

at a settlement in these matters. All these pay scales and other service conditions, etc., were fixed without consulting the employees. Now, the Finance Minister has stated that he saw the employees. Actually, what happened was, a deputation of the employees saw him. That is not a negotiation. Negotiation means some kind of a bi-partite conference between the Government and the employees, perhaps also including representatives of the corporation, to ascertain what their grievances are and to come to conclusions.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I have heard enough on this matter. The hon. Minister has said that he is not aware of any token strike. A mere threat or newspaper report is not enough for this purpose. On every detail of the manner in which the Government should negotiate with the workers to settle this matter cannot be made the subject matter of a discussion in this House. Generally whether the Government is alert or taking interest or not, the hon. Minister has informed the House. Of course, all other legitimate steps will be taken. I am not called upon to give my consent to this adjournment motion.

Shri Nambiar (Mayuram): Before the strike materialises, it is necessary to see whether this can be averted.

Mr. Speaker: They are doing so. The hon. Minister has seen the representatives.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: There is no question of details about negotiations. There has been no negotiation at all. I think we may assume that in the matter of fixing of pay scales of a section of the employees.....

Mr. Speaker: I have given my ruling. In the previous session also this matter came up. The hon. Minister said: "We are trying to fix the scales. There are a number of life insurance companies with different scales, each differing from the other" and so on. Under those circumstances, it is a little premature. Let us wait and see.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: The scale is fixed.

Mr. Speaker: That is all right. If they have been fixed, they have been fixed.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

ORDERS UNDER ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ACT

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): On behalf of Shri A. P. Jain I beg to lay on the Table a copy of each of the following Orders, under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955:—

- (1) The Calcutta Wheat (Movement Control) Order, 1956, published in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture Notification No. S.R.O. 2033, dated the 5th September, 1956.
- (2) The Delhi Wheat (Movement Control) Order, 1956, published in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture Notification No. S.R.O. 2034, dated the 5th September, 1956.
- (3) The Bombay Wheat (Movement Control) Order, 1956, published in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture Notification No. S.R.O. 2098, dated the 17th September, 1956.

[Placed in Library. See Nos. S-422/56; S-423/56; S-424/56.]

AMENDMENT TO WORKING JOURNALISTS WAGE BOARD RULES

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai): I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (3) of section 20 of the Working Journalists (Conditions of Service) and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1955, a copy of the Notification No. S.R.O. 2136, dated the 22nd September, 1956, making certain amendment to the Working Journalists Wage Board Rules, 1956. [Placed in Library. See No. S. 425/56.]