

(b) the measures adopted by Government to ensure the implementation of the Award?

**THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) :** (a) and (b). The Award given by Justice Shri B. N. Banerjee on the dispute over the non-implementation of the recommendations of the Wage Board for Non-Journalists Employees was published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary on 3rd August, 1970. The responsibility to secure the implementation of the Award rests with the State Governments.

#### Joint Indo-Iranian Survey Team

2082. **SHRI RAJDEO SINGH :** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a joint Indo-Iranian Survey Team has investigated prospects of transmitting Indian exports and imports through Iran and have found such a route viable ; and

(b) whether the surveyed route is sea-cum-land route and it cuts transport costs which had been made prohibitive by the closure of Suez Canal.

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) :** (a) Under the auspices of the Indo-Iran Joint Commission for Economic, Trade and Technical Cooperation a Joint Survey Team has completed investigating the prospects of transmitting Indian exports and imports through Iran. The report on these investigations, prepared on behalf of the Joint Survey Team by its Indian members is currently under examination with a view to determining the viability of the route.

(b) The surveyed route is for sea-cum-land transit. The economics of this route are under consideration.

#### Foreign Naval Bases in Indian Ocean

2083. **SHRI G. V. KRISHNAN :**  
**SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO :**

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Soviet Union has expressed its willingness to withdraw its fleet from the Indian Ocean, if Western countries do the same; and

(b) if so, the names of the Western countries who are basing their naval strength in the Indian Ocean and the location of their fleets ?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) :** (a) U. S. S. R. Government has expressed its readiness to study the question that the Indian Ocean area should be made a zone of peace and to solve it together with other powers on an equal basis.

(b) According to the information available with Government, the United Kingdom, France and U.S.A. have their naval ships in the Indian Ocean; the exact location at any given time of the ships of these powers is not known.

#### Pak President's meeting with the Prime Minister of India

2084. **SHRI NARSINGH NARAIN PANDEY :**  
**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :**

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal from Pakistan President, Mr. Bhutto, to meet the Prime Minister of India; and

(b) if so, at what stage it stands ?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

(SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b). Government have offered to hold direct talks with Pakistan at any time, at any level and without any preconditions. The final response of the Government of Pakistan is awaited.

**Auction of Plots meant for West Pakistan Refugees in Delhi**

2063. SHRI M. M. JOSEPH : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Chief Executive Councillor, Delhi criticized the Union Government's plan to auction 4,000 residential plots in Delhi meant for West Pakistan refugees; and

(b) if so, the main points thereof and the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION ( SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR ) : (a) and (b). If the reference is to the former Chief Executive Councillor, Delhi Shri V. K. Malhotra, the reply is in the affirmative and a copy of the Press Report which appeared in the 'Times of India' dated the 4th February, 1972, is laid on the Table of the House [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1668/72] in this connection. Shri Malhotra had earlier also taken up the question of transfer of these plots to the Delhi Development Authority for allotment to displaced person squatters in Delhi, and he was informed that the plots could be transferred to the Delhi Development Authority on payment of the market price, but they did not come up with their requirements. Since the same position continued, no action on the press report was necessary.

**Definition of small plots for displaced persons**

2064. SHRI B.K. DASCHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be please to state :

(a) whether small plots have been defined in the Rehabilitation of Displaced Persons (Land acquisition) Act, 1948 and the rules framed thereunder; and

(b) if so, the definition thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Taking over of Non ferrous Metal Units**

2067. SHRI VEKARIA :

SHRI D. P. JADEJA :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to take over non-ferrous metal units; and

(b) if so, the name of the units likely to be taken over ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) There is no such proposal before Government at present.

(b) Does not arise.

**Loss of Man-hours due to Strikes in Textile Mills in Gujarat**

2088. SHRI VEKARIA :

SHRI D. P. JADEJA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of man-hours lost during the last two years due to labour strikes in textiles mills in Gujarat; and

(b) the steps that are being taken by Central Government to avoid such strikes ?