

REHABILITATION (SHRI G. VENKATSWAMY): (a) The National Council of Trade Unions was set up by the Indian National Trade Union Congress, the All India Trade Union Congress and the Hind Mazdoor Sabha.

(b) According to press reports, the formation of the National Council was the subject of some criticism by certain trade union organisations in the country.

(c) Government are anxious to see the elimination of the divisions in the trade union movement in the country and would welcome any steps towards this end.

Incomes and Wages Policy

5040. **SHRI MADHU LIMAYE** Will the Minister of **LABOUR AND REHABILITATION** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any definite proposals have been formulated on Incomes and Wages policy;

(b) whether the trade unions have been consulted; and

(c) if so, the nature of the proposals and of the consultations with the trade unions?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI G. VENKATSWAMY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Ban on Strikes in Railways, Fertilizer Corporation of India and Food Corporation of India

5041 **SHRI MADHU LIMAYE:** Will the Minister of **LABOUR AND REHABILITATION** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Labour Ministry was consulted before imposing a ban on strikes in the Railways, Fertilizer Corporation of India and Food Corporation of India;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry supported these acts;

(c) whether trade unions were consulted before issuing these notifications; and

(d) if so, which trade Unions?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI G. VENKATSWAMY): (a) and (b) The notification under rule 118 of the Defence of India Rules, 1971 prohibiting strikes in the Railways and the Food Corporation of India were issued by the Government of India. No notification was issued under the said rule in regard to the Fertiliser Corporation of India.

(c) No, Sir

(d) Does not arise.

Dispute in Hind Cycles Limited

5042. **SHRI MADHU LIMAYE** Will the Minister of **LABOUR AND REHABILITATION** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a dispute in the Hind Cycles Limited;

(b) whether Government financial institutions and nationalised banks hold over 60 per cent of the share-holding of this Company;

(c) whether the House of Birlas has only 11 per cent share-holding;

(d) whether he has sought the help of the Finance Minister and the State Government to settle this dispute; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI G. VENKATSWAMY): (a) According to the information made available by the Government of Maharashtra, the management had earlier served a notice intimating their intention to close down the factory from August 1, 1973 due mainly to financial difficulties. The management has, however, postponed the date of closure by one month.

(b) and (c). According to the information made available by the Department of Company Affairs, public financial institu-

tions own nearly 70 per cent of the combined capital (equity and preference), and the Birla Group's holding of the combined capital comes to about 11 per cent.

(d) and (e). So far as possible steps to secure running of the factory properly are concerned, the State Government is seized of the matter.

Involvement of Indian Employees of U.S. Embassy in Delhi in theft of Dollar Cheques

5043. SHRI RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Indian employees of U.S. Embassy in Delhi were involved in theft of U.S. dollar cheques; and

(b) if so, the nature of their operation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) and (b). Some local employees of the U.S. Embassy were assigned to the Mail Room and as such they had access to the incoming and outgoing mail of the Embassy personnel, from where they have been allegedly stealing the U.S. dollar cheques and forging endorsements thereon. The cheques were, it is alleged, being passed on to a private party for encashment. The employees involved were dismissed by the U.S. Embassy on 16th July, 1973 and a case under Sections 379 and 468 of I.P.C. has been registered by the police on receipt of a formal complaint from the Embassy. Further investigations are being made by the police authorities.

Discussion on Problems of Multinational Corporations in I.L.O. Conference at Geneva

5044. SHRI JHARKHANDE RAY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the I.L.O. Conference held in Geneva discussed the problem of multi-

national corporations in developing countries;

(b) if so, the outcome of the discussions; and

(c) what is India's stand on multinational corporations and its impact on national economy of the developing countries?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI G. VENKATSWAMY): (a) and (b). The Director General of the I.L.O. had referred to multinational corporations in his Report—"Prosperity for Welfare"—placed before the 58th Session of the International Labour Conference (Geneva—June, 1973), and several speakers, including the leader of the Indian delegation, dealt with this subject in the course of the general discussion on the Report. Besides, a resolution on the subject was also moved by the workers' delegates from Italy, Chile, USSR and Hungary. Though this resolution was one of the five given priority by the Resolution Committee of the Conference for consideration, it could not be discussed for want of time.

(c) While speaking on the Director-General's report, the leader of the Indian delegation, said, inter alia, that multinational corporations are in fact transnational companies which more often than not try to act as super-governments. These enterprises have at their disposal financial resources which are several times larger than the individual national output of no less than two-thirds of the developing countries. As a result, (i) the capacity of the developing countries to save and invest is seriously impaired; (ii) the bargaining capacity of the developing countries is very weak in the face of these 'giants'; and (iii) the bargaining power of the national contingents of the labour force employed by the multinational enterprise system is eroded. He, therefore, suggested that the activities and operations of these corporations should be regulated by an international code of conduct.