

Film Workers in Bombay

369. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at least 60 per cent of the 12,000 film workers in Bombay have been retrenched as a consequence of levy on exposed film;

(b) whether Government have received any memorandum from the Cine Production Workers' Association in this regard; and

(c) if so, the action taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) No information is available as this matter is within the State Sphere.

(b) and (c). Yes. The Association has been informed that their suggestion for changing duty on the negatives instead of on the prints is not acceptable.

Rashtrapati Bhawan Secretariat

370. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government servants working in the Rashtrapati Bhawan Secretariat and residing in Government quarters are not charged House rent and Water and Electricity charges; and

(b) if so, the total expenditure incurred by the Government every month in this behalf?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Dr. B. Gopala Reddi): (a) Yes, subject to the limits laid down in the rules.

(b) As the accounts in respect of rent and other charges for Rashtrapati Bhawan and the President's Estate are combined and inter-linked, it is not possible to furnish this information.

F.A.O. Report on Tea

371. Shri P. C. Borooah: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined the recent F.A.O. Report forecasting a substantial world-wide excess of tea out-put over consumption by 1965; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to check unreasonable depression in tea prices due to too much competition in the world market?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) and (b). Government have examined the report but do not expect that the industry will be faced with a surplus of the magnitude forecast in the report. Judging from the present trends of consumption in West Asian countries and also the tea producing countries themselves, the expected surplus is likely to be absorbed. Government, however, continue to exercise a close watch on tea prices.

M/s. India Stone Lime Co.

372. Shri Ram Garib: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 429 on the 24th November, 1961 regarding M/S. India Stone Lime Co., Delhi and state:

(a) whether the payment has been made to the mine workers so far; and

(b) if not, why and what action Government propose to take in this matter?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) Not yet.

(b) A notice has been issued to the employer calling upon him to show cause why legal action should not be taken against him under the rules.