

child criminals and women criminals. There is no satisfactory arrangements for them at all.

Now, will the hon Minister be pleased to tell the House, what is the progress of the High Power Commission or Committee that is taking a comprehensive view of jail reforms?

When is their report expected to be received? Will the Government thereafter move expeditiously to really bring about some basic changes in regard to the entire Jail System in this country? Sir, every day, newspapers are full of the most horrifying types of stories with regard to Jails, particularly, the treatment of women and children. So what is the Government's reaction to these?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: Sir, the Jail Committee was appointed under the Chairmanship of Justice Mullah. So far as Tihar Jail is concerned, they have submitted a report. We are taking action. We are constructing new jails so that the under-trials can be kept separately.

DR. KARAN SINGH: Tihar Jail or the whole country?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: One report has been received and that is regarding Tihar Jail. With regard to the entire country, the Committee has not submitted its report. As and when the Report is received, necessary action will be taken after examining the Report.

Palekar Award

*355. **SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARULEKAR:** Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) whether it is a fact that many newspapers in the country have not yet implemented the Palekar Award for Journalists and non-journalists;

(b) if so, names of such newspapers; and

(c) action taken against these newspapers and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) According to information received from State Governments/Union Territory Administrations, some newspaper establishments have not implemented the Govt's order on the Palekar Tribunals recommendations for Working Journalists and non-journalist newspaper employees.

(b) A statement giving the available information is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—3120/81].

(c) State Governments/Union Territory Administrations are the appropriate Governments for securing implementation of the order on the Tribunals' recommendations. State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have been requested to initiate proceedings under the Working Journalists and Other Newspaper Employees (Conditions of Service) and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1955 against newspaper establishments who fail to implement the order.

एक माननीय सदस्य : नेशनल हेरल्ड का क्या हुआ ?

SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARULEKAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very important question.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: That is why he admitted it.

SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARULEKAR: The statement mentions that in 10 States in the country there is no newspaper industry. In one State this law is not applicable. From two States—Jammu and Kashmir and Andaman & Nicobar Islands—information is not available. As far as Tripura is concerned, the statement mentions that the law is not at all implemented there and out of 17 States, it is stated in the statement that 224 establishments have so far not taken any steps to implement this particular award. The maximum number is in Karnataka which has

57, followed by U. P. which has 44. The statement does not mention, probably for reasons best known to the hon. Minister, how many newspapers have partially implemented the award. If that number is given, it may work out, I think to more than 600 or 700. It is stated in the answer that implementing authorities are the States. As far as Delhi is concerned, the statement mentions that there are 17 newspapers which have so far not implemented the award. I would like to know therefore (a) what action Government proposes to take with reference to the newspapers which are about 17 in number in Delhi which have not implemented this particular recommendation of the Committee? What action was taken? If no action was taken, why and what action do Government propose to take?

Part (b) of my question is this. I would like to know whether it is a fact that the implementation of Working Journalists Act which caused further retrenchment on the grounds of implementation of Palekar Award has proved to be a useless weapon because most of the retrenchments were made before August 1980 instead of February 1980, which was the demand of various Unions and what steps Government proposes to take with reference to those persons who were so retrenched?

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA: Sir, the Central Government have already requested the State Governments.....

AN HON. MEMBER: What about Delhi?

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA: About National Herald? I can say that the National Herald has implemented it and about others if particular complaints are brought to my notice, I would request the State Governments and union territories concerned to get them implemented through their own machinery. I think they can order the

Collector to recover the dues and arrears from the newspaper concerned. The State Government can refer the matter to the State Industrial Tribunal. Or the State Government can initiate penal action against the establishments which have not implemented the Palekar Award.

SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARULEKAR: What about part (b) of my question regarding the retrenched employees on that particular date? That was my specific question.....(Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: If you put one supplementary, it can be fully answered. If you just put a catalogue, the Minister will get lost. Now, put the second supplementary.

SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARULEKAR: All the newspapers have raised their advertisement and subscription rates since the date the award was passed. In some of the newspapers, it has become a practice to dispense with the services of regular newspapermen and appoint professors, lecturers and others as part timers. There are some such newspapers. To quote an example, the Nav Bharat at Nagpur has only one full time reporter on its staff at the headquarters of the English daily. The editor has been given an honorary status and the entire newspaper is run with the help of part timers. I would therefore like to know whether the Government in order to check this practice would refuse to give the status of a newspaper to a daily and also refuse newsprint to such newspapers which are run without the adequate complement of the reporters, sub editors etc., so that the award can be implemented properly.

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA: Now that it has been brought to the notice of the Government, I will enquire into the matter and will write to the State Government to deal with it.

SHRI ERA ANBARASU: There is a weekly magazine in Tamil Nadu....**

MR. SPEAKER: No; this does not come out of the question. Not allowed.
(Interruptions)**

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, his remarks should not go on record.

(Interruptions)

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: Yes, you can take my remarks as off the record.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, off the record.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: I would like to know from the Minister, she is the Labour Minister too—whether she is aware that the Indian Express has implemented the Palekar Award, and having implemented the Palekar Award, the Indian Express, Bombay, is being subjected to gangsterism in the name of trade unionism. Will she as Labour Minister give protection to those newspapers which have implemented the Palekar Award and see that this paper is not subjected to closure by the use of gangsterism and trade unionism....
(Interruptions).

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: Why am I a Member of Parliament, if I have to go to her office?.....
(Interruptions).

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: Why am I a Member of Parliament, if I have to go to her office?.....(Interruptions).

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: A definite question has been put and we want a definite reply. We are not expected to go to her office....(Interruptions).

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: Sir, they are resorting to gangsterism to see that a respected newspaper like the Indian Express closes down.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA: Sir, the Government is for giving protection to all its workers, but it depends upon merits and demerits of the cases.

(Interruptions)

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: Sir, where is the Cabinet Minister for Labour?

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: May I know from the Hon. Minister as she replied that most of the implementations depend on the State Government's Order, whether the State Governments are serious in implementing the Palekar Award; whether the Central Government has written to the State Governments reminding that most of the State Governments are not helping in the implementation of the Palekar Award in their respective States? And if so, we would like to know whether the State Governments have responded to the reminders of the Central Government in respect of the implementation of the Palekar Award?

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA: Yes, Sir. The Labour Minister has written to the Chief Ministers of all the States and Union Territories and it was written from our Department also. And a Committee of Ministers has been set up here under my Chairmanship to deal with this question and all the State Governments were requested on 15-9-1981 to initiate proceedings under the Act against the establishments which have not implemented the order so far. And most of the State Governments have responded to it and I have got a list about the steps taken by some of the State Governments regarding this.

Proposed Closure of Victoria Works of Burn Braithwaite Jessops Construction Company

*356. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to close the Victoria Works of the