

है जिनमें स्वीकृत पदों की संख्या नीचे लिखे अनुसार है:—

|                          | खाम<br>मंत्रालय | केन्द्रीय जल और<br>विद्युत आयोग |                  |
|--------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|------------------|
|                          |                 | जल<br>स्कीम                     | विद्युत<br>स्कीम |
| हिन्दी अधिकारी           | 1               | 1                               | —                |
| अनुवादक ग्रेड—एक         | 2               | —                               | —                |
| हिन्दी महायक             | 1               | —                               | 1                |
| हिन्दी अनुवादक ग्रेड-दो  | 2               | 3                               | 4                |
| स्टेनोग्राफर (ग्रेड तीन) | 1               | —                               | —                |
| निम्न श्रेणी क्लर्क      | 3               | 3                               | 1                |

वर्तमान कार्य-भार को ध्यान में रखते हुए, विद्युत स्कंध में हिन्दी अधिकारी का पद और हिन्दी अनुवादक (ग्रेड-दो) का एक पद अस्थगित रखा गया है। केन्द्रीय जल और विद्युत आयोग के दोनों ही स्कंधों के हिन्दी कार्य की देख-भाल जल स्कंध का हिन्दी अधिकारी करता है।

हिन्दी अनुभागों में पदों पर काम करने के लिए सर्वोत्तम उपलब्ध कर्मचारियों की नियुक्ति की जाती है। हिन्दी अनुभागों में काम करने वाले कर्मचारियों की सेवा शर्तें समय-समय पर सरकार द्वारा जारी किये जाने वाले सामान्य नियमों द्वारा अनुशासित होती हैं। कर्मचारियों की अपर्याप्तता, कार्य की स्थितियों आदि के संबंध में किसी तरह की त्रुटि का पता लगाने के लिए समय-समय पर इन अनुभागों के कार्यों का पुनरीक्षण किया जाता है।

#### Western Kosi Canal Project

3968. SHRI BHOGENDR A JHA : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the details of the work schedule expenses, alignment, land acquisition etc, regarding the proposed Western

Kosi Canal Project have been finalised with the Government of Nepal; and

(b) if so, the broad outline thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL) : (a) and (b). The detailed technical aspects of the Western Kosi Canal Project like the alignment, designs and canal structures were discussed and settled between the officials of the Government of Bihar and His Majesty's Government of Nepal at Kathmandu from 9th to 11th April, 1972.

#### CORRECTION OF ANSWER TO U. S. Q. 936 DATED 21.3.1972 RE: INCREASE IN EXPORT DUTY ON JUTE

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : In reply to part (a) of Unstarred Question No. 936 dated the 21st March, 1972 I had stated that the export duty on carpet backing and hessian were increased by Rs. 200 per tonne w. o. f. 13.12.71. The increase in export duty was by Rs. 400 per tonne and not Rs. 200 per tonne. I regret the error which crept in through inadvertence.

11'47 hrs.

#### MATTER UNDER RULE 377

##### REPORTED TOKEN STRIKE BY L I C EMPLOYEES

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : Before taking up the Calling Attention Motion, I wish to raise one very important and urgent matter. 42,000 L I C workers are on strike from today.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour) : I have given notice under Rule 377. 42,000 L I C workers are on token strike from today. There is failure on the part of the management to meet their grievances. Mr. Pai gave an assurance that

certain demands which were legitimate will be accepted and fulfilled.

**SHRI S. M. BANERJEE:** You were kind enough to admit Calling Attention Notice for tomorrow. But, in the meantime, 42,000 workers are on strike.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I have already admitted the Calling Attention.

**SHRI S. M. BANERJEE:** My fear is only this. Already the strike has started. 42,000 workers are involved. Let them not take it as a *post mortem* affair. The strike has already started. I am informed from Kanpur and other places that there is complete strike.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:** 42,000 workers are going on strike...

**SHRI S. M. BANERJEE:** It is a countrywide strike.

**MR. SPEAKER:** We are not bound, if anywhere a strike takes place...

**SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN (South Delhi):** It has national importance.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:** This strike is taking place because of the callous and difficult attitude taken by the management.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय ( मुरेना ) :  
अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैंने भी आपको नोटिस दिया है—

**MR. SPEAKER:** This calling-attention-notice came this morning, and I have allowed it.

**SHRI S. M. BANERJEE:** I am happy that you have allowed it. But my only submission is this...

**MR. SPEAKER:** If he does not want the calling-attention-notice, then he can have...

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:** In that context, may I mention that we had given a calling-attention-notice a long time ago before the strike started, and before they went

on strike, but that was not admitted. But now you have admitted it for tomorrow. That would mean only something *post-mortem*

**SHRI S. M. BANERJEE:** Still, I am happy that you have admitted it. My only grouse is this. The hon. Minister is sitting here, but he has been indifferent to the matter. Government knew that the strike was going to start on the 25th instant and yet they allowed the strike to come up, and if this one-day token strike is not settled, then I am afraid that it is going to be a country-wide strike under the banner of the All India Insurance Employees' Association. So, the hon. Minister should make a statement today. I am happy that you have admitted it, but Government also should have taken note of it.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Hon. Members should care for the Order Paper and not get up in between the Question Hour and the calling-attention-notice. If hon. Members would have waited, I would have placed it before the House at the appropriate time. But hon. Members have just got up in between and started raising it. This is not the practice, nor is it going to be treated as a precedent. Let not hon. Members do this kind of thing hereafter.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:** If 42,000 workers are going out of work, do you imagine the number of man-hours that would be lost thereby by a public sector institution? It could have been avoided, but because of the callous and difficult attitude taken by the management, this has happened. After all, you and I will have to pay for this in the shape of taxes to compensate for the man-hours lost because of this strike by 42,000 employees.

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH):** With your permission...

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:** I may inform you, Sir, that it is because of the callous attitude that they have taken that this loss has occurred.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Are hon. Members only interested in being listened to or are they interested in listening to the hon. Minister?

**SHRI K. R. GANESH :** I regret that the class III and class IV employees of the L. I. C. have gone on a token-strike.

**SHRI S. M. BANERJEE :** Why ?

**SHRI K. R. GANESH :** Shri S. M. Banerjee has raised this question, and, therefore, I might say what the position is. There is an agreement between the L I C and its employees effective for four years, which was signed in June, 1970. The agreement is valid till 31st March, 1973. Now, the L I C workers are taking a stand that since the L. I. C. has made more profits, in spite of this agreement they want to raise this issue...

**SHRI SEZHIYAN (Kumbakonam) :** Because of the agreement LIC improved in its efficiency, working, etc.

**SHRI S. M. BANERJEE :** In spite of the agreement being there, there are so many things which have been settled.

**SHRI K. R. GANESH :** The LIC employees are taking a stand, in spite of this agreement which is effective and which is legally binding on both the parties, that because the LIC has achieved some prosperity this year, they would like to reopen this question. This is the issue involved. The LIC has taken the stand that since the agreement is there and the agreement is effective till 1973, therefore, the discussions have not led to any result. Of course, I do not deny the right of the employees to discuss this matter with the LIC...

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :** Discrimination.

**SHRI K. R. GANESH :** Another point that I would like to submit is that the LIC is an autonomous corporation for the last fifteen years. The employees have been discussing and bilaterally solving their problems with the LIC. This particular agreement to which I have referred was referred to adjudication. Later on, it was bilaterally settled, and in the adjudication machinery, it was signed as an agreement.

Now, the issue is this, that the LIC

employees on an agreement which is still effective, want to raise the same question, and since their negotiations have not completely led to their demands being met, they have gone on a one-day strike. As I said, the LIC is an autonomous organisation. For the last 15 years, all their matters have been settled bilaterally. That being so, I do not know what Shri Banerjee wants me to say here. It is true he is serving a cause by raising this question. But he cannot ask me to commit Government here in regard to a matter which will involve Rs. 15 crores. It is not possible.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :** He is misleading the House.

**श्री हुकम चन्द कछबाय :** अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैंने आपको एक विशेषाधिकार-भंग का नोटिस दिया है। मेरे प्रश्न के जवाब में गलत जानकारी दी गई है। झूठ बोला है।

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** माननीय सदस्य बीच में विशेषाधिकार का प्रश्न कैसे ले आये ? आप को रूलज का पता होना चाहिए। जब एक बात अन्डर डिस्कशन है, तो उसके बीच में दूसरी बात कैसे आ सकती है ?

इस वक़्त तो गल० आई० सी० की बात चल रही है।

**श्री हुकम चन्द कछबाय :** मैं दो दिन तक इन्तज़ार करता रहा हूँ।

**MR. SPEAKER :** Now that it has been raised, questions may be asked.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :** The basic question is about the discrimination that is being practised between classes I and II employees, officials, on the one side, and classes III and IV employees. In regard to house rent, for classes I and II, it is 15 per cent of the salary; for classes III and IV, it is Rs. 20 and Rs. 15. As for medicar benefits, classes I and II have far greater concessions. The same is the case with

house building loan. For the officers, the State Bank gives loans free of interest. For the other staff, classes III and IV, it is at 5 per cent interest. For classes I and II, they allow Rs. 20,000 to purchase a car without charging interest.

Then there is the question of recognition of the All India Insurance Employees' Association which commands an overwhelming majority of classes III and IV employees. Recognition has not been accorded by the LIC management. The membership should be verified and immediate recognition should be granted.

I regret that the hon. Minister is misleading the House. Because of Government's callous and indifferent attitude, the nation stands to lose 42,000 man hours today due to the token strike. It is a public sector undertaking. But they are ruining it themselves.

**SHRI S. M. BANERJEE :** I made my statement with full knowledge because I am connected with the movement of the LIC employees. I am the Vice-President of the All-India Insurance Employees' Association. The hon. Minister has said that there is an agreement in force which will be valid upto March or April 1973. May I remind him that this agreement was signed on 20th June, 1970 on the definite understanding that amenities to the employees will be considered subsequently and that the prosperity of the LIC will be reflected in the amenities and benefits afforded to the employees? Is it not a fact that after signing this agreement, certain other important issues, though covered by the said agreement, were reviewed and reconsidered and settled amicably through bi-partite negotiations? The net result of this was that there was actually a very good atmosphere created; after this, certain amenities were there. More business was realised. There was an increase in general efficiency and lowering down of the expense ratio from 16.15 to 14.65 per cent. The business of the LIC has shot up from Rs. 234 crores in 1957 to Rs. 1,651 crores in 1971-72. But it is tragic that the rate of bonus to Class III and Class IV employees of the LIC is still stagnating at one and a half months' basic salary since 1957. Since 1957, when their business was

Rs. 234 crores only, they were getting a bonus at the rate of one and a half months' basic salary. Now, the business has gone up from Rs. 234 crores to Rs. 1,651 crores. Still, they want to peg them down to one and a half months' salary.

12 hrs.

The recognition question is another thing. I would only read two sentences from the letter of the then Chairman, Mr. Pai and I will finish. He is no longer the Chairman. The then Chairman of the LIC, on 23rd October, 1971, while acknowledging the resolution, said, "I may assure you"—that is, the federation, the all-India association—"that I am no less anxious about the demand of the Class III and Class IV employees in the Corporation to bring them on a par with other classes of employees in the matter of amenities." But at that time, there was the Bengal refugee influx. He said it in October, 1971. Mr. Pai addressed an open letter to the employees, saying that "they were aware of the serious crisis through which our country is passing on account of the large-scale influx of refugees into West Bengal from Bangla Desh, and that has placed a severe strain on our country's economy."

In the penultimate paragraph of the same letter, he says, "the extension of any amenities for the staff will also have to await the passing of the crisis." Now, the crisis has passed. I am sorry that the hon. Minister, Shri Ganesh, who is a friend of ours, does not seem to have read the resolution which was sent to the Corporation and to the Government. The All-India Insurance Employees Association waited patiently for more than a year, but since the negotiations are closed, since they have said that nothing could be done, and since Mr. Pai has resigned and has now become a Member of the Rajya Sabha, and the other Chairman has come and he did not negotiate properly, now is the time,—the time has come—when this agreement does not stand in the way. I feel that the bonus has to be raised to three months' basic pay, and their demands should be considered, and they should be recognised, and the other demands should also be considered. If at this time it is not taken serious note of, I am sure that this will develop into a general strike today, or tomorrow or any other day.

SHRI H. N. MUKHERJEE (Calcutta-North-East) : Sir, may I have your indulgence to say a few words ? I was yesterday in Bombay at the headquarters of the LIC, *Yogakshema*, and I had to address meetings of the workers who have gone on strike all over India, some 42,000 of them today. My only point is, apart from the many long-standing grievances of the insurance employees of which the lack of recognition, which was withdrawn sometime ago, of their association is the most important from the point of view of basic principles, here and now the demand for bonus has come up, and the Minister himself has recognised that the workers have a right to ask for a higher quantum of bonus. The last decision in regard to the quantum of bonus was in 1957 or 1958—one and a half months' bonus. Since the idea of bonus is something of a participation in the amount of profits made and since the profit made by the LIC largely on account of the work of the employees has risen to a very high amount, it is only right and proper that the workers, in present-day conditions, should ask for a higher bonus. They are demanding a higher bonus. They are going to boycott the acceptance of bonus; there is going to be created a very peculiar situation. Why does not the Government come forward and say that they are going to sit down and discuss this question of bonus and they are not going to stand on ceremony and say that you have signed an agreement validly in 1953, so on and so forth ?

Why does not Mr. Ganesh say on behalf of Government that the LIC would be sitting down with the association, with the employees' organisation, discuss the question of bonus and discuss also the other outstanding issues in so far as they are relevant at this present moment and solve the problem which has arisen, because this token strike might very well lead to a boycott the bonus and other kinds of demonstrations which hurt the economy of our country and which Government should try to avoid ?

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI (Bhubaneswar) : As far as I understand the hon. Minister, I would like to know whether this agreement takes away the right of any discussion with the management, discussion of any of the problems that are arising. Does it take away the right ? I

think it does not. No agreement can take away the right of workers to come and discuss the problems with the management (*Interruption*). I understand from the hon. Minister and I hope he will clarify this point because it is a question of bonus and other emoluments and it is a question of differential treatments between class I and II, and between class III and IV employees and also the recognition of the union. I hope the Government has not closed its mind. As Mr. Mukerjee had suggested, has the management any objection to have a dialogue and discussion with the employees so that this problem could be solved. I hope the hon. Minister will use his good offices for this purpose.

श्री हुकमचंद कछवाय : मैं भी इसमें कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मेरे पास लिखे हुए नाम हैं । मैं इसमें आपको कैसे एलाऊ कर सकता हूँ ?

SHRI K. R. GANESH : The LIC has already invited the employees to discuss these questions on 10 and 11 May, 1972.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Why so late ?

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Many other points have been raised by Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu about differences in pay and all that. These were matters that were discussed in 1970, there were protracted discussions in 1970 and the matter was referred to adjudication and later on bilateral discussions took place and an agreement was reached and it was recorded before the tribunal as an agreement. Some of these points did not form part of the agreement, therefore the employees left it. In reply to the hon. Member's question, I should say that no agreement closes the door for any discussion because bilateral discussions are always possible. I have taken the stand, that the agreement does not prevent the employees from discussing with the employers and finding out solutions for problems.

The Government's position is this. The LIC is an autonomous organisation. For 15 years the employees have negotiated and won their demands as a result of discussions

with the LIC. The LIC has called them for discussions. I hope out of this discussion some settlement would be arrived at and that it will be advantageous to both the employers as well as the employees.

Now, about recognition, this matter was referred to the central evaluation committee of the Ministry of Labour and the information given to me is that the All India Insurance employees Association has refused to sign the code of discipline and in a resolution passed in February 1972, the association has repudiated this code... (Interruption) If you feel that the information that I am giving to you is not correct, and if your information is correct, the situation becomes simpler. Meanwhile you have also to find out facts because recognition is based on the code of discipline.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मने एक नोटिस दिया था विशेषाधिकार का ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : वह अभी मेरे पास है । मने अभी इजाजत नहीं दी है उसको ।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : वही मैं प्रतीक्षा कर रहा हूँ, कब इजाजत देंगे ? काफी समय हो गया ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अब समय तो होता जायगा । देखने वाली बात है । अभी मैं देख रहा हूँ ।

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : You had issued instructions, that the statement should be supplied half an hour before, the statement has been supplied only at 11.45. It is for your information. They do not care for us. That is all right. But they should at least care for the Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER : Sometimes they say that there are difficulties. In spite of that I repeat my direction that it should be there.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : वह दूमरा कालिंग अटेंशन अब कल नहीं होगा । वह आज हो गया ।

श्री एस० एम० बनर्जी : हो जाने दीजिए ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : नहीं, वह आज हो गया ।

श्री एस० एम० बनर्जी : वह भी हो जाने दीजिए ।

MR. SPEAKER : I allowed it today. There is one more pending. I want to accommodate them also.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Your own assurance should be honoured by these people.

12.12 hrs.

### CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REPORTED TRAFFICKING IN ADIVASI  
GIRLS IN ORISSA

SHRI D. K. PANDA (Bhanjanagar) : I call the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon :

"The reported trafficking in Adivasi girls in Orissa."

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : Sir, as a result of the closing down of mining operations of the Tata-owned iron mines at Gorumasani and Budampahar in the district of Mayurbhanj in Orissa a few years back, a large number of workers engaged in the mining operations in these mines and, belonging mostly to the Adivasi communities, were thrown out of employment. Some of them had moved to nearby mining areas and industrial townships in Bihar while others are still unemployed. Recruiting parties, on behalf of mining contractors have, from time to time, made recruitment in this region and taken the recruited labour to the mining areas and factories mostly in Bihar.