

from the Federal Republic of Germany, an Oceanographic Research Vessel for research and development relating to non-living resources (including studies on mineral nodules on the sea-bed).

'B' Grade Clerks in Navy

*1083. SHRI R. K. MHALGI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to the reply given on 25th March, 1981 to Unstarred Question No. 4923 regarding 'B' Grade clerks in Navy and state :

(a) what special efforts have been made during a period of last six months consequent on the judgement of the Bombay High Court to arrive at a decision in the classification of the erstwhile 'B' grade clerks of the Navy as Upper Division Clerks;

(b) if no special effort have been made in spite of the repeated demands made the reasons thereof and the officers responsible for the same; and

(c) whether a decision has now been arrived at and if so, when and the details thereof ?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI-MATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) to (c) The implications of the Judgement of the Bombay High Court have since been examined and a decision has been taken to re-classify the erstwhile 'B' Grade Clerks of the Navy as Upper Division Clerks. Government orders in this regard will be issued soon.

Tribal Labour from Orissa in Delhi

*1084. SHRI MANMOHAN TUDU : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that thousands of tribal labourers from Keonjhar and Mayurbhanj districts of Orissa and

Chaibasa, Chakradharpur, Jamshedpur, Chhotanagpur and Manoharpur, area of Bihar have become the victims of exploitation of the job racketeers and contractors;

(b) whether it is a fact that they have been treated as bonded labour in different States and they are not paid any wages;

(c) whether it is also a fact that some tribal labourers recently brought from Jamshedpur and working at Ashoka Hotel and other places of Delhi in the building construction works are not paid their wages regularly;

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take to protect those tribals working at different places of the country as migrant labourers and bonded labour; and

(e) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Government have seen Press reports to this effect and have requested the concerned State Governments to investigate into the matter. The Government of Orissa have denied this allegation while the report from the Government of Bihar is awaited.

(b) The Government of Orissa have reported that this is not a fact. Usually, however, such labour are migrant labour.

(c) No, Sir, according to the report received from the Union Territory Administration.

(d) and (e). The Bonded labour system throughout the country has been abolished, all bonded labour freed and their debts liquidated by the enactment of the Bonded Labour