

earlier. It is worth noting that like the preceding years, the public sector continued to do better than the private sector in the growth rate; in the case of public sector, the growth rate was 3.2 per cent, whereas it was 0.1 per cent in the private sector. You will be glad to know that in 1975 the public sector employed 128.89 lakhs people while the private sector employed only 67.99 lakhs.

The employment situation continues to cause acute concern to us. The Live Register has risen to 93.26 lakhs at the end of December 1975, including about 48 lakhs educated job-seekers. Government is doing its best to see that we do something for them.

I may also bring to the notice of the hon. Member, that recruitment through the Gorakhpur Labour Depot had almost come to a stop and hence, in order to help the poor people of the area to get jobs, we have converted that Depot into a Central Employment Exchange. The Central and State Government departments have been requested to see that all their requirements are met through this Exchange.

So, many special schemes have been started to give employment to the unemployed persons, and this will be evident from a study of the Five Year Plan also. We are doing our best to see that most of the people get employment.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): I want to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister two or three points.

The first important point is about the reopening or taking over of two textile mills in Kanpur. The hon. Minister knows that the apex body has recommended this and the Central Government also has accepted it in principle, but they have to amend the Schedule of the Act and this is taking time. I was told by the Commerce Minister, whom I met today, that the Law Ministry is drafting the amending Bill. I do not know how much time

it will take. Because this concerns 10,000 workers who have been suffering for the last 12 months, this should be brought as early as possible. The Law Minister did not take even a day to bring forward legislation to annul the agreement with the insurance employees. So, in all seriousness I would urge upon the hon. Minister to see that this Bill is introduced without further delay.

There are about 12 textile mills in the country which have been similarly closed. The apex body has recommended that they should all be taken over.

MR. Chairman: He may continue next time

15.28 hrs.

WHOOPIING COUGH PREVENTION AND ERADICATION SCHEME BILL*

SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD MANDAL (Samastipur): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for prevention and eradication of whooping cough from the country.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA (Tellicherry): I rise on a point of order. I have given notice of the Coconuts Bill according to the rules of procedure. This Bill needs the recommendation of the President under article 117 of the Constitution. It has been sent by the Lok Sabha Secretariat to the Ministry to get the President's recommendation. I have got a reply from the Ministry which says...

MR CHAIRMAN: He can raise it at some other time.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA. This is the only time.

MR CHAIRMAN. I am prepared to listen to you, but we will be wasting our time. We have no material before us

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please co-operate.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): His right to introduce a Bill known as Coconut Bill has been taken away. Kindly hear him. He has to introduce a Bill today.

MR. CHAIRMAN: My business is only to follow up agenda.

(Interruptions)

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: I have a right to introduce a Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Since you have addressed a letter to the hon. Speaker and the hon. Speaker is in the process of considering your letter, he will give you a reply in due course. You wait until he gives a reply.

(Interruptions)

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: I have a letter.....

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Not a letter, but you have submitted a Bill

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: It was long before. It was in December. I should be given permission to introduce it now. If I do not get a permission to introduce this Bill I cannot introduce this Bill in this session. The Ministry in a very arbitrary manner has decided to take away my right.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for prevention and eradication of whooping cough from the country."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD MANDAL: I introduce the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we are taking up further consideration of the Bill moved by Shri Somnath Chatterjee.....

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Now is the time to hear him.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Now is the time to hear me. I am on a point of Order. (Interruptions) You have to dispose of my point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no, you should take up this matter with the Speaker in his chamber.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: I have to raise it here. Can you take away my right of introducing a Bill?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nobody has done it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: If you kindly listen to me you will understand it. I have sent a notice in December. The Ministry says that the matter of setting up a Coconut Board has been receiving the attention of the Government. If the matter is receiving their attention, they say that they will not proceed to get the sanction of the recommendations from the President. That means I cannot introduce a Bill. Now, I will read out from their Office Memorandum. It says:

"If, as a result of this examination, it is finally decided to set up a Board, this Ministry would come up with an Official Bill for this purpose.

These facts are brought to the notice of the Lok Sabha Secretariat for their information. Pending finalisation of the issue, this Ministry is not planning to take action with regard to the fulfilment of the constitutional requirements of Shri Chandrappan's Bill."