakkonam. However a firm quota of 50 berths of IInd Class in a nominated coach has been earmarked in No. 41 Madras-Cochin Express for Kerala bound passenger arriving by 145 Navajivan Express at Arakkonam.

#### Railway Workshop in Kerala

1353. SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation for opening a railway workshop in Trivandrum District of Kerala; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes.

(b) Kerala State is served by Southern Railway. The Workshops

already set up on the Southern Railway meet the present requirements of that Railway and there is at present no proposal to set up a New Railway Workshop on the Southern Railway.

#### Worker's participation in Management

1354. SHRI N. E. HORO: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made efforts for a quick evaluation of the schemes of worker's participation in management of the industrial units both in the public and private sectors; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH): (a) and (b). The National Labour Institute has been asked to evaluate the working of the Schemes of worker-directors in nationalised banks and central public undertakings. The study is not yet complete. An evaluation of other Schemes is proposed to be taken up by the Government.

#### Afghanistan's Accusation that China and Pakistan Conspiring against India

1355. SHRI N. E. HORO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention is invited to the *Hindustan Times* dated the 7th May, 1980 that the Afghanistan Government accused Pakistan and China of conspiring against India;

(b) whether the Kabul Radio has also cited China's help to Pakistan in building the Karakoram Highway as part of their plot against India;

(c) whether the Radio has also said that the President Zia-ul-Haq in discussing with the Chinese leaders a secret site for the explosion of a Pakistani nuclear bomb; and