

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Government have seen press reports to this effect.

(b) Government have made their position clear on the question of holding further talks with Underground Nagas on several occasions in the past. A solution of the Naga problem was reached with the Naga leaders in 1960 and Government do not intend holding any further political talks with the Underground Nagas. Nagas, as Indian citizens, may, however, made suggestions for the betterment of Nagaland to the Governor and the Government of Nagaland.

Conference of Public Sector Undertakings Employees' Union

620. **SHRI P. VENKATASUBRAIAH :** Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether in a recently held conference of Public Sector Undertakings Employees' Unions affiliated to the Indian National Trade Union Congress, it has been stated that Government have failed to select and train efficient administrators the lack of which was the major difficulty in the public sector ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken in this direction ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) The INTUC are reported to have adopted some such statements in their recent Conference held in August, 1971.

(b) and (c). The Government have already taken a number of steps to ensure that only men with proven ability in the fields of industrial, Commercial or Financial Management are appointed to top posts in public undertakings which includes provision of training facilities in Institutions like the Administrative Staff Colleges of India, Indian Institute of Management at Ahmedabad and Calcutta, National Institute of Training in Industrial Engineering, Bombay etc. Besides the Government is also availing the full utilisation of foreign

training facilities made available under several International Aid Programmes.

Marking of Attendance by Workers during Strikes and Bandhs

621 **SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH :** Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether during strikes and bandhs workers mark their presence in factories and offices and go away and later claim for payment of wages ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to check this undesirable trend ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b). In the absence of any reference to specific factories or offices, it has not been possible to verify the practices referred to in the question.

Check on Forced Underpayments to Labour

622. **SHRI NARENDRA SINGH BISHT :** Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state the steps taken by Government to ensure that the labourers are not forced to work on wages less than those fixed by Government ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : The Minimum Wages Act, 1948, contains suitable provisions for dealing with cases in which the wages paid are lower than those fixed under the Act. Inspections are carried out by the officers of the Central Government and the State Governments in their respective spheres and action is taken against defaulting employers.

Collaborative Research work by Japanese Team of Geologists

623. **SHRIMATI JYOTSNA CHANDA :** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Japanese team of Geologists sponsored by the Ministry of Education, Japan arrived India to undertake a collaborative research work with the Geological Survey of India ; and

(b) if so, the purpose of this research