

March, 1971, stressed the importance of consulting the leaders of trade unions and management in order to evolve sound industrial relations and to secure increased productivity consistent with a fair deal for labour. Where the means of production are owned by the People and private profit is not the ruling motive, as in the case of the Railways, strikes must be abjured as a matter of principle. The Administrative Reforms Commission has made several recommendations in this regard. Performance and production oriented labour relations are vital for making the Railways truly a Public benefactor. I agree that there should be an adequate machinery for quick redress of grievances and adjudication of disputes between the management and the employees.

50. Pradhan Mantri in her inaugural speech at the Conference of Trade Union Organisations has said that :

“.....labour is a major participant in the productive process, and the quality and intensity of its efforts are critical in increasing the rate of growth of production and therefore of investment in the economy... the employed particularly in the organised sector, who enjoy a measure of social security, should recognise that in our country to be employed is in itself a privilege. Hence they should not seek unilateral gains for themselves but have some compassion for those who are willing to work yet are not able to do so because of the comparatively low rate of capital formation in our country.....”

Her advice is wholesome and timely and has to be followed if we are to ensure economic and social justice embedded in the Constitution.

51. I am happy to acknowledge that the relations with the organized labour during the year have continued to be generally cordial and satisfactory. The year has been particularly hard and trying for the railwaymen, specially for those directly connected with the movement of trains. Regardless of the considerations of personal safety, all ranks

of railwaymen showed exemplary courage and devotion to duty and gave of their best in running the Railways—the ‘life-line’ of the Nation.

52. Labour in particular is wedded to the ideal of socialism and rightly so. The overwhelming majority of us are committed to socialism. We have to realise afresh that the success of socialism in our country is inter-linked with the success of our public undertakings. The Railways are the biggest of our public undertakings and therefore, the best means of proving the worth of socialism.

53. Permit me, Sir, to thank you for the patient hearing given to me.

14-54 hrs.

PREVENTION OF INSULTS TO NATIONAL HONOUR BILL*

GRIH MANTRALAYA MEN RAJYA MANTRI (SHRI K. C. PANT) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to Prevent insults to national honour.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to prevent insults to national honour.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRI K. C. PANT : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

14-55 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE. PROCLAMATION IN RELATION TO THE STATE OF MYSORE

GRIH MANTRALAYA MEN RAJYA MANTRI (SHRI K. C. PANT) : Sir, I beg to move the following Resolution :

“That this House approves the Proclamation issued by the President on the 27th

* Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary part II, Section 2, dated 24.5.71.