

**68th International Labour Conference  
held at Geneva in June, 1982**

2143. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether he attended the 68th Session of the International Labour Conference held at Geneva on June 4-5, 1982;

(b) if so, what was the Government's view on the new international economic order and other connected matters deliberated upon therein; and

(c) what was the Conference's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD): (a) and (b). Yes; the Minister of Labour attended the 68th Session of the International Labour Conference held at Geneva from June 2-23, 1982. In his address at the Plenary Session of the Conference on June 4, 1982, he made reference to a number of important issues, inter-alia, such as the new international economic order, international development strategy, the need for urgent global negotiations to achieve meaningful results, problems of youth, eradication of poverty and unemployment, need for greater attention to unorganised labour, etc. He also said that the establishment of a New International Economic Order based on justice and equality is inescapable for the world to sustain a high and stable growth of income, output, employment and trade as well as to ensure equitable distribution of the benefits of accelerated growth. He made an earnest appeal to all countries to respond to the call for international solidarity and help in achieving meaningful results in global negotiations on the International Development Strategy.

(c) The speech was very well received by the Conference.

**Loss due to Assam agitation**

2144. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total estimated loss and damage caused to life and property and the loss of production in different sectors caused as a result of the continuing Assam agitation; and

(b) the extent of production capacity that still remains unutilised in Assam and other affected areas on this account?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR):

(a) and (b). The prolonged agitation in Assam has caused incalculable harm to the economy of the country in general and North-Eastern region, including Assam, in particular. While it is difficult to precisely quantify the total loss, the loss in petroleum and fertilizer sector alone would come to Rs. 1272 crores. Due to disruption of rail movement the Railways suffered financial loss of Rs. 32 crores besides a general drop in passenger traffic. Several projects have been delayed resulting in considerable cost escalation. The State exchequer lost Rs. 45 crores in revenue. Besides 334 persons lost their lives upto June 15, 1982, due to violence in the wake of the agitation.

**Shifting of units from Calcutta**

2145. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether some businessmen have and are intending to shift some of their units outside Calcutta; if so, which of them have succeeded in shifting these as on 1st July, 1982;

(b) whether the West Bengal Government is consulted by the Central Government before permitting the