

introduced in Delhi and Kanpur. Since the employers were required to pay about 4.5 per cent of the wages of the workers towards their share of contribution, they represented that implementation of the scheme on a geographical basis would place them at a competitive handicap in relation to employers of other factories in areas where the scheme was not implemented. The Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948 was, therefore, amended and the transitory provisions in Chapter VA thereof were brought in to distribute the burden on employer's share of contribution on all the factories throughout India, which were coverable under the Act. The payment of Employer's Special Contribution was so regulated that those in the implemented areas were required to pay more than those in the non-implemented areas. With the expansion of the Scheme, in recent years and its extension to the large bulk of coverable establishments in the country, the position has changed and Government decided that Chapter VA of the Act should be withdrawn.

Workers covered under E.S.I Scheme

1749. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of industrial workers in the country, and the total number of workers covered under the E.S.I. Scheme, State-wise;

(b) the total number of industrial workers who are not covered by any medical facilities, State-wise;

(c) the total contribution to the E.S.I. Scheme from the employers and workers together in 1969-70, 1970-71, 1971-72 and 1972-June, 1973, State wise; and

(d) the total disbursement made during the above period year-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI G. VENKATSWAMY): (a) to (d). The information as furnished by Employees' State Insurance Corporation is given in the statements laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5284/73.]

Agitation by Employees for better conditions of service in National Productivity Council

1750. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employees of National Productivity Council have been agitating against the management for better conditions of service;

(b) if so, the demands of the employees; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to settle the demands?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI G. VENKATSWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The agitation was called off and complete normalcy restored as a result of the agreement reached between the Management and the Employees' Association on the 24th June, 1973.

14 Units under Heavy Industry Aiming at 4.5 per cent increase in Production

1751. SHRI SARJOO PANDEY: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether 14 producing units under the Ministry of Heavy Industry are aiming at an increase of 4.5 per cent production; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines of the schemes drawn in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRY (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD):

(a) and (b). The 14 production units under the Ministry of Heavy Industry are all aiming at achieving higher production for the year 1973-74 and this is likely to be well above 45 per cent over the achievement of 1972-73. The schemes for achieving higher production include improved methods of production, planning and control, timely procurement of raw materials, double/triple shift working in appropriate areas, incentive schemes for accelerated production as also better industrial relations and management

Central Labour Depot, Gorakhpur as an effective instrument of Employment

1752 **SHRI NARSINGH NARAIN PANDEY.** Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to form a Committee after the take-over of coking coal to make the Central Labour Depot Gorakhpur, U. P., as an effective instrument for employment; and

(b) if so, the various steps taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI G. VENKATSWAMY): (a) and (b). A Committee comprising mainly Central and State Government officials has been set up to examine the future of the Gorakhpur Labour Depot in the changed circumstances. The Committee is scheduled to meet on August 2nd, 1973.

European Security Conference at Helsinki

1753. **SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:**

SHRI TRIDIB CHAUDHURI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the outcome of the European Security Conference held at Helsinki; and

(b) whether it affects the interest of the developing countries and if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) Only the first stage of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe has so far been held. The Foreign Minister of 35 countries met at Helsinki from the 3rd to 7th July, 1973, and adopted the "Final Recommendations" of the Helsinki consultations. These relate to the agenda and instructions for the working bodies of the Conference (the Special Committees and Sub-Committees), together with the rules of procedure and other arrangements relating to the conduct of the Conference.

The Second stage of the Conference, that is, the work of the Special Committees and Sub-committees, is scheduled to open in Geneva on 18th September, 1973. The date and level of representation at the Third and final stage of the Conference is to be decided later.

(b) In the circumstances, it is premature to assess what effects the European Security Conference will have on developing countries.