

Resolution passed by Punjab Congress Committee demanding continuation of Fazilka area in Punjab

6998. SHRI BIRENDER SINGH ROA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether she has received a copy of the resolution from the Punjab Congress Committee asking for revision of her Award on Fazilka and demanding the continuation of this area in Punjab ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI C. K. PANT) : (a) Government have seen a news report relating to the Resolution passed by the Punjab Congress Committee in this regard. No copy of the Resolution has, however, been received by the Central Government.

(b) So far as the Central Government is concerned, the decisions already announced remain unchanged.

Purchase and Sale of Rubber through S.T.C.

6999. SHRI MALLIKARJUN : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of rubber purchased by the State Trading Corporation from the growers during the preceding season ;

(b) the quantity of rubber lifted by the manufacturers from the State Trading Corporation's godowns during the above period ;

(c) whether the entire stock is likely to be lifted by the manufacturers presently lying in the Corporation's godowns ; and

(d) if not, how the State Trading Corporation propose to dispose of the rest of the stock ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) 10625 metric tons of rubber were purchased by the STC from October, 1970, to the 24th July, 1971.

(b) 4426 metric tons.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Opening of New Medium Wave Transmitter at Alleppey

7000. SHRI MALLIKARJUN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether a new medium wave transmitter at Alleppey in Kerala has started functioning ;

(b) the area the new transmitter is likely to cover ; and

(c) whether it will be powerful enough to bring the Laccadive and Minicoy inhabitants also under its coverage ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI NANDINI SATPATHY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Districts of Trichur, Ernakulam, Alleppey, Quilon, parts of Palghat, Kottayam and Trivandrum districts and a major portion of the Laccadive & Minicoy islands.

(c) Yes, Sir. Most of the inhabitants of these islands will be able to listen to this station.

Strike by Workers in Atomic Power Station, Kota

7001. SHRI MALLIKARJUN : Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to stated :

(a) whether more than 3,000 workers working in the Atomic Power Plant, Kota, Rajasthan, are on strike for over two weeks ;

(b) if so, their main demands ; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to fulfil their demands ?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF

HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) Approximately 2700 workers out of the total of 3034 persons working the Rajasthan Atomic Power Project were on strike from June 26, 1971 to July 11, 1971 following

the arrest by the State Government authorities of the General Secretary of the Workers' Union.

(b) and (c). The main demands of the employees and the present status of each are given in the statement placed on the Table of the House.

Statement

S. No.	Demand	Present Status
1.	The cases filed in the Court against the office bearers of the employees' union should be withdrawn.	The cases had been filed by certain employees in their personal capacity and the question of Government intervening in the matter does not arise.
2.	Thirteen employees whose services had been terminated by the Project following disturbances earlier at the Project site and their committal to Sessions Court should be reinstated immediately as they had been acquitted by the Court.	This is pending before the Central Government Industrial Tribunal, Jaipur. The State Government has filed appeals in the High Court against their acquittal.
3.	Daily working hours for administrative staff should be reduced from eight to six.	This cannot be agreed to.
4.	There should be no retrenchment of staff; they should be transferred to other Projects. Concurrence of the employees' union should be taken for retrenchment of staff, if any.	
5.	Promotion should be based entirely on seniority and merit should be given secondary place.	
6.	During the construction period of the Project, staff should not be charged any rent for residential accommodation.	
7.	Meter rent should not be recovered from the Project employees and the amount already recovered on this account should be refunded.	These matters are under reference to the Deputy Chief Labour Commissioner (Central), New Delhi, for conciliation.
8.	If the representatives of the employees' union go out of their Headquarters to attend to Industrial Tribunal Conciliation Proceedings and other work of the union, they should be treated as on duty.	
9.	Posts of Selection Grade Clerks should be created in the Project to the extent of 20% of the posts of Upper Division Clerks.	
10.	Employees who have completed 240 days service in the Project should be admitted to the Employees' Provident Fund Scheme.	