I would like to know who is going to create this fund, whether it is the Central Government or State Governments.

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA : The appropriate Government.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : यूनियनों के बीच मान्यता के सवाल को ले कर विवाद होने की स्थिति में व्यवस्था है कि सीक्रेट बेलट से उस बात को तय किया जाए ।

तो हम लोग ऐसी मांग करते रहे हैं, मजदूर आन्दोलन की यह मांग बराबर चल रही है । तो मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या सीक्रेट बैलट से यूनियनों की मान्यता का सवाल हल किया जाय इसके बारे में भी आपके सम्मेलन में कोई विचार हुआ ? यदि नहीं, तो इस सवाल को हल करने के बारे में आप क्या रास्ता सुझाते हैं ?

श्रीमती राम दुलारी सिन्हा : उस पर दो तरह की राय जाहिर की गई है एक चैक अप सिस्टम लागू करके चाहते हैं । दूसरे चाहते हैं सीक्रेट बैलट से और तीसरे सरकार पर छोड़ना चाहते हैं । मैं पूछना चाहती हूं माननीय सदस्य से कि क्या उन्हें इस बात का इल्म है कि कितने राउण्ड्स ऑफ टॉक्स उनके तथा अन्य मजदूर संगठनों के नेताओं से श्रम सचिव और मंत्री के स्तर पर हुए हैं । अध्यक्ष महोदय, वो किसी भी नतीजे पर यूनेनिमस नहीं पहुंचे हैं । मेरा दरवाजा अभी भी उनसे इस सम्बन्ध में बात रने कके लिए खुला है ।

Violation of Child Labour Act

*251. PROF. RUP CHAND PAL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to violation of several provisions of Child Labour Act and other Acts safeguarding interest of children; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to safeguard children in our country from indiscriminate exploitation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government have issued instructions to Administrations of all State Governments and Union Territories to strengthen the existing machinery for stricter enforcement of relevant laws pertaining to the employment of children to check exploitation and also to introduce welfare measures for working children. They have also been advised to set up State/District level advisory boards on the lines of the Central Advisory Board on Child Labour set up by the Government of India to keep a constant surveillance on the problems of working children.

PROF. RUP CHAND PAL : Legislations to prevent child labour have been laid down, but these are being violated daily. Millions of children in our country are being forced to work in conditions which are awful for their health. They are also being deprived of their due wages. The lives sometimes are not safe particularly in industries like Safety Matches, mining. In mining children below the age of five are also being used. In the Diamond Polishing trade, minor children are being used. Is it not a fact that they are reported to have lost their eyes? In view of this may I remind the hon. Minister that in this very House last year in July the hon. Labour Minister had assured that a cell is being formed to regularly go through the condition of the children, their employment, to see that they are not exploited by these unscrupulous traders and businessmen. Has that cell been formed ?

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA: Cell was formed in 1979 and then committee on Child Labour was formed under the Chairmanship of Shri M.S. Gurupadswamy in 1979. The Committee submitted its report in December, 1979. 23 recommendations were made by the Committee. Out of 23 recommendations after sorting out the recommendations by empowered committee Government have accepted 22 recommendations. The outcome of those recommendations is that a Central Advisory Board on child labour has been formed. Its various meetings have been held. Final report of Central Advisory Board for Children is going to be subbmitted in December, 1981.

PROF. RUP CHAND PAL: Is there any scheme under consideration to cure or to bring improvement in the condition of those children who got diseases or whose eyes have been effected or who have been maimed as a result of the conditions in which they were forced to work ?

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA: Under the Mines Act, 1952, no child is employed in mines. But if at all any case is brought to the notice of the Government, I will see to it.

DR. KARAN SINGH: Will the hon. Minister inform the House whether the Child Labour Act is applicable to the State of Jammu and Kashmir ? In the carpet industry of Jammu and Kashmir, there are thousands of children working in very unhygienic and very difficult conditions. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Act is applicable there and, if not, whether steps will be taken to persuade the State Government to accept the provisions of this Act.

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA: The Government will request the Jammu and Kashmir Government to apply these Acts in its own state.

SHRI HARIKESH BAHADUR On a point of order, Sir. Continuous consultations are going on in that corner of the House.....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Order please; only the business of the House is to be conducted.

श्रीमती विद्यावती चतुर्वेदी : मैं मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहती हूं कि बाल श्रम अधिनियम प्रदेशों में शक्ति से लागू होता है या नहीं ? अगर नहीं , तो क्या आप कोई नये कदम उठायेंगे ? क्या आप इस बात को महसूस करती हैं कि जो छोटे-छोटे बच्चे फैक्टरियों में काम करते हैं, उससे उनके स्वास्थ्य पर बहुत गलत प्रभाव पड़ता है ? क्या उन बच्चों को ऐसी जगह से बचा कर कुछ ऐसे धन्धे खोलकर उन्हें लगाने का विचार है जिससे उनकी आर्थिक स्थिति भी सुधरे और स्वास्थ्य पर भी बुरा असर न पड़े ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : माननीय सदस्य का सुझाव कबूल कर लीजिये ।

श्रीमती राम दुलारी सिन्हा : 15 बरस के नीचे के बच्चों को हैजर्डुअस आकूपेशन में नहीं रखने का प्रावधान है । इस सिलसिले में हमारे पास कोई भी कम्पलेंट ऐसी नहीं आई है कि इस तरह के माइन्स में बच्चों की बहाली होती है । लेकिन जहां तक लाइट वर्क का ताल्लुक है, वहां 12-12 बरस के छोटे बच्चे काम करते हैं और उनके वैलफेयर के सम्बन्ध में सरकार के पास कानूनी प्रावधान है । जहां तक राज्यों का सम्बन्ध है, उनको कहा गया है और कहा भी जायेगा कि वे सख्ती से उन कानूनों का पालन करें ।

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH: In the State of Gujarat, there are two districts of Surat and Bhavnagar where may be 20,000 children are employed in the diamond polishing industry. There are complaints of these child-

ren losing their eyes by the time they are 20. Does the Government plan to take any action to save these children from losing their eyes ?

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA: The Government will inquire into the matter and do the needful.

Review Committee Appointed by E.S.I.S.

*252. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Review committee has been appointed by the Employees State Insurance Scheme ;

(b) if so, the details thereof and when it is expected to submit its report;

(c) whether the said Committee has received any representation from any Central Trade Union Organisation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Committee consists of 13 members (including the Chairman). Its terms of reference is to review the working of the Employees' State Insurance Scheme with particular reference to the administration of medical and other benefits and to recommend how it may be improved. It may also review the position of the arrears of contribution to ESI Scheme and suggest measures for the recovery and prevention of accumulation of such arrears in future. The Committee is expected to submit its report by the end of December, 1981.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Committee has so far received representations from INTUC, AITUC, Hind Mazdoor Sabha and Bhartiya Mazdoor Sangh.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : In a matter like this which concerns items of social security measures affecting crores of workers in the country, how is it that a Review Committee which has been set up is not based on the established tripartite principle ? How is it that the tripartite principle has been given a go-by ? How is it that in such a matter, a Committee is set up in which the representatives of the main Central Trade Unions or even the representatives of the employer shave not been included ? The people who are making contributions to this Employees State Insurance Scheme, their representatives are not included in the Review Committee which consists mainly of officials and one representative of the INTUC has been made the Chairman of the Committee. But the tripartite basis has been knocked out altogether. I would like to know why it is being done in this manner.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : Your objection has been considered. Your objections and the suggestions made by your organisation will be taken into consideration. There is no question of debarring any political party in the country.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Scheme to Promote Engineers and Technicians in Electronics

*243. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have formulated schemes to promote engineers and technicians in India in Electronics;

(b) whether schemes have also been formulated for those technicians who are willing to return from abroad to set up economically viable