

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and by what time the decisions are likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI-MATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) The Minister of State in the Ministry of Labour had received representations on the recommendations of the Palekar Tribunal. He had informal meetings with representatives of the employees and representatives of the employers on the 10th and 11th of September 1980 to ascertain their views regarding the recommendations. At the end of these meetings, written memoranda were presented by some of the representatives. They desired a joint meeting in order to gain a common understanding of the recommendations and see whether there could be any modifications which both the employers and the employees agree need to be made to the recommendations of the Tribunals. Accordingly a joint meeting was held on the 19th and 20th of September but there was no common understanding of some of the recommendations and there were no modifications jointly agreed. It was left to the Government to take a decision.

(b) Labour Minister of the Government of West Bengal recommended that Indian Journalists Association's representation for reconsideration of the report of Palekar Tribunals merited consideration.

(c) and (d). The decision of Government is expected to be announced before the end of the current session of Parliament.

Communal Riots

*138. SHRI F. H. MOHSIN:

SHRI R. L. P. VERMA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) the total number of communal riots since the new Government came into power;

(b) the total loss of life and property; and

(c) steps taken or to be taken to put a stop to such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA):

(a) and (b). The information for the period from the 14th January, 1980, to the 25th November, 1980, is awaited from State Governments and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Government have made known their determination to deal sternly, promptly and effectively with any communal situation and its recurrence in future. Various steps to prevent communal incidents have been suggested to State Governments from time to time, such as upgrading the local intelligence network, establishment of Centralised Control Rooms; strengthening police deployments; more vigorous preventive actions against anti-social elements; stricter control over fire arms as also continued vigorous steps for unearthing illicit arms and ammunition; special care to be taken at the time of important festivals and celebrations; reiterating the decision that action would be taken against all defaulting and guilty officials. Central Government have promised the State Governments all help which they may need in containing communal violence.

The provisions of the National Security Ordinance 1980 are available for taking preventive action against anti-social and anti-national elements.

The National Integration Council has been re-constituted and held its meeting on the 12th November, 1980. The Council has decided to constitute a sub-committee on communal harmony.