the manufacture of Jute Handlooms and Handicrafts, Jute Decoratives, Non-wovens, industrial laminates, jute rigid and semirigid packaging geo-jute etc. has also been initiated.

Industrial Relations in the Country

206.SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been continuing deterioration of industrial relations all over the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any comparative study has been undertaken regarding the role of Labour and employers in the deterioration of industrial relations;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken for improvement of industrial relations?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (d). A statement showing the number of strikes and lockouts and the number of mandays lost due to there is given below. It will be seen that while the number of strikes and lockouts has been declining, the loss of mandays has generally been over 30 millions in a year since the mid 1980's. Lockouts have also generally accounted for a larger share of loss of mandays than strikes in recent years.

(e) The Central and the State Governments maintain a close watch on the industrial relation situation. The Industrial Relations Machineries at the Centre and the States take steps to reduce industrial conflicts and minimise work stoppage through preventive mediation, conciliation and arbitration.

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21.92 36.58 46.86 29.24 32.75 15.18 Total 74.61 56.03 35.36 33.95 ~ Mandays lost (in Million) Lockouts 15.37 22.50 21.94 16.07 17.75 13.92 21.33 21.42 9.58 9.91 Q Strikes 11.9 12.02 39.96 18.82 14.03 5.60 21.21 52.11 24.92 12.53 S 2,856 2,589 1,745 2,483 2,488 2,094 1,755 1,892 1,799 1,020 Total 4 Lockouts Number of 400 434 270 355 **3** 495 405 454 451 441 3 Strikes 750 1,304 1,348 1,355 1,458 2,245 2,029 1,993 1,689 2,501 2 (Jan to Sept.) 1989 (P) 1988 1986 1985 1987 Year 1980 1982 1983 1984 1981

Written Answeis 222

(P)=Provisional Source=Labour Bureau, Shimla.