

[Shri Chandra Jeet Yadav]

it comes to the question of national interest, such petty politics or small party interests should not be taken into consideration.

Mr. Jaswant Singh had used a very appropriate phrase or expression that there is a kind of emotional distance between our people and the people living in that area, I think that not only economic measures but some other measures have to be taken. I am glad that the Prime Minister had set up a strong nine-Member Cabinet Committee to look into the problems of those areas and also to mobilise extra resources in order to help the people of North-Eastern areas. I am happy that the Prime Minister himself - while addressing his Party rally at Red Fort - had said that many people feel that now he has a majority and therefore he will give up the path of consensus but he said that he will not give this up.

But, I think, somewhere, there are certain weaknesses. When such issues come up, the Government not only should take into confidence the Ministers and form a Committee of team for sending them to the affected places - because administrative measures after all have to be taken by the Government - but on such issues, I think there is a need for wider consultation. I say that the Leaders of all the Parties in Parliament should be taken into confidence. It is not that we are going to make excellent suggestions and find a magic wand to solve all the problems.

But that sends a message itself. It also serves the purpose that it is being taken as a national issue and the people of other parties are involved. I think the weaknesses which the Government has

identified, I am sure immediate and prompt action will be taken to remove them.

Other issues have also been raised. I do not want to repeat them; but I think the Government must take them into consideration. So far as the Home Minister's appeal is concerned, I will only say that I am not asking for division nor will I request other Members of the House from this side to ask for division. But it will be difficult for me to withdraw the motion at this stage.

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put Motion for Adjournment moved by Mr. Chandra Jeet Yadav to the vote of the House. The question is:

"That the House do now Adjourn"

*The motion was negatived.*

21.21 hrs.

[English]

#### STATEMENT BY MINISTER

##### **Wage Revision of Port and Dock Workers**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): The wages of Class III & IV workers and employees of Major Port Trusts and Dock Labour Boards have been due for upward revision from 1.1.93. A Bipartite Wage Negotiation Committee under Chairman, Bombay Port Trust and consisting of representatives of labour has been negotiating the increase since some time. On 24.7.94, the negotiations

have concluded successfully with a Memorandum of Understanding (M.O.U.) being signed between the management of the Major Port Trusts & Dock Labour Boards and the 5 All India Federations of Port and Dock Workers. The M.O.U. provides for a just and fair increase in the wages for the workers at approximately 19% increase in the wage bill. The wage increase will be valid for the next 5 years.

This M.O.U. has been reached without any strike or industrial unrest, and without loss of a single manday which was not so in the last two wage revisions and is truly a landmark achievement. Ports is the first major industrial sector where a wage settlement has been reached in the current round of wage revision for workers.

The M.O.U. provides for a 7% per year increase in productivity parameters like gangshift output and ship berthday output, so as to decrease the turn round time of the vessels and therefore increase efficiency and reduce congestion. It also provides for increased datums and accelerating incentive schemes.

Unproductive practices are sought to be eliminated. With this and with rationalized manpower development, the unit cost of operation would be kept at present level.

The signing of the M.O.U. with such positive features has been possible due to the full hearted co-operation

received from all the All India Labour Federations working in the Ports and Docks, for which I extend my heartiest congratulations to the labour leaders and to the workers. I trust and hope that this will be a forerunner for other industrial sectors to have wage settlements in a climate of peace and with higher levels of productivity under the dynamic leadership of our Hon'ble Prime Minister.

21.24 hrs.

### BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

#### Forty-First Report

[English]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCE AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): I beg to present the Forty-First Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

MR. SPEAKER: I thank all the Members for their full cooperation. The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow, 26 July, 1994, at 11 a.m.

21.25 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, July 26, 1994/Sravana 4, 1916 (Saka)*