

[Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim]

for ad hoc transitional arrangements for the period from 1st April, 1959 to 31st March, 1960. The draft agreement now under consideration follows broadly the lines of the agreement for Kharif 1956 except that we stand to get a somewhat larger proportion of the waters hitherto supplied by us to Pakistan. The indications are that the agreement will be signed in Washington shortly. A copy of the agreement, after it is signed, will be placed in the Parliament Library.

12.06 hrs.

**CORRECTION OF ANSWER TO
STARRED QUESTION NO. 722**

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): In reply to one of the supplementary questions put by Shri Vajpayee arising out of my reply to the Starred Question No. 722, answered in the Lok Sabha on the 27th February, 1959, I said, "During 1957-58, Rs. 75,500 and Rs. 76,220 were paid to the Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Madras." Actually during 1957-58 the grants of Rs. 75,500 and Rs. 76,220 were paid to the Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh respectively

12.07 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—contd

**MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
—contd.**

Mr. Speaker: The House will now resume discussion on the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Labour and Employment. Out of 6 hours allotted for these Demands, 5 hours and 19 minutes now remain.

The list of select cut motions relating to these Demands has already been circulated to Members on the 4th April, 1959. I shall treat these cut motions as moved subject to their being admissible.

Now, it is nearing 12 10 We must conclude this by 5.30, I think.

**Closure of Cotton Textile Mills in the
country**

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

**Closure of Maheshwari Devi Jute
Mills Ltd., Kanpur**

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

**Failure to provide any relief to the
Mill Workers of Sayaji Jubilee
Cotton Mills at Sidhpur, Bombay
State**

Shri M. B. Thakore: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

**Failure to reopen Cotton Mills which
have been closed in Bombay State**

Shri M. B. Thakore: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

**Failure to employ all mill labourers
of Sayaji Jubilee Mills, Sidhpur in
other cotton Mills**

Shri M. B. Thakore: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

**Failure to check the increasing un-
employment**

Shri B. Das Gupta: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Ever-growing unemployment amongst the agricultural labourers

Shri B. Das Gupta: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Unemployment amongst the Adivasis of Chhotanagpur in Bihar and of West Bengal

Shri B. Das Gupta: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Fall in the real earnings of the industrial workers

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Deterioration in the employment position

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Discrimination against All India Trade Union Congress in the matter of representation in various Committees

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to enhance the rate of contribution to the Employee's Provident Fund Scheme from 6½ per cent to 8½ per cent.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to merge dearness allowances with the basic wage

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to revise Coal Mines Bonus Scheme

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need for a gratuity scheme for the industrial workers

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Condition of agricultural workers

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Verification of membership of various Central Trade Union Organisations

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Discrimination towards the I.N.T.U.C.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to fix minimum wages for agricultural labour

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Proposed extension of Bank Award

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Retrenchment arising out of closure of textile mills

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Accidents in coal mines

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Representation of A.I.T.U.C. representatives on various Wage Boards and Committees

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Non-submission of Reports by Textiles, Sugar and Cement Wage Boards

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Functioning of Labour Officers in Central Government undertakings

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to provide legal aid to workers

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Non-implementation of Awards by the employers

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Non-implementation of certain recommendations of 15th and 16th Indian Labour Conferences

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to increase the employers' contribution to provident fund from 6½ per cent to 8 1/3 per cent

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Establishment of hospitals under Employees State Insurance Scheme in Calcutta, Bombay and Kanpur

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Formation of Wage Boards for leather and engineering industries

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to introduce schemes of labour participation in management in various industries

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need for legislation regulating the conditions of work and services for motor transport workers

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to have legislation for the Constitution of Manganesse Mines Labour Welfare Fund.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to improve the labour relations in Jessop & Co. after taking over of this concern by Government

Shri Muhammed Elias: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to concede the demands of the workers of Jessop & Co. after taking over of this concern by Government.

Shri Muhammed Elias: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and

'Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to implement the major Engineering Tribunal awards in West Bengal

Shri Muhammed Elias: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to take steps against the employers in engineering industries in West Bengal for not implementing the major Engineering Tribunal Awards

Shri Muhammed Elias: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to recognise the Jamshedpur Majdoor Union

Shri Muhammed Elias: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need for expanding the powers of Works Committees

Shri Muhammed Elias: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need for proper supervision in elections to Works Committees

Shri Muhammed Elias: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to curtail employers' power regarding election to Works Committees

Shri Muhammed Elias: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need for regular functioning of elected Works Committees

Shri Muhammed Elias: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need for giving adequate financial help to workers for defending their cases regarding industrial disputes

Shri Muhammed Elias: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need for speedy disposal of the disputes pending before the Supreme Court

Shri Muhammed Elias: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need for speedy building of workers quarters under Industrial Housing Scheme.

Shri Muhammed Elias: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to settle the dispute of the Bhowra Collieries & Co., Calcutta

Shri Muhammed Elias: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to settle the disputes of the workers of Burnpur and Kulti

Shri Muhammed Elias: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to settle industrial disputes by negotiating machinery

Shri Muhammed Elias: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to take steps against the employers for violating the code of discipline

Shri Muhammed Elias: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to increase the employers' contribution to Employees' State Insurance Corporation Scheme.

Shri Muhammed Elias: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to arrange speedy payment of sickness and accident benefits to the workers.

Shri Muhammed Elias: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need for recognition of Workers' Unions by ballot

Shri Muhammed Elias: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to implement the decision with regard to constitution of Wage Boards in different industries

Shri Muhammed Elias: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to check the growth of rival unions in different factories

Shri Muhammed Elias: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to allow free registration of labour Unions in Partabpur, Awroha, Masodha Phanda, Daurala and other sugar factories.

Shri S. L. Sakseena: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to refer the dispute regarding the dismissal of entire labour of Mahabir Jute Mills, Sahjanwa for adjudication

Shri S. L. Sakseena: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Victimisation of workers of Raza and Buland Sugar Factories in Rampur

Shri S. L. Sakseena: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to refer the cases of dismissed workers of the sugar mills of U.P. for adjudication

Shri S. L. Sakseena: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to grant 50 per cent. off-season wages to all seasonal workers in the off-season in the sugar industry

Shri S. L. Sakseena: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to provide adequate bonus to sugar industry workers

Shri S. L. Sakseena: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to implement Nimbkar Committee's recommendations regarding the sugar industry

Shri S. L. Sakseena: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to increase wages of sugar workers by 25 per cent.

Shri S. L. Saksona: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to provide the representative Unions and federations in a unit or in an industry shall be determined by a plebiscite of workers

Shri S. L. Saksona: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to treat the United Chini Mill Mazdoor Federation as the most representative federation of Sugar workers

Shri S. L. Saksona: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Grievances of leather workers

Shri D. E. Chavan: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Non-implementation of the settlement reached between India Port & Dock Workers Federation and the Government in June, 1958 with regard to Calcutta dock workers demands

Shri D. E. Chavan: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Administration of the Calcutta Dock Labour Board

Shri D. E. Chavan: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Mass-scale punishment of the registered dock workers in Calcutta by the Calcutta Dock Labour Board authorities

Shri D. E. Chavan: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Recognition of the Dock Majdoor Union, Calcutta

Shri D. E. Chavan: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to grant representation to the Dock Majdoor Union, Calcutta in the Dock Labour Board, Calcutta

Shri D. E. Chavan: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need for enforcement of minimum wages for agricultural workers

Shri D. E. Chavan: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to take steps for the regulation of agricultural labourers' wages

Shri D. E. Chavan: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Lack of an effective agency for the enforcement of minimum wages to agricultural workers

Shri D. E. Chavan: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Less per capita income and family budget of the agricultural workers

Shri D. E. Chavan: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to set up Boards including non-officials, both at Centre and State levels for advising on schemes for the rehabilitation of the landless workers

Shri D. E. Chavan: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to frame a comprehensive policy for the various aspects of agricultural labour

Shri D. E. Chavan: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Establishment of rural labour exchanges

Shri D. E. Chavan: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to remove ignorance and illiteracy among the agricultural labourers so as to organise them effectively for better bargaining

Shri D. E. Chavan: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to organise labour cooperatives

Shri D. E. Chavan: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need for organising rural industries so as to provide part-time and full time employment to agricultural workers

Shri D. E. Chavan: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Grievances of building workers

Shri D. E. Chavan: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Grievances of furniture and decoration workers

Shri D. E. Chavan: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Condition of agricultural workers

Shri L. Achaw Singh: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Extension of labour participation in management in various industries

Shri L. Achaw Singh: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Recognition of trade unions of workers in Government undertakings

Shri L. Achaw Singh: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Delay in the finalisation of draft legislation on conditions of work and service of motor transport workers

Shri L. Achaw Singh: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Incongruity in the rule of recognition of trade unions of Government employees in Government commercial undertakings

Shri L. Achaw Singh: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need for a gratuity scheme for the industrial workers

Shri L. Achaw Singh: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Non-payment of guaranteed minimum wages and attendance allowance to the registered dock workers of the Calcutta Dock Labour Board

Shri D. E. Chavan: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Wrong classification of the registered dock workers of the Calcutta Dock Labour Board by adding 'G' before the number of identity cards of the Calcutta dockers

Shri D. E. Chavan: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Non-payment of bonus to the registered dock workers of the Calcutta Dock Labour Board

Shri D. E. Chavan: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Abolition of the institution of stevedores in Calcutta, Bombay and Madras ports

Shri D. E. Chavan: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need for regulating the conditions for work and service of agricultural labourers

Shri Sarja Pandey: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need for application of code of discipline as agreed to at the 1958 Labour Conference to all Public Sector undertakings

Shri Sarja Pandey: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to enforce the Minimum Wages Labour Act to the agricultural labourers

Shri Sarja Pandey: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need for formation of wage board for agricultural labourers

Shri Sarja Pandey: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to provide adequate bonus to workers of optimum factory of Ghazipur city

Shri Sarja Pandey: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to increase wages of optimum factory workers of Ghazipur by 25 per cent.

Shri Sarja Pandey: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Non-implementation of some of the labour laws in the Union Territory of Manipur

Shri Sarja Pandey: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Demands for the domestic workers of Delhi

Shri P. K. Deo: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Undesirability of having "contractor's labour" in the mining industry in Orissa

Shri P. K. Deo: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Problem of educated unemployment in the country with particular reference to Orissa

Shri P. K. Deo: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to give adequate employment to displaced persons in the Rourkela steel plant

Shri P. K. Deo: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Unsatisfactory working of the employment exchange at Rourkela

Shri P. K. Deo: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure of the factory inspectors in regularly inspecting the factories in Orissa

Shri P. K. Deo: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need for giving adequate compensation to the workers in case of accidents

Shri P. K. Deo: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Delay in the constitution of Mining Board for Mysore State

Shri T. R. Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Chief Inspector of Mines' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Increase in the number of accidents in the mines

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Chief Inspector of Mines' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Inordinate delay in the matter of according permission for depillaring operations in the coal mines

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Chief Inspector of Mines' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need for a rescue station at Kothagudem Andhra Pradesh

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Chief Inspector of Mines' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need for implementation of the recommendations of the Safety-in-Mines Conference

Shri Aurobindo Ghosal: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Chief Inspector of Mines' be reduced by Rs. 100"

Closure of Jumardeo Colliery in Madhya Pradesh

Shri Aurobindo Ghosal: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Chief Inspector of Mines' be reduced by Rs. 100"

Dispute of Ballarshah Colliery in Bombay

Shri Aurobindo Ghosal: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Chief Inspector of Mines' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Enquiry regarding Chindwari Colliery disaster

Shri Aurobindo Ghosal: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Chief Inspector of Mines' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Under-staffing of the Mines Inspectorate

Shri Aurobindo Ghosal: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Chief Inspector of Mines' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure of the mines inspectors to visit the mines regularly

Shri Aurobindo Ghosal: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Chief Inspector of Mines' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Inadequate safety devices in Mines

Shri Aurobindo Ghosal: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Chief Inspector of Mines' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need for work-inspectors in mines

Shri Aurobindo Ghosal: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Chief Inspector of Mines' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to settle the demands of the domestic workers of Delhi

Shri B. Das Gupta: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Delay in the publication of the award of the Wage Board for Cotton Textiles

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Slow progress in the construction of quarters for coal miners

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Deplorable condition of mica mine workers

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Prevalence of occupational disease in various industries

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Delay in the extension of medical benefits to the families of insured workers

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Delay in setting up the Committee to review the working of Employees' State Insurance Corporation

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments

and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Omission of representatives of All India Trade Union Congress from the Board of Trustees for Coal Mines Provident Fund

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to construct a hospital for workers under the Employees State Insurance Corporation Scheme in Bombay

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Delay in conducting the survey of family budgets of working class

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Delay in the publication of the Annual Report of Chief Inspector of Mines

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to run the Employees State Insurance Corporation efficiently

Shri Muhammed Elias: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to construct hospital for insured workers under Employees' State Insurance Corporation Scheme

Shri Muhammed Elias: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to decrease the workers contribution to the Employees' State Insurance Corporation Scheme

Shri Muhammed Elias: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to arrange adequate beds for the T.B. patients under Employees' State Insurance Corporation Scheme

Shri Muhammed Elias: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Delay in the conducting of survey of family budgets of the working class

Shri L. Achaw Singh: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Delay in the setting up of the Industrial Training Institute at Imphal

Shri L. Achaw Singh: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Lack of technical personnel to carry out development programmes of the Five Year Plans

Shri L. Achaw Singh: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to abolish Casual system of labour

Shri Aurobindo Ghosal: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure of the Regional Labour Commissioner of Calcutta in settling the dock-labour dispute

Shri Aurobindo Ghosal: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Irregularities in the Factory Inspectorate

Shri Aurobindo Ghosal: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to provide for bonus to the dock labourers of Calcutta

Shri Aurobindo Ghosal: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to abolish contract system of labour

Shri Aurebindo Ghosal: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Demobilisation of Gorakhpur Labour Organisation

Shri Aurebindo Ghosal: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs 100"

Exemption of industrial disputes from the deposits of security money in Supreme Court

Shri Aurebindo Ghosal: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs 100"

Failure to enforce the Code of Discipline

Shri Aurebindo Ghosal: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100"

Need to increase the contribution of the provident fund under the Employees Provident Fund Scheme

Shri Aurebindo Ghosal: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to establish hospitals for workers under the Employees' State Insurance Scheme

Shri Aurebindo Ghosal: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100"

Failure to set up hospitals for dock labourers

Shri Aurebindo Ghosal: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Mr. Speaker: These cut motions are now before the House

Shri T. R. Vittal Rao (Khammam): When the Business Advisory Committee decided the timing, it was understood that the time taken for initiating the discussion would be taken into consideration. Therefore, the time for initiating the discussion may now be excluded from the overall time

Mr. Speaker: Hon Members are aware that the House sat on Saturday, the 4th to make up the time that has been lost. It is impossible to extend the time unless hon. Members are prepared to sit till 6:30 which they are not prepared to do. There is no more time. I think all Saturdays are engaged. I think we have sat on almost every Saturday.

Shri Nath Pai (Rajapur) As regards sitting for longer hours, we are entirely in your hands. But in view of the fact that we are having a new convention that the Ministers are opening the debate and they also reply, it means that the two-edged time, so to say, is taken up both in

[Shri Nath Pal]

the beginning and at the end. Therefore, you may be pleased to extend the time for the discussion.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members who are on the Business Advisory Committee may be aware that we allotted an hour to every hon. Minister, in the beginning and at the end, together, and it takes some time. If we have the Ministers' speech on a day, if the Ministers take a little more time, that time could be taken so that they could finish off. But I would have no objection if hon. Members are willing to sit for longer time. But every hon. Member, or a representative of each group, must, and at the same time, kindly, see to it that the quorum is maintained in the House and that they are present in full numbers. Anyway, let us see, as and when we proceed. We have to conclude this debate by 5.30 today.

Shri Naushir Bharucha (East Khandesh): 4.30

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): We will adhere to the programme

Some Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: Very well. We will allow the Labour Demands to conclude at 6 o'clock, and we will sit for half an hour more to take up the other subject

How long does the hon. Minister propose to take for reply?

The Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri Nanda): I can press my reply in the balance of time allotted to the Minister, unless hon. Members want to know more from me.

Mr. Speaker: They would not put questions, I am sure.

Some Hon. Members: No.

Shri Dasanna (Bangalore): What about the Deputy Minister?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): About 40 minutes.

Mr. Speaker: The Deputy Minister's time also will be taken into account. Shri Elias who was holding the floor may continue.

Shri Muhammed Elias (Howrah): Mr. Speaker, that day, the hon. Labour Minister dealt with the problem of wages. I wish to make a few remarks on that and about the importance of the wage question which the workers in our country are facing today. The major reason for the discontent among the workers in our country is the question of wages

The hon. Minister himself has admitted that since 1939, up till now the wage has increased only by 5 per cent. The Government's industrial policy with regard to the wages has not yet been implemented. These questions have been discussed again and again in the Labour Conference, particularly in the XV Labour Conference. All those who participated in that conference admitted that the wages of our workers in our country are far below the minimum wages. That is why the XV Labour Conference recommended that in all the major industries, wage boards should be set up immediately. But up till now only in three industries wage boards have been set up, but the recommendations of those wage boards have not yet been published. In other major industries, wage boards have not been set up. So, it is a violation of the industrial policy of Government towards the second Five Year Plan, although the Plan is entering its fourth year.

The wage committee sent its recommendations on the wages of working journalists to the employers' and employees' board. The employees have given their reaction, but we do not yet know what the employers have done about it. By this time, the journalists who are working for the last 20 or 25 years are being discharg-

ed from their services and forcibly retired. A number of changes are taking place, because the employers very well know that if this recommendation is implemented, the wages will be very much increased. To quote one example, the hon. Member, Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya, is a very experienced journalist in West Bengal. If the recommendation of this wage committee is implemented, his wages should have been Rs. 2,000. That is why he has been forced to retire from service. This is happening in every concern. That is why I would request the hon. Minister to look into this matter. The wage question should be dealt with properly and wage boards should be immediately set up in other major industries.

The hon. Minister has given one or two arguments, which are very much outmoded and which have been thoroughly discussed here, viz., if the wages increase, it will lead to inflation and higher prices. It is an absolutely out-moded theory of the capitalists and the employers. This has been blown up by trade unionists even in England and America. The inflation is due to unhealthy competition among the industrialists, due to the capitalists system of our society. That is why prices increase. So, the hon. Minister should not yield to the arguments of the capitalists.

He has mentioned that a little bit of progress has been made in this direction and there is a five per cent increase achieved by the workers. It is not due to the labour policy of Government, but due to other reasons. To get an increase of Rs. 8 in their D.A., the workers had to fight several struggles in Jamshedpur. They had to face bullets. There was the so-called conspiracy case staged against the trade union leaders and they are still in prison. A number of workers have lost their services. Then only, the employers were forced to give an

increase of Rs. 8 in the D.A. Just to get Rs. 5, the Calcutta tramway workers had to go on strike for 42 days. Just to get the recommendation of the Choudhuri Committee implemented, the workers of docks and ports throughout India had to go on strike and even then it has not been implemented.

Since 1952, the West Bengal engineering workers numbering 1,50,000 had gone on strike several times. They have to face bullets. The omnibus tribunal set up after two years has given its award, but it is not implemented. This sort of thing is happening in our country with regard to the wages. That is why I request the hon. Minister to look into the matter and set up wage boards immediately in order to solve the wage problem.

He has also dealt with the problem of social security. It is one of the major failures of the Government to run the E.S.I. scheme smoothly, Rs. 14 crores have been reserved, but the construction of hospitals has not been done. In the report it has been mentioned that some one or two buildings have been constructed for opening up of hospitals in Bangalore only. In the major cities, where 3 lakhs or 4 lakhs of workers are insured in those places, the State Governments are sabotaging the construction of hospitals. It has been discussed again and again in the Corporation, but this has not been done. The extension of the scheme to the family has not been done. It has been done in two or three places, but in Bombay and Calcutta it has not yet been done. The reduction of workers' contribution has not been done. The increase in employers' contribution has not yet been done. It is a terrible harassment for the workers, because just to have their cash and medical benefits, they have to go several times to the local office. The machinery is so defective that the workers cannot get any relief from the scheme. So, the defects should be immediately

[Shri Muhammed Elias]

removed; otherwise, it will be no use introducing the scheme. We co-operated in the hope that it would be one of the very good schemes for the workers' benefit, but now we are absolutely disappointed. The workers have to withdraw their co-operation if Government does not look to running this scheme properly.

I want to mention one or two points on the question of coal. The implementation committee set up under the Chairmanship of the Chief Labour Commissioner met twice, but nothing has been done. Even the minor recommendations of the implementation committee have not yet been implemented. Though the industrial committees always meet, nothing is done in these industrial committee meetings. The water problem has not also been solved. In the newspaper they have recently published an article where they have stated that 90 per cent of the wells in Hazaribagh, Jharis, Asansol and Dhanbad have dried out. Though a lot of money has been allotted for the welfare work the water problem of the colliery area has not been solved. Then, the number of accidents in the history of coal mines is rather unprecedented during the last one year and the safety conference which always meet could not discuss this thing. Then, I do not know why the High Power Commission on Safety has not been appointed. The High Power Commission on Safety should be immediately set up. Here I welcome the speech of the hon. Minister during the colliery disaster discussion where he said he will do something and will look after this thing. I hope that he will take immediate steps in this matter also.

Coming to the question of salaries and allowances of the Chief Inspector of Mines we find that Rs. 7,32,000 have been allotted for the pay of the officers in the Office of the Chief Inspector of Mines. At the same time, we find that Rs. 7,25,000 have been al-

lotted only for their allowances. We have been told that most of these allowances, 90 per cent of them, is being eaten up by the Chief Labour Commissioner, Deputy Chief Labour Commissioner, Assistant Chief Labour Commissioner and so on. So the people who actually do the work in the office of the Chief Inspector of Mines, who go inside and inspect the mines, they do not get even 10 per cent of these allowances. This should be properly looked into. Then, though the Tribunal has awarded grading that has not been implemented in the collieries.

Coming to adjudication and conciliation machinery, I have to say a word or two. Under this scheme the workers have to go through a long process. Then, if the adjudication and conciliation machinery is not properly set up the workers will absolutely lose their faith in this machinery. Here I want to give one or two examples. Suppose a dispute arises. The workers represent their case to the employers. If the workers do not get any relief, then they go to the Labour Commissioner's office. The Labour Commissioner's office takes 8 months, 10 months or even one year to study the case and make any comment on the dispute. After making comment by the Labour Commissioner's office it takes 10 months to one year to call a tripartite conference. If anything happens in the tripartite conference, which generally does not happen in 98 per cent of the cases, the Labour Commissioner sends it on to the Labour Minister. The Labour Minister takes another year to send it to the Tribunal for reference. There also he will choose according to his own judgment. If ten disputes go to the Labour Minister's office he will choose one or two minor disputes. Then these are sent to the Tribunal. Even in those minor disputes the workers do not take it lying down; they fight in the Tribunal. It again takes 2-3 years for the award to come. Afterwards, if anything is awarded in favour of the workers the management

and the companies go to the High Court and the Supreme Court. I was myself a victim of these cases and my case was referred to the Tribunal in 1952. In the lower tribunal the decision came in our favour. The management went in appeal to the Appellate Tribunal. Now it is still pending in the Supreme Court. In this way the employers want to sabotage the decision of the tribunal. So, I would suggest that the employers must be stopped from filing their appeals against the workers in the Supreme Court and the cases which are still pending in the Supreme Court should be immediately disposed of. At the same time, workers should be given legal aid to fight the employers in the Supreme Court and in the Tribunal.

At the same time, I would request the hon. Minister to overhaul the conciliation and tribunal machinery. I do not blame the officers of this department, because I know most of the officers have tried very much to do something for the workers. But because it is under-staffed and because it is functioning under the old machinery which has been set up by the British Government, it is not able to serve the purpose. So, there are certain allegations against the officers of this department, which I do not want to place before the House just now. If the hon. Minister would like to have them I can send the workers' allegations to him for consideration.

Then, I want to say a few words about the code of discipline.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member should conclude.

Shri Muhammed Elias: I have taken only 15 minutes.

Mr. Speaker: How much does he want? 30 Minutes? In that case Shri Vittal Rao will not be called. I cannot give all the time to the Communist Party. Therefore, let him stop. I will call Shri Vittal Rao.

Shri Muhammed Elias: I will take only three more minutes.

Mr. Speaker: Whatever time he takes, to that extent the time of Shri Vittal Rao will be reduced.

Shri Muhammed Elias: The Code of Discipline which has been unanimously adopted by the 15th Labour Conference is really a wonderful thing. We on our side want to honour it and we honour it. But under this Code not a single union of the AITUC has been recognized by the employers. And what are the employers doing? Many of the items of this Code are violated by the employers. Still, nothing is being done. But when it is a question of the employees violating the Code, it is taken note of very seriously. Recently, there was a case where 400 old workers were discharged because they violated the Code of Discipline. I can quote many such instances. Still, nothing is being done.

In regard to the Inter-Union Code it is a very regrettable thing for us to mention that in many places by initiative of the hon. Deputy Minister, rival unions are being started and the major existing unions are not being recognized. The Girnikamger Company Union of Bombay represent the largest number of workers. But this union is not recognized by the State Government and the INTUC union is recognized by the Government, even though there are a number of members in the rolls of the Girnikamger Company Union.

In conclusion, I want to mention one thing. The workers have got still a little faith in the present Labour Minister unlike the Deputy Labour Minister and the workers hope that the hon. Minister will do something for the workers. If you want the Second and Third Five Year Plans to be fulfilled then you must have the co-operation of the workers. And if you want the co-operation of the workers, they must be respected and honoured; they must be satisfied.

[Shri Muhammed Elias]

Otherwise, the Second and Third Five Year Plans cannot succeed.

Now we know only too well the attitude of the Government towards the workers. A number of Rashtrapathi awards are given to a number of persons. I have no objection to Rashtrapathi award being given to those persons. But the workers who are the real builders of the country, who make the country march forward, they are never honoured in this way. There are many talented workers who have sacrificed their lives for the cause of the nation. They are never awarded anything in this way. I would say that such workers should be given some awards.

If you get the co-operation of the workers many magnificent things can be done. Take, for example, the case of the Hindustan Machine Tool Factory. There the production has exceeded even the target, because the workers are happy and are not discontented. Take again the case of the workers of the Jay Engineering Works. There, because they have recognized the union, the employers and Lala Sri Ram have been able to capture the South East Asian markets, with the help of the workers. In the same way, in many places where the workers are taken into confidence we cannot only fulfil but even surpass the target of production. That is why I will request the hon. Minister to see to this thing. They are the real *Vishwakarmas* who will make our India a heaven. If the workers are not honoured or respected nothing will happen. That is my submission.

Dr. Melkote (Bachur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I at the very outset congratulate the hon. Labour Minister and the hon. Deputy Labour Minister for the progressive role that they have played during the last year. It may be said that they

brought into existence the idea what is called, the Code of Conduct by inviting the different parties and telling them the benefits that would accrue from accepting the principle of the Code of Conduct. It is being attempted to put this accepted principle into operation but how far it has succeeded is a matter for me to say something about today. But, apart from this the Labour Ministry has attempted to elevate the status of the workers with that of the employer and the code or rather the principle of participation of a worker in the management has been taken up both in the public and the private sectors and is already in operation.

There was recently also a conference organised by the WHO with the help of the Government of India and wherein discussion with regard to industrial health problems took place for a period of nearly 15 days. Conferences of this type including the conference on safety in coal mines are all welcome because they spotlight the measures or factors that have got to be improved to benefit so far as the workers in different sectors are concerned. But as against all this the day before the hon. Labour Minister placed before us rather a very gloomy picture of the employment potential in the Second Five Year Plan but equally he said that measures were being taken to improve the situation in the Third Five Year Plan. People all over India are concerned very much about this factor and with the increase in population and unemployment going up and with cost of living rising in a developing economy people are very much perturbed and the sooner and quicker the measures that the Government would take in order to relieve this unemployment the better it would be.

May I say that the workers are anticipating the decisions of the Pay Commission. What it would be is very difficult for anyone of us to anticipate but it is the desire of the

workers all over and I believe of all groups that if the Government could only accept the recommendations of the Pay Commission as an award and without any modification implement it at the earliest possible moment it will be welcomed by every section of the working population of this country.

The question of prohibition is being taken up by various groups during discussions on the Demands of various Ministries. I wanted to speak on that but I had no opportunity. I intend saying a few words about that at present because the question of prohibition affects the working class very intimately in the urban sector. It is being said by many in the Opposition Benches that prohibition should be scrapped. Here on one side they are saying that the poor should not be taxed and on the other they say that prohibition should be scrapped in order to get more money for the Government. How far this is correct is a matter for us to investigate? How does prohibition bring in money to the coffers of the Government? So far as I remember in about 1826, or so, the amount of money that the Government used to get from excise revenue all over India was somewhere about Rs 2 crores and by about 1947, including the States, it went up to Rs 200 and odd crores. All the while the Government was saying that in order to end this habit of drinking temperance movement was brought in, excise duty was made higher and higher so that people might avoid drinking more and the method of doing this also was that contracts were accepted and every time the contractor made a high bid he was accepted as the one who should deal in the commodity. The contractor, naturally, would try to get every pie of their invested money and even more. If the Government got Rs. 200 crores, the contractor in their turn made at least another Rs 200 crores and odd for themselves. This was the money which was not drawn ordinarily from a willing hand but

from the worker, who is a poor man. Taxation is meant to be put upon broad shoulders, upon those who are capable of bearing it. Here is a poor worker who gets hardly enough to maintain himself in the evening he wants to enjoy possibly and he goes and buys an anna worth of some drink. While he takes one anna worth he is quite conscious, but after one anna, his mind is not under his control. Then he puts another anna in the drink. He loses further control and thereby as he begins to lose his mental control more and more, more money gets out of his hands so that by the time he goes back to his house his pocket is empty. I can understand taxation on luxuries, I can understand taxation on the wealthy but taxation on the poor and specially when he is not in his senses, to take money from this particular type of a person is one of the most heinous crimes that any Government could commit. And here are hon. Members from the Opposition Benches who say, "We are working for the benefit of the poorer and the working class" demanding that prohibition should be scrapped. That is one of the things which no Government should consider and the sooner the Government of India does away with drinking and introduces prohibition in as many States wherever it is not there, as possible, the better it would be. It is the richer class that demand more money to be collected, thus so that they may not be taxed. They want Government to collect this Rs 200 or Rs 300 crores from the poorer sector from people when they are in an unconscious condition. I consider that it is a sin. It should not be allowed to take place by this Government.

There is another aspect of the question which I would like particularly to deal with today. That is the question of the labour movement in India. I have been dealing with this for a sufficient number of years to understand it. I would like to say that after coming to the Centre as a Member of Parliament and going round

[Dr. Malkote]

the different parts of the country and working in the labour field my eyes are opened and I am conscious of the situation today. It is not that I would like to attack any particular group or party. What I am suffering from by working in the labour field and the difficulties that I am facing I would like to place before the Government for consideration.

Here are groups of people—I do not like to name any of them at present—who say that they adhere to democratic principles. They have been voted into this House and they are trying. It is said to work in a constitutional manner. What they did in the past is a matter which we may forget. It is for the people to consider that aspect of it. But when we consider what is happening today we are reminded of some of those things, whether what we are trying to do is what is just to our people who would like to live in an honest manner and work honestly.

I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister and the Government that here are people who accepted the Code of Conduct at Nainital. We felt that it would be honoured by its proper implementation my every-one of them. And what is it that occurs? Here are one group of workers who are working in a constitutional manner, who put in their demands, who are prepared to go to court for arbitration or conciliation or other things and at the same time it is found that if it does not suit another group of the trade union, workers are harassed by the latter group of workers, are threatened, workers are killed—workers are killed by arrows when they are seated in their rooms in their unions. This has occurred in Gua. This has occurred in Jamshedpur. This has occurred in IISCO and TISCO. This has occurred in high plantations at Cochin. This has occurred elsewhere. On one side are group of workers who would like to adhere to the constitutional prin-

ciple and work in the right trade union movement in the right manner for the benefit of the workers and on the other there is another group under the same trade union label trying to undermine the whole trade union movement itself for political purpose. Now, are we working for the workers' benefit or are we working for something else? That is the question which the people and the Government have got to consider very seriously. There was a time when the latter groups of workers were also with us. We got disillusioned then. We thought they would be on our side with us but what happened in the year 1942 at the time when the "Quit India Movement" took place, what happened? Hon. Members of this House are aware of what had happened. The then India Government had to support the fight of the Britishers. But this latter group of workers who were with us previously, turned away at the nick of the moment just because Russia joined the Britishers. It had become a 'People's war' for them. When our leaders, Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Dr. Rajendra Prasad and others were thrown into the jail they did not join us. Can we forget these incidents? Again, when famine took place in Bengal in 1943, this group of people again supported the British Government in order to help the war, but what happened then? Lakhs and lakhs of our people died of starvation. They did not support our protests. Can we forget even that, Sir?

Shri Muhammed Elias: Are you speaking on the political history of India?

An Hon. Member: We are discussing Labour and Employment.

Dr. Malkote: I am discussing my problems. These things face me. It is for the hon. Speaker to decide. In the year 1947 when we in the States were yearning for freedom and desired to join the Indian Union, these

groups of people supported the Nizam against the Indian forces; and can we forget those incidents? And yet, they attack us as henchmen of the Government, as if they are not the henchmen of the Government in Kerala. Here, Sir, we are working with one motive. We are working for the emancipation of the workers and to see that the standards of life and happiness of the workers improve. We have no other motive, but the well-being of the workers. We gave full freedom to the voters to vote as they liked. But, on the other hand, in the name of trade union movement, we find that certain interests are working against this principle of democracy. If this thing continues, how can workers' freedom be guaranteed? How can workers' freedom be maintained? How would the workers be able to organise properly? That is the question which faces us today. It is not a situation which we only are facing. It is not a situation applicable only to myself. It is a situation which our hon friends in the P.S.P. group and the Socialist groups are also facing. But on account of these incidents they are also disillusioned. I want to work for democracy but if I am hit from behind my back, how can I work for democracy? (Interruptions).

Mr. Speaker: Order order. The Hon. Member is perfectly justified in saying that some other group does not work in the best interest of democracy. It is a matter of opinion. Other hon. Members may say that they are better democrats. I have no objection. Dr. Melkote may continue.

Dr. Melkote: The Central Government instituted an enquiry about the Dock workers. You had the Chaudhury report. (Interruptions) Attacks are made on our Deputy Minister. Our Deputy Minister is wholly and solely with democracy. I would like our Labour Minister to see that democratic trade unions are helped to the maximum extent possible. Until and unless the labour movement of

the best type is encouraged, we cannot hope to have the best type of democracy in India. Take the picture in Kerala. Plantation workers go on strike. They are arrested. Take the dock strike in Cochin harbour. I understand the cases go to court without the Central Ministry consulted. The Central Minister has to say something about it. I would like to know how anybody could interfere in such a manner and thwart the activities of honest trade unions. These are the things that are happening everywhere. Under the name of democracy, infiltration takes place in every department of Government and Private Business. Government officials say, here are honest people, and they also appear to be good. Yes. Let them appear to be good. I will welcome it. Infiltration takes place in order to thwart democratic Government. Should not Government be awakened to the situation and do something? If Birla is invited to Kerala it is perfectly all right. But if India Government gives scope to the interests in a mixed economy it is a very bad thing. Trade unions of this particular type are formed to damage democracy and I can quote many instances of this type. So, my point is that the Government of India should try to help the trade union movement in the correct manner. I am not suggesting any punitive measures. I am saying that Government should try to help the trade union movement in every possible way. It is only in this way that we can ensure the existence of proper trade unions in a democratic society. Otherwise it will go down. I am afraid that the situation is very serious and I want the hon. Labour Minister to take cognizance of the whole situation.

Shri Bose (Dhanbad): Sir, the hon. the Labour Minister in his opening speech said the other day:

"After all, it is the workers who are very much the builders of the economy of this country and we must do everything to

[Shri Bose]

enlist their support and not to alienate them."

It is very true, Sir. In fact, the success of our development programmes depends on the cooperation and contribution of a healthy and contented labour force. The primary duty of the Ministry, therefore, is to keep the labour force healthy and contented as far as possible, by looking after their health and welfare, safety and social security etc. through legislation and various other means. The Ministry has also got to solve the unemployment problem of the country. The unemployment problem is a very serious problem in the country. For that, a network of employment exchanges has been opened throughout the country. These Exchanges are not only providing employment to the unemployed but are also improving their skill and efficiency by organising training centres in different places. We have got a number of good labour legislations in this country. But, many of them such as the Indian Mines Act, etc., have become old and out of date and require amendment to be up-to-date and in line with the recommendations of the I.L.O. Many of the I.L.O. conventions also have got to be ratified. In recent months, some very important Acts have been passed or amended. Mention may be made of the Working Journalists Act, 1958 and the Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Act, 1958. It is necessary now to see that these Acts are fully implemented so that the workers may actually derive the benefit intended to be derived from them. It may be said that the Labour Ministry has got a grip over the labour problem through legislation and various organisations, but there is yet much to be done to remove the lacunae that are standing in the way of having the full benefit of all these legislations and organisations.

In this connection I shall refer to the workings of some organisations

functioning for labour welfare under the Labour Ministry. Coal Mines Labour Welfare organisation is one of them. It is functioning in coal mining areas of different States. The income of this organisation is round about a crore of rupees per annum from coal cess payable by the consumers. This amount is divided into two funds called (1) Housing Fund and (2) General Welfare Fund. The organisation is more than 15 years old and if timely steps had been taken with energy and determination, the housing difficulty of the miners would have been solved by this time. But, it is a matter of deep regret that the housing problem stands today where it was 15 years ago. A scheme was first chalked out that subsidy would be granted to the coal mine owners to build houses of certain specifications and side by side, small townships would be built on the line of the Miners' townships in the U.K., just outside the coal bearing areas. Miners living in these townships would be provided with transport facilities to go to their work and back to the townships. But, the subsidy scheme failed as very few mine owners were willing to build houses under this scheme. One township was built at Bhuli by this Fund. Miners were eager to live there and many actually want there. But, with very few exceptions, nobody was prepared to give transport facilities to the miners. I shall not use any harsh word. But, I must say that it is a tragedy that miners were not allowed to live in these houses here, in this neat and clean township.

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri L. N. Mishra): All the houses are occupied.

Shri Bose: Not by the labourers. They were rented to other employees.

Shri L. N. Mishra: I have seen.

Shri Bose: They are mostly occupied by Railway staff, by the Mining department staff and others.

Shri L. N. Mishra: Not by miners? My God! I have seen.

Shri Bose: No They are not allowed to live in this neat and clean township in a healthy atmosphere with few exceptions.

Afterwards higgling haggling went on for many years for new schemes and no progress was made in building houses for miners. The latest decision of the Organisation to build houses at the entire cost of the Welfare Fund is also moving very slowly.

In the hospitals under this organisation, which Dr Melkote and myself visited very recently, we understand there is shortage of doctors as well as nurses. The laboratories are not fully equipped. Important test work is done at Patna or Calcutta. Naturally, therefore, there is dissatisfaction all round. I would urge upon the hon Minister to go into these matters and set them right so that the organisations may work properly to the benefit of the workers.

There are some other organisations also, but there is no time to go into them. But I want to draw the attention of the Minister to the fact that the Mines department is also working with inadequate staff. The hon Minister himself referred to this matter the other day. It is therefore, hoped that necessary steps will be taken without any delay to remedy this defect.

I now propose to say a few words about agricultural labour. I know that the Government is moving in the matter. But I think that by simply passing an Act for minimum wage this problem will not be solved. These workers, as we all know, are in the lowest rung of the ladder. They require more help than anybody else. They require regular employment, they require shelter, they require medical and educational facilities, etc. It is, therefore, necessary that we should move in the matter with a plan and determination to execute the plan.

Lastly, I like to say that the root cause of all labour unrest in the country is the rise in the prices of foodgrains, cloth and other necessary commodities. If the market prices of these things are kept at reasonable levels, I am sure that much of the causes of grievances of labour as well as other public will be removed.

As regards rival unions in different industries, I think my hon friend Dr. Melkote has said a lot and I therefore, do not want to go into them. I feel, if any union is really not meant to serve the cause of labour but the cause of some political party or some political organisation, a time will surely come very soon when the labourers themselves will drive them out. Now, because they are ignorant and they cannot take care of themselves, others are taking advantage of that and are practically depriving them of their right to run their union in their own interest.

With these words, I appreciate the statement of the Minister which he made in the beginning and I support the Demands for grants.

Shri D. R. Chavan (Karad): Mr. Speaker, I have moved certain cut motions. Some of them are important. I would like to refer to cut motions 1367, 1368, 1369, 1370 and 1371. These are cut motions with regard to the Calcutta Dock Workers' grievances. I am going to confine myself only to the grievances of the Calcutta Dock workers, because as the House is aware, there are collective stoppage of workers by the dockers there.

Before entering into the grievances of the workers there, it is necessary to have a brief review of the strike that has taken place during the last year. I mean the All India Dock Workers strike in June 1958.

13 hrs.

Under the kind auspices of the Prime Minister, the strike was settled, and an agreement was reached.

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but up till now, not a single concession agreed to by the Labour Ministry in that agreement has been implemented for the Calcutta Dock workers

Secondly, there is much of corruption and maladministration under the Calcutta Dock Labour Board. Shri Vishvanath Dubey, General Secretary, Dock Majdoor Union, Calcutta, gave a detailed list of such corruption and maladministration to the Labour Ministry of the Government of India, demanding a high-level inquiry.

In November, 1958, the Calcutta Dock Labour Board itself demanded such an inquiry by a unanimous resolution. But the Labour Ministry is sitting tight over it, concerning maladministration and corruption.

When the Dock Majdoor Union, Calcutta, has been carrying on a very legitimate agitation demanding the implementation of the Delhi Agreement, the payment of bonus on the same lines as in Bombay and a high-level governmental inquiry into the charges of corruption and maladministration under the Calcutta Dock Labour Board, the Calcutta Dock Labour Board Administration hit back the workers by sponsoring a new system of booking and doing away with the existing system of casual promotion to casual vacancies, and that too against the explicit provisions of the scheme. The actual provisions thus sought to be bypassed were sub-clause (4) of clause 29 and sub-clause (2) of clause 30 of the Calcutta Dock Workers (Regulation of Employment) Scheme.

With that end in view, the Dock Labour Board Administration introduced a new number to be inflicted on the identity cards of the Calcutta registered dock workers. The dockers in a body opposed this new measure. The Administration in anger retaliated by marking present workers absent, just to deprive them of their legally earned attendance allowance and guaranteed minimum wages.

Against this, representation was made by the Union to all authorities, including the Labour Minister and the Prime Minister. The Labour Minister did not care to reply to this representation. It was only the Prime Minister who replied on the basis of the information furnished to him by the Labour Minister.

The Prime Minister in his letter dated the 8th December, 1958 to Shri Vishvanath Dubey, General Secretary, Dock Majdoor Union, *inter alia* stated that these complaints have been personally looked into by the Minister of Labour.

But the pitiable fact is that the Minister of Labour never heard the labour side before reporting to the Prime Minister.

On the other hand, during this period, when the Minister of Labour was in Calcutta, he was approached—I understand from reliable sources—by Shri Dubey, General Secretary, Dock Majdoor Union, for an interview for representing the labour viewpoint. But that interview was not granted. That is the Labour Minister's way of looking into things.

The Prime Minister in his said letter further stated "So far as the first complaint is concerned, the latest number of the identity card which had faded out in almost all cases and was leading to many wage disputes, is now being made prominent and distinct by pasting a slip of paper over the old numbers."

The amount of misrepresentation can be found out when we go to the Calcutta Dock Labour Board circular itself, purported to be dated the 4th November, 1958. That circular states:

"It has been noticed that the main reason giving rise to these disputes has been misquoting of the correct booking numbers and names of the workers booked.

as each identity-card has multiplicity of numbers. To avoid wrong entry in the attendance sheets, it has been decided that a slip bearing the same booking serial numbers in bold letters will be pasted on all identity cards."

The Prime Minister has been informed by the Labour Minister that 'the numbers have been faded'. But the Dock Labour Board's circular nowhere mentions this. It takes another plea, and that plea is the 'multiplicity of numbers'. They wanted to do away with the 'multiplicity' and keep one number. Now, every card has got two numbers, firstly, the registration number—that is the evidence for his registration and is very vital for a registered dock worker—and secondly the booking number which shows his booking position, and which is necessary for booking. There is no third number on the card. Naturally, to do away with the multiplicity of numbers meant in this context doing away with the registration number. So, the workers resisted in a body.

The conclusion from this, therefore, is that the Prime Minister could not be informed of this, presumably because the Prime Minister would have intervened for labour. Thus, he was misrepresented into saying that the numbers have faded.

The Prime Minister was further misrepresented on another fact. The Prime Minister in his aforesaid letter to the union has stated:

"As regards the second complaint, the position is that the workers who presented their identity cards and attendance cards were marked present. This is the method for recording attendance for the payment of 'attendance allowance' on days when they are not booked for work. Workers who fail to do so cannot, therefore, be treated as present, and they lose the benefit of attendance allowance etc. for that day."

The letter was written on the 8th December, 1958. Naturally, it speaks about November, 1958.

Two ideas will be gathered from this, firstly that there were workers who were marked present, and secondly, that those who failed to present their identity and attendance cards were marked absent. One fails to understand why workers who do not fail to present their cards to take booking for work and, in fact, work the ships, fail to present their cards for earning attendance money which they get without any further extra effort.

The amount of misrepresentation could further be gauged from the fact that the machine for recording attendance of dockers has been kept locked up since 4th November, 1958, and further from the fact that not a single worker was paid attendance allowance and minimum guarantee for the month of November, 1958. Let the Minister of Labour deny it on the basis of facts. Let him supply this information to this House as to the number of workers that were paid minimum guarantee and attendance allowance for the month of November, 1958.

The Deputy Labour Minister had gone to Calcutta on 30th January, 1959. Is it not a fact that he saw with his own eyes that the machine for recording attendance had been kept locked up there? It is locked up even now.

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): I did not see

Shri D. R. Chavan: I say that the Deputy Labour Minister had been to Calcutta, and when he went there, the machine for recording attendance of the registered dock workers was locked up. It is locked even now. What steps did the Deputy Labour Minister take for starting the machine for recording attendance? He went there and gave his tacit support to this most unjustified method for

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denying attendance in the most undignified manner

Now, the Administration has adopted a nasty and unfair practice in the matter. They are calling some of their pets from the backdoor and giving them attendance by writing by pen. Let the Labour Minister inform this august House, had the normal method of recording attendance continued, how many would have been entitled for payment, and how many are now being actually paid? This is not a surprise matter. So, he must have these figures at his command.

How the truth has been further misrepresented will be clear from the answer to a question in this connection. In answer to a starred question, namely S Q No 1267 dated the 16th March, 1959 Government have stated

"The main demand of the workers is for payment of wages and attendance allowance to which they have disentitled themselves because of wrongful stoppage of work."

Now the Parliament has a right to know whether the workers have lost because they did not present their cards as our Prime Minister was informed by the Labour Minister, or whether they have disentitled themselves by wrongful stoppage of work as the Parliament has been informed in reply to S Q No 1267.

What is the real truth? The real truth is that the workers have been deprived of their legally earned attendance allowance and minimum guaranteed wages by a very dubious method. Under clauses 31 and 32 of the Calcutta Scheme, the workers have earned the guaranteed minimum wages and attendance allowance, as they have always attended for work as directed by the Administrative body. And nobody has been disentitled by clause 44 of the Calcutta

Scheme. There is no other provision for disentitlement, under that scheme.

Now, about the allegation of workers not presenting their cards for recording attendance, may I ask the hon Minister whether it is not a fact that the workers have been regularly going to the counter for recording attendance with their identity and attendance cards, but they are being marked absent because they are refusing to accept the new number on their cards? Is it further not a fact that when workers went to call-stand with their cards as per letter of the Prime Minister and demanded that their attendance should be recorded as per the method written in the letter of the Prime Minister dated the 5th December 1958, the police were called by the Administration and the workers were lathi-charged, forcibly removed from the counter and prosecuted under the West Bengal Security Act? Did not this go on happening day after day?

After these incidents, one fails to understand why the plea was taken that workers did not go to record their attendance and present their cards for the purpose.

The local police including the Deputy Commissioner of Police, South District, Calcutta, are eye witnesses to the fact that the workers were there before the counter at the appointed hour presenting their cards for recording their attendance, but they were marked absent because they refused to accept the new number on their cards. These facts cannot be denied, but it was not revealed to the Prime Minister by the hon Labour Minister.

Now about this method of denial of attendance. It is not only anti-social, it is illegal too.

No clause of the scheme permits the administration to do so, nor any law of the land. If the worker refuses to obey any administrative order, he

may be dealt with according to the procedure laid down in the scheme and the standing orders. There is the personnel officer for the purpose. But the question is: why was not this procedure adopted? Was it because there was no lawful order which the workers violated? The conclusion, therefore, is that the administration was conscious that the workers could not be punished legally. But the workers had to be punished. So, this illegal method was adopted relying fully upon the brute force and forcing down the hungry stomach by kicks.

Has the administration ever been kind enough to notify the workers to the effect that if they did not accept a renumbering of their cards, their attendance would be denied? Let the hon. Minister supply the House with a copy of such notice. I speak with full knowledge that there is no such notice. Without any such notice, suddenly the administration refused to record the attendance of the dockers on and from the 4th November, 1958. All the notices that are at the disposal of the workers speak about the necessity of renumbering, but no one suggests that unless renumbering takes place, attendance will not be recorded or cannot be recorded.

About the number itself, it has had a chequered career. I have already submitted that there are two numbers on the identity card of each worker, one registration number and the other booking number. There is no need of a third number. The plea that the numbers have faded is factually wrong as it was demonstrated before the hon. Deputy Labour Minister when he was in Calcutta by the production of thousands of cards and showing to his satisfaction that not a single number was faded.

It is commonsense to presume that the cards that have their number faded will have also photographs on the cards defaced. If by rough handling or long use a card so gets defaced, for that the existing practice under the Board is the re-

placement of the card by a duplicate card to be issued by the Board.

The workers take full advantage of this provision, and the hon. Deputy Labour Minister was shown such cards. Only changing the number of the defaced cards cannot serve the purpose of the identification. The main thing of the identity card is the photograph on the card. It is impossible to imagine that the number has faded but the photograph has not.

The so-called circular of the administration purported to be dated the 4th November, 1958, was supplied to the workers on the 22nd January 1959 through the kind courtesy of the Deputy Commissioner of Police, South District, Calcutta. That very day, the workers agreed to accept the renumbering as per this blessed circular, but when they went to the counter to accept the renumbering, they were shown a number against this circular itself. The circular says "that a slip bearing the same booking serial numbers in bold letters will be pasted on all identity cards".

In the old identity cards there are pure numbers and no letter before the number, but the number that was now shown had "G" before the figures. This was against their own circular and inexplicable. Naturally, therefore, the workers refused to accept it.

Since then, the administration has brought out a leaflet which states that Deck Foreman is marked "D.F", Hatch Foreman is marked "H.F", Tally Clerk is marked "T.C" etc., and that "G" will be marked for denoting gang workers.

Now, in the scheme there is no category of workers which is classified as gang workers. The classification of workers has been exhaustively dealt with in clause 16 of the scheme. This classification was reached as a result of unanimous recommendations of a tripartite committee set up by the Government of India

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called the Dock Workers' Inquiry Committee or the Vasistha Committee. In this classification there is no category called the gang worker. This is another method of backdoor amendment of the scheme.

Will there be any sanctity to the unanimous recommendation of a tripartite committee, incorporated in the law of the land? If the administration has a strong justification for an amendment of the scheme, why should they accept this backdoor method and why should we be surprised if the workers opposed such illegality?

Section 4 of the Dock Workers (Regulation of Employment) Act 1948, provides for such exigencies and lays down a clear-cut procedure for this. The question is why this has been given a go-by. How does the hon. Labour Minister justify this?

I therefore appeal to the hon. Minister of Labour to look into the grievances and demands of the Calcutta dockers personally and do something immediately to settle this problem amicably and satisfactorily.

Now I come to the question of recognition. The question of recognition is hanging fire. The Dock Mazdoor Union, Calcutta, whose General Secretary is Shri Vishvanath Dubey, is an affiliated unit of the All India Port & Dock Workers' Federation. The Government recognises the Federation and as such the Union, for negotiation and settlement of all-India port and dock disputes. But, surprisingly, Government does not recognise the Union for representation on the Calcutta Dock Labour Board. Neither the Calcutta Dock Labour Board authorities recognise the Union for negotiations etc., of local issues. The result has been an artificial situation and further it has resulted in non-implementation of items of settlement reached between the Government of India and the All-India Port and Dock Workers' Federation regarding the Calcutta dockers.

One of the items of settlement was that the local issues would be discussed locally between the concerned union and the authorities; issues that were not settled by discussion would be referred to arbitration or adjudication. Because of this non-recognised status of the Dock Mazdoor Union, Calcutta, the Chairman of the Calcutta Dock Labour Board did neither discuss any local issue of the All-India strike regarding dockers nor the pending issues were referred to arbitration or adjudication.

The annual audited membership of this union for the year 1957-58 has been more than 18,000. A copy of this annual audited return along with membership registers, account books, minute book etc. were submitted for verification on demand by the Conciliation Officer, Government of India, at Calcutta.

All these books were properly checked, and then on the spot verification of the membership of the Union was held by officers at Calcutta under the auspices of the Chief Labour Commissioner, Government of India. As a result of on-the-spot verification, it was found that the overwhelming majority of the Dockworkers in Calcutta declared that they were members of the Dock Mazdoor Union, Calcutta, of which the General Secretary is Shri Dubey.

This Union, by a proper vote of the Executive Committee of the Union, and by the general members' meeting held in open maidan removed one office-bearer of the Union towards the end of 1957. That man continued to operate as the Union and our blessed hon. Deputy Labour Minister recognises that as the Union, and knocked out the representation of the Dock Mazdoor Union itself. This is the position of the Dock Mazdoor Union.

If you refer to the report of the Ministry of Transport and Communications, you will find that the workers

have done tremendously well as will be seen from the cargoes that have been handled, loaded and unloaded. But the labour Ministry is apathetic and indifferent towards the problems of labourers, the Calcutta dockers. That will have to be settled immediately and I therefore appeal earnestly to the hon Minister of Labour that he should personally look into the matter and do something for the Calcutta dockers, and settle the dispute amicably and immediately

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur) I welcome the speech made by Shri Nanda in this House, and I really welcome certain problems which he has posed not before us only but before the trade unions of the country

I expected a better contribution from my hon friend, Dr Melkote, who is one of the leading trade unionists of the country, but as far as the discussion is concerned I am sorry to say his contribution will be regarded as nil by the trade unionists who are sincerely interested in the trade union movement

Shri Nanda has said something about unemployment and his feeling is that though the unemployment figures have increased according to the employment exchanges, there has been also increase in employment

This may be true in certain undertakings. For instance, in the public undertakings, there has been an increase in employment. But what do we see even in the Employment Exchange figures? It is known to the Labour Minister better than me. In 1949, the total number of men registered in the Employment Exchanges was 2,74,300, in 1951 3,28,700 in 1956, 7,58,500, in 1957 9,22,100 and in 1958 11,59,000. For his information, I would read a few lines from an article written by Shri Balraj Anand entitled 'jobs for millions' in the AICC *Economic Review* of April 1, 1959—

"The growing unemployment in the country seems to have taken a turn for the worse. There is

almost a scramble for jobs. That the problem is in the forefront is evident from the setting up of a special committee."

he has mentioned about the setting up of a committee of this House with Shri D C Sharma, Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan and others to assess the unemployment position—

which symbolises the Government's awareness of the seriousness of the unemployment situation. At the same time, the setting up of this committee is a confession that the Second Plan has failed in one of its major objectives"

When Shri Anand who has contributed this article in the AICC *Economic Review* says like this, I think there is definitely a sharp sentiment or sharp sense of frustration even among the ranks of the ruling party that this unemployment situation has grown to an extent where people have started thinking that one of the main objectives of the Second Plan has been defeated. I do not wish to read much of it

One of the reasons attributed to this growth of unemployment is the growth of population. Let us assume that our National Government assumed power on 15th August, 1947. So we are morally responsible to the people for giving jobs from that period. Let us also assume that the people of this country have started producing children at a very fast rate after that date. But what is the age of those who are born after 15th August, 1947? They must be 11 or 12 years of age. Now, nobody wants a job at the age of 11 or 12. The argument may be advanced—what about those who were 11 at that time? They must be 20 or 22 now. They want some jobs. But I say what about the natural wastage? What about the death rate? What about superannuation, retirement, premature deaths, accidents and other things? Let us analyse the whole thing from that perspective. That is why we should not comment on the unemployment situation in such

[Shri S. M. Banerjee]

terms. It is an admitted fact that unemployment has grown.

1.34 hrs.

[SHRI BARMAN in the Chair]

Let us not in such sharp words comment on it; let us wait until the committee which has been appointed submits a report to us and we have a true picture placed before us.

There has been a shrinkage in employment in textiles and the reason given by my hon. friend, Shri Nanda, is; closure of certain mills. I am extremely happy that he has mentioned in this speech:

"Another factor in the causation of these closures is the position of the internal economy. Recently there was a decline in our agricultural production. We did not have enough food. The result was that its impact fell on the demand for cloth. Because of the purchasing power of the mass of the people, even of the middle class, being less on that account and because of the higher prices of food, that did not leave enough margin for the demand for other products".

This is an absolutely true statement and I congratulate the Minister on this fair and honest statement. What was said by the Minister of Commerce and Industry on these closures? He said that there had been a shift in the taste of the people; they had started purchasing fine and superfine cloth and there had been an increase in their purchasing power. Even in the matter of food, one of the three reasons given as aggravating the food situation was that there had been an increase in the purchasing capacity of the people of the country; they had shifted from coarse grain to fine and superfine grain, that is, wheat and rice. In the opinion of the hon. Ministers of Commerce and Industry, and Food, the common man in India is taking basmati rice and Australian wheat and wearing superfine cloth produced in Calico. That is the main reason why these

poor Ministers cannot solve these problems! I am happy that the statement of Shri Nanda has exploded this myth presented before the country concerning the closure of these mills.

I admit that there has been urbanisation. Naturally people will be more inclined to buy better cloth. But in India a country which has even to-day 5,33,000 or 5,37,000 villages, we cannot admit this fact that they are wearing better cloth. I know that in villages only when there are marriage ceremonies they buy certain good cloth; otherwise, they still wear either coarse cloth produced in mills or handloom products.

So the reasons are very well known. He also said that a committee was appointed and it has recommended certain things. One of the recommendations, as far as I remember—I may be corrected if I am wrong—was regarding the formation of a Textile Corporation. I know there are 25 mills which are closed. More than 50 or 60 per cent of these mills have been closed because of gross mismanagement on the part of the employers. It has been established in certain cases. I do not know why Government feel shy in taking over these mills and forming a Corporation to run them. I have seen the closures in Kanpur, and with the help of the hon. Minister and the Commerce and Industry Minister, I have been able to decide about one particular mill in Kanpur. The Atherton West Co. Ltd. It is about the Kanpur Cotton Mill which was under the British India Corporation. I may tell you for your information that service in the British India Corporation was much more coveted than government service, say, about four or five years back. People were more interested in the British India Corporation than in others, but now the British bosses have put the whole burden on Shri Mundhra and have gone back to England. So far as the BIC concerns are concerned, they have unfortunately become junk and scraps.

There was a suggestion that the Kanpur Leather Mill should be taken over by the State Government. I wrote a letter to the Chief Minister of U.P. I told him: We accept that there should be modernisation in the country. We do not want to remain in the conditions of ancient times; we want to keep pace with the movement of the modern world. I said that in these mills, there should be modernisation. He welcomed that suggestion and in the end wrote to me—'Yes, I am fully aware of the sacrifices which the workers of Kanpur have assured me of undertaking through you and through others. But unfortunately, there is no buyer. So I would request you and your friends to find out some financier'. They expect me to go to some capitalist and ask him to purchase this mill, leaving all my other work! What a helpless attitude, instead of the State Government or Central Government taking over the mill? I therefore request the hon. Minister to consider the recommendation of the Joshi Committee that there should be a Corporation to run these uneconomic units or marginal units after they are taken over. I ask whether this recommendation is not worth consideration. I submit that it should be considered.

Another point is about wages. On the question of wages, I fully support the view that workers should sacrifice for the country. They should also contribute their bit for the country; they must also invest to strengthen our national economy. I welcome this suggestion. But, what are the wages they are at present getting? In all humility I must submit that the workers of India are not getting even the minimum wages. They are not getting either a fair wage, or a living wage or a minimum wage. According to all economists they are actually on the starvation line. Any investment after this will lead to starvation. The suggestion has been made by the hon. Minister and as I could derive a conclusion from it—I may be corrected by him—it is that he has also justified that demand for a wage increase. It

may not be 25 per cent; it may be 15 per cent; it may be 5 per cent somewhere or it may be 10 per cent. But after all, this demand for wage increase of the workers is no more a slogan to-day. I feel that this is a real demand and a genuine demand.

How to achieve it? In the 15th Labour Conference we had some decisions. Some minimum, some base was created on the basis of which minimum wages can be fixed. The Wage Boards have been appointed, the Wage Boards for textile workers, the Wage Boards for cement workers, the Wage Boards for sugar workers and the Wage Board and the Wage Committees for the working journalists. I do not know when these reports will be out. I do not impute any motive to the Labour Ministry. They may be very sincere; but, there is a genuine cry in the country—any more wage increase will result in inflation.

I was here in this House when somebody put a question to the Finance Minister whether this deficit financing has resulted in some inflation. He said: No, because ours is a developing economy. In this House it has been said that even recession in the international market had no effect on our economy because ours is a developing economy. We are not suffering from over-production. As to whether this wage increase will lead to inflation, I could have quoted Mr. Beran and I may quote other American economists who have said that the wage increase cannot result in inflation.

There is a fear in the mind of our Government that if cash money is given to the workers they will spend it without any proper planning; unplanned expenditure by the workers will shoot up the inflation and will reduce the purchasing capacity. Deficit financing is well-known to this government; they are responsible for it; they have been warned by the International Monetary Fund and also the World Bank.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member's time is up.

Shri S M Banerjee: Sir, there is much left I have never asked for more than 15 minutes but this is

Mr Chairman: The reason is there are so many hon Members who are eager to speak

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The hon. Minister made a statement, it should be answered

Mr. Chairman: But that is altogether a different thing

Shri S M. Banerjee: Only five minutes, Sir

Mr Chairman. Three minutes

Shri S M Banerjee: Four minutes, Sir

Sir, I submit that there should be savings. It is a question of bonus. Some portion of the bonus is given as investment. This can be discussed. Here is a very major issue of bonus on which a worker has to go even to the Supreme Court, and to face, I think the Attorney-General. Because the Attorney-General of the country, unfortunately, defends the employers in this country. So you can imagine how he can get bonus. Let there be a bipartite agreement on bonus, let there be a tri-partite agreement on bonus and let it be decided. The worker should contribute towards the nation. I am not against it. He is contributing towards the nation in the form of indirect taxation. Is he not paying all that? Provident Fund is a compulsory saving and that is also in the interests of the nation and strengthens national economy. So, I say these matters whether wage increase can go as investment, whether a portion of the bonus can go as investment are points which cannot be replied off-hand. These should be on the agenda for the 17th Labour Conference. Before that, let the wage increase demand be accepted as not a mere slogan but as a real thing. I hope all Trade Union Congresses will contribute their best in the 17th Conference if this thing is brought

I have said something about wages. What about the contribution of the employers? Have the employers increased their provident fund contribution from 6½ per cent to 8½ per cent? If they do so, I think, Government will also get some money. But, they will not do it. There will always be great crises in their mind and they want the same crisis to be created in the country. Let them come forward and help national economy. They must also contribute a portion of their profits to the nation. The U.P Government floated the Development Scheme Loan. But, unfortunately, the employers who have made fabulous profits did not come forward in such a way as they should. Let them have a share of the profit. But, beyond that let it go to the country. If you want that the workers should contribute and sacrifice, the employers should also sacrifice equally. Then, I am sure, we can get much money.

When the Wage Board for the working journalists has said something and when the working journalists are waiting for the decision the *Bombay Chronicle* has closed down. In one letter addressed to the employees they say

"We have after very careful consideration and with considerable regret decided to discontinue the publication of the *Bombay Chronicle* and therefore to terminate your services which will now no longer be required"

That was on the 21st March 1959

The same *Bombay Chronicle* has written another letter to the news agents on the same date the 24th March, 1959. It says:

"Publication of the *Bombay Chronicle* by the present proprietors will be discontinued on or before the 24th April 1959. It is, however, possible that the publication of the newspaper may be undertaken by some other concern in which case the continuity of the *Bombay Chronicle* will be maintained."

What is this? It is actually cheating the Government, cheating the Wage Committee and cheating the employees. Is there any truth? I do not want to say anything about the *Amrita Patrika* or the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* because a tribunal has been appointed. The history of the closing of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* is known to the hon. Minister better than to us.

About participation of workers in management—this scheme should be introduced at least in the public sector. After all, who is the employer in the public sector? It is the Central Government or the State Government. Therefore, this scheme should be implemented there. I think the private undertakings also should be asked to implement this scheme.

If there is a question of which union should be recognised or which union should get preference over others, there may be a ballot on that. I am all for the ballot, because if the country can send its representatives to Parliament by ballot why not the representative unions be chosen by ballot? This country having democratic traditions has stood against regimentation, totalitarianism and all that. Let them come forward with the democratic tradition. I am sure this will be done.

In the PTI the employees wanted to introduce this scheme and the PTI magnates have said: 'No, this cannot be implemented because we are having very good relations'. I cannot understand this.

In one or two minutes I will finish with this instance which has been cited. I do not want to say much. I welcome the hon. Minister's statement about the Chinakuri disaster. He said that it is not possible to say the number from so many skulls and so many legs and...

Mr. Chairman: I think that was thoroughly discussed.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Therefore, some line should be given by the hon.

Minister and we are prepared to meet in this regard.

Lastly, something has been said about Jamshedpur. I will only say this. Some hon. Member has said that people were beaten and so many murdered. I will only read a passage from the charge-sheet

"During the course of investigation it was traced that secret meetings of the comrades and selected committee members (small committee) were held in the 2nd week and 3rd week of February in which it was discussed and agreed upon to overawe the Government by paralysing it, creating chaos and disorder and failure of the 5 years plan to achieve their object."

What a sad picture of the whole thing! The Jamshedpur workers went on strike on the question of recognition and on the question of increased dearness allowance and the report of the authorities is that they wanted to overthrow Government. Can any Government be overthrown by a single strike? It is a matter to be seen not only by the hon. Minister but by the countrymen. I went there to address one meeting. I am facing trial that I incited 32,000 workers to go on strike. What is this? I leave it to the hon. Minister to consider this matter, whether this could be termed as conspiracy. Even during the British rule in the Meerut Conspiracy Case where they were actually hatching up a conspiracy against the British rulers the judgement of Justice Soleman was that "the prosecution of thought was illegal." To-day on the ground that they attempted the overthrow of the Government these hundreds of people are losing their jobs. I would request the hon. Minister to consider this point.

In the end, I welcome his speech and I would request the hon. Minister to consider these points and reply to these points. I assure him full support in all directions without imput-

[Shri S. M. Banerjee]

ing any motive on anybody I would in the and request him to give a bit of his advice, as he gives it to us, to his Deputy Labour Minister who is otherwise very good

Shri Oza (Zalawad): Of all the Ministries, the assignment of this Ministry is to my mind in a certain way unenviable I say in a way because personally and broadly speaking, it is a very noble task entrusted to right hands at the right time As we go through the report we find how many promotional activities have been undertaken by this Ministry At this juncture we have got to nurse the trade union activity and take it in the correct directions. All these things require a sort of sensitiveness and also firmness both of which are amply exhibited by the Ministry But I have said in a way it is unenviable because we have been seeing that this Ministry comes in for criticism for sins of commission and omission perpetrated by others over whom it has no control or little control Speaking from the point of view of our economy, we all know that we are passing through very delicate and precarious times as has been pointed out rightly by the hon Minister while initiating this discussion We are to develop our economy from the slender resources at our disposal There are so many competitive claims and sometimes conflicting claims on our economy As he has said, the employers are grudging that they have been heavily taxed, that no incentives are left that the wage bill is going high from time to time and that there are so many labour laws, intricate and very difficult to implement, which go in favour of the labourers Then, there are the employees and they, justifiably, grudge that still the wage structure is far from a living wage and that they are not getting a due share from the gross national product in the production of which they have got a substantial hand. Then there are the consumers who grudge that between the employers and the employees' demands, the prices are shooting up and some of the necessities of life are

beyond the reach of many. We know the middle-class is every now and then complaining that the industrial labour is getting more than what it deserves I do not agree with that contention but that is the reaction of the middle-class in the country that because the industrial labour is strategically placed and has sometimes a nuisance value it gets more share than it actually deserves That is what is actually being said by the members of the middle-class Between these competitive and conflicting claims we have got to strike a balance so that our economy does not slide back but matches ahead and reaches such a stage that it can gather a momentum of its own Therefore, I say that we are passing through very critical times In this activity this Ministry has to play a very delicate and at the same time an effective role

As I said earlier, if we go through the report we feel rather gratified to know how many promotional activities this Ministry has undertaken—so many things, all at a time, more than perhaps the resources would permit. However, it has done a good job and I congratulate the Ministers and the Ministry for their achievement in the past year

The hon Minister in his opening speech referred to the question of wages We all know that the existing structure is far from living wage We have got laws about the minimum wages so far as the unorganised sector of the labour is concerned. But the Fair Wages Bill which was before the Parliament has lapsed and till now we have no statutory provisions which enshrine the principle on which a fair wage or a living wage should be based. Personally speaking, I am of the view that we need not have any legislation on the definition of what a fair or living wage should be It is better if it is left to the collective bargaining capacity of the parties and to conciliation and arbitration If we study the various awards given by the industrial tribunals in this country,

what do we find? We find that these tribunals are not only interpreting the laws where there are laws but are also making laws. After all there cannot be laws on all questions of social justice in the country. If one studies the decisions given by the tribunals, one gets a feeling of satisfaction that on the whole on all questions that crop up before these tribunals a correct attitude has been taken—an attitude required by the advancing times and a progressive sense of social justice. Talking about the wages, I would refer to one decision of an appellate tribunal given in the year 1955. We know the goal of a living wage for the workers has not yet been reached, but it has gained strength from tribunal decisions. That is what I wanted to urge. In this decision which I am citing, the hon. Judge has said

“With the socialistic pattern of society the living wage is probably nearer fulfilment than even before, even as an expanding ripple gently reaches the bank.”

Just as the expanding ripple will reach the bank of a river or tank, in the same way, through judicial decisions and as the trade union movement gathers consciousness I am sure we will reach the level of a living wage consistent with the development of our country. I would only urge on our friends not to create storms as, if storms are created, instead of reaching the bank we will be going back to the mud seas.

Then the hon. Minister referred to the question of wages, and inflation. I am of the view that wages do not lead to inflation, inflation precedes wages. It is true that we have not been able to hold the price line, ours is more or less a free economy and we must frankly admit that after the war we have not been able to hold the price line at a constant level and naturally, therefore, other forces have led to inflation—not wages—other forces such as heavy investment in heavy industries where consumer goods are not produced to mop up the inflated money in the economy.

Then, there is, we know, deficit financing also. All these things lead to inflationary tendencies. Therefore, wages have to keep pace with these inflationary tendencies.

I am not of the view that wages would necessarily lead to inflation, particularly when we have got an economy of under-employment. If there is an economy of full employment, then one can understand that the wage increase may perhaps lead to a spiral of inflation, but in an under-developed country like ours where there is large-scale unemployment and under-employment, I think we should not be scarved away by the thesis that any rise in wages will necessarily lead to inflation.

Talking about the case of United States of America, between 1840 and 1930, during a period of 90 years to which this study relates, it is said that non-agricultural wages went up seven times per hour. A worker who was earning in 1830—say one dollar was earning seven dollars per hour in 1930, in a span of 90 years. But, did it have any impact on the wholesale prices? The same study reveals that though the wages rose seven times the wholesale price index was steady. What does it show? American economy, we all know, is an economy of full employment, where industrial labour forms a higher percentage, where a higher percentage of the population is engaged in the industrial sector. Even there is the condition, while ours is a different case. Therefore, I think we need not worry about these inflationary tendencies, due to legitimate demands, in wages.

The hon. Minister was right when he said that we should not have a blanket demand of 25 per cent. rise, nor should we freeze the wage demand. Therefore, we should keep the mind open. We know about minimum wage. When the question of a fair wage or a living wage comes in, the capacity of the industry to pay comes. Therefore, everything should

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be left to be decided on its own merits. We should not hidebound the whole thing and try to legislate on it. We should not also have any formula. The study groups that the Government of India have appointed till now have also pointed out in the same direction. In this connection, I will also quote one Justice John Foster of the Commonwealth Court of Arbitration and Conciliation in Australia. He was replying to an argument in a case which came up before him that rises in wages will lead to inflation. He tried to answer it, and then he concluded.

"An increase in the basic wage will inevitably permeate the whole wage structure"—it is true—"will increase prices and so add its modicum of inflationary pressure, but inflation and its control are matters for the Government and, it may be argued, a little remote from the Court's immediate task."

He further says

"I must assume that the proper authorities will take such steps as they are advised to safeguard the community from the effects of an inflation arising in the main from causes other than any action of the Court."

Therefore, for causes other than any action of the Court, it is for the Government, the government of the day, to find out ways and means to combat all these inflationary tendencies by fiscal and monetary policies.

The hon. Minister also referred to the question of wage differentials. He said that disparities between higher and lower wages should be wiped off. I am against any wide disparities. Living as we are in a democracy with adult franchise, I am totally against wide disparities prevailing. But we cannot do away with it at a stroke, democratically and

constitutionally situated as we are. When we see so many disparities in our economy, in the social order in which we are living, we cannot do away with disparities or wage differentials absolutely. We have got to keep a wage differential, so that there may be an incentive for people to acquire greater skill, put in more labour and to advance their economic betterment. If we take away disparity to that extent that it does not leave any charm or any urge to the worker that he remains satisfied with the minimum wage which goes up and up, he will not then bother himself to get more skill, he will think that it is unnecessary to waste his time and energy to become skilled. That is not, perhaps, the correct attitude. The correct attitude would be to so maintain the wage differential that there will always be an urge to the labourers, as I put it, to get trained, to get better and better skill and to serve the country.

If we read the report we find what is the occupational pattern of the applications received at the employment exchanges. What do we see? Most of the applications received there are for unskilled jobs, for jobs like the job of teachers which do not require, more or less, any training. After passing his vernacular final a boy goes and applies for a teacher's job without being trained. On the other hand, if we look at the applications received for skilled jobs we find that it is at a very low level. Therefore why, as the report has rightly pointed out, we have to circulate the applications from skilled labour to all the States so that wherever skilled labour is required they will be able to find some employment. In such conditions, I think, doing away with wage differential will be a bit harmful. Therefore, if I understood the hon. Minister correctly, what he wanted to say was that wide disparities not justified by the skill of the job will be done away with. Here also the Industrial Tribunal has come to

our rescue. In one case they have observed (1953 II LJJ 508):

"This system would provide a good incentive to new hands engaged to improve and acquire greater efficiency in their work"

This is what the Tribunal has observed 'Therefore, even in the matter of wage differential I am of the opinion that we should be very cautious

Then I come to the question of Employees' State Insurance My hon friend who spoke from the Communist group is perhaps not properly briefed by the representatives of the All-India Trade Union Congress, who are sitting in the Employees' State Insurance Corporation Otherwise, Sir, he would have been all praise for the work that is being done by the Employees' State Insurance Corporation now-a-days It is true that in the beginning, when it was in the formative period, when this was absolutely a new scheme in the implementation of which neither the workers, nor the employers nor the administrative staff were trained, the progress was slow The whole movement is now gathering strength It has achieved efficiency It is getting more and more efficiency That is the report of all concerned There is less delay now The people are paid immediately whatever benefits they are entitled to That is the reaction of those who have direct experience of this scheme In this case, also, Sir, I would humbly point out to the report of an Actuary who was appointed to go into it and give a sort of evaluation report on the working of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation I would, Sir, with your permission read only paragraph 95 of the report He says:

"It is most gratifying to observe that the experience of the Scheme up to now has been so satisfactory that within a few years after the introduction of the Scheme one can confidently look forward to the release of a substantial

portion of the contribution income from being utilised for extension of yet another benefit, and thus reaching another milestone in the scheme of social security which although originally conceived on a modest scale, must necessarily in course of time embrace the entire population and provide a wide range of benefits giving cover from the cradle to the grave"

This is what the Actuary has to report Therefore, both the Director-General and the Ministry deserve a lot of congratulations from us for doing such an excellent job during such a short time Let us hope that they will progress further

There was some complaint about hospitalization also It is true that there is some delay in putting up hospitals under this scheme But there the State Governments come in with their Health Departments and the Labour Departments We have got to acquire land, and there are so many hurdles and difficulties We are alive to this issue We are also worried about the hospitals under the schemes not coming up and giving the benefit to the people But I am sure that during a short space of time we will be able to satisfy these demands of the workers also

14 hrs.

Shri Abid Ali. The hon Member is a member of the Board

Shri Oza. I have direct experience of the Board This is my humble suggestion .

Then talking about trade unionism it was urged here that something requires to be done here or there about trade union activity My friend Shri Melkote also rightly complained about certain things Of late the Ministry is very active on this matter It is having codes of conduct and codes of discipline and so many things It is very alive and sensitive as I pointed out in the beginning But, after all, you can take the horses to the

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trough but you cannot make them drink Here the Ministry has to take care of unmanageable horses. So, it is a great achievement for the Ministry if it has taken all these horses to the trough even We have signed so many codes of conduct and codes of discipline But unfortunately we find sometimes that before the ink has dried the codes of conduct are violated and they are observed more in the breach than in the performance Let us hope that these trade unions will live up to their protestations and see that the code is properly implemented and observed There is a tendency to exploit the labour class not merely for serving its economic ends but exploit it for other ends It is so tempting that some friends cannot resist it Let us hope that whatever is being done is done in very good faith, in the larger interests of the country, in the larger interests of economy and in the larger interests of democracy, and now that we have undertaken such huge plans the friends will co-operate wholeheartedly

After all, the proof of the pudding is in the eating We will judge people by what they do and not by what they say or on what they put their signatures I am not asking one federation or the other, but I wish that all concerned should co-operate heartily After all, labour enjoys a very strategic position They may mar or make the fortunes of the country Let us hope that in this critical juncture of our country all will play their role nobly and that whenever we are able to look back everyone of us will be able to say that we put our shoulders to the wheel of progress and the country marched forward

With these words I finish

श्रीमती मन्मो बाई (विकाराबाद)

समापति महोदय, इस लेबर के मुद्दामे पर जो बहस हो रही है, इस को मैं बहुत ध्यान से

सुन रही हूँ। प्रपोजिशन बायीं की तरफ से बहुत ज्यादा क्विटिडिज्म किया गया है। लेकिन जो डा० नेलकोटे की तरफ से कहा गया है, उसका मैं समर्थन करती हूँ, उसका मैं स्वागत करती हूँ और मैं समझती हूँ कि बड़ी सही है, तबुँ के आचार पर कहा गया है— जिस तरह के हागात हैदराबाद में हैं, उन्हीं को ध्यान में रख कर बहु बोले हैं लेकिन हमारे प्रपोजिशन वाले इस चीज को बर्बात नहीं कर सके हैं और वे उनको चीज-चीज में टोकते रहे हैं। मगर मैं उनसे एक मबाज पूछना चाहती हूँ। आप लोग यहाँ हिन्दुस्तान में रहते हैं, तो क्या कारण है कि आप दूसरे मुल्को की तरफ देखते हैं। यहाँ पर लेबर को जो तकलीफ है, उसके बारे में आप कहें लेकिन आप लेबर को एक तलवार न बनायें नाकि जिस तरह से चाहे आप उसका इस्तेमाल कर सकें। इसमें तकलीफ होना स्वाभाविक है। इस तरह से करने की कभी भी इजाजत नहीं दी जा सकती है। यह ठीक है कि लेबर हमारे मुल्क का भला करने वाली है, हमें लाभ पहुचाने वाली है, उत्पादन बढ़ाने वाली है और इसको हर तरह की सहूलियतें पहुचाना हमारा कर्तव्य है। यह मिनिसोटी फोर्स की तरह से हमारी ताकत है। मैं अपने लेबर मिनिसटर साहब से कहना चाहती हूँ कि जा भी जायज मार्ग लेबर की तरफ से रखी जाती है, उन सब को मानने के लिये हम तैयार हैं और दिल खोल कर लेबर को सहूलियतें देने के लिये हम तैयार हैं और हमें हमेशा तैयार भी रहना चाहिये। हम जो कुछ हो सकता है कर भी रहे हैं। मैं जहाँ कहीं भी जाती हूँ और लेबर को देखती हूँ तो पाती हूँ कि बड़ी-बड़ी इमारतें नंबरर्स के रहने के लिये बनी हैं और बन रही हैं, बसा खाने लूके हैं और खान रहे हैं, ट्रेनिंग फ़ैस, वेलफेयर सेंटर्स, नाइट स्कूल्स इत्यादि बने हैं और ये सब अच्छी चीजें हैं और होनी चाहियें। लेकिन बाकी लोगों के लिए ये सब चीजें कहाँ हैं, वह मैं पूछना चाहती हूँ। मैं समझना नहीं चाहती हूँ। लेकिन मैं बड़े

शब्द के साथ पूछना चाहती हूँ कि भाष क्वा हो रहा है और क्यों हो रहा है और क्या उसको रोकना हमारा कर्ब नहीं है।

भाष जरा चीन की तरफ देखिये। वहाँ पर कोई भी श्रावणी हो, किसी में कोई कर्म नहीं है। सभी लोग घाठ बंटे काम करते हैं। इन घाठ बंटों में से तीन बंटे तो वे एग्रिकल्चर में जा कर काम करते हैं, तीन बंटे के लिए कोई काफ्ट का काम करते हैं और दो बंटे पढ़ाई करने में लचक करते हैं। क्या कभी भाष ने सोचा है, कभी भाषने ध्यान दिया है कि मजदूरी ज्यादा और काम कम होने की वजह से क्या असर पड़ रहा है? क्या भाषने सोचा है कि इसका एग्रिकल्चर पर क्या असर होता है। मैं एक किसान हूँ और किसानों की कठिनाइयों की मैं समझती हूँ। मेरे पास जमीन है और मैं तजुबों की बिना पर भाषको यह बात बताना नहीं हूँ कि चूँकि भाष बेजिज बड़ा देते हैं इसी वजहसे गावों की तमाम लेबर क्षहरों की तरफ आ जाती है, यहाँ आ कर बस जाती है और वहाँ पर काम करने के लिए श्रावणी नहीं मिलता है और अगर मिलता भी है तो बहुत पैसे मागता है। यह चीज भाषकी जो रिपोर्ट है उसमें भी दर्ज रहती है। यहाँ दिल्ली से पाँच छः मील की दूरी पर गावों में भाष जा कर देखें तो भाषको पता चलेगा कि हज़ारों एकड़ जमीन ऐसी पड़ी है, जहाँ पर गेहूँ तो तैयार है, लेकिन काटने वाला कोई नहीं है, श्रावणी नहीं मिल रहे हैं। आज जब लेबर को तीन चार या पाँच रुपये रोज फीम्ट्री में या कारखाने में मिल जाते हैं, तो कम पर या छः सेर, में गांव में काम करने के लिये कौन तैयार होगा। इसका नतीजा यह होता है कि जो काम करवाना चाहता है उसको ज्यादा पैसा देना पड़ता है और किसानों को इस जैसी बाजी से कोई मुनाफा नहीं होता है और तमाम की तमाम उनकी मेहनत बेकार जाती है। जब कभी कोई स्ट्राइक होती है, भाष लेबर की बेजिज बड़ा देते हैं और इसका बहुत बुरा असर पड़ता है। जब गांवों

की लेबर को ज्यादा देना पड़ता है तो इसका नतीजा यह होता है कि भाव बढ़ जाते हैं।

एक माननीय सदस्य ने कहा कि फीम्ट्री वाले मजदूर को चार रुपये रोज मिलते हैं लेकिन फिर वह खानेपीने को पूरा नहीं ले पाता है, वह मोहताज हो रहता है। मैं इस सम्बन्ध में दो तीन सुझाव देना चाहती हूँ। धनबाद की माईस और दूसरी माईस के बारे में मेरा एक सुझाव है। यहाँ पर काम करना आसान नहीं है। बहुत मुश्किल यहाँ पर काम करना होता है। मैंने घ्रांघ्र में देखा है कि इन माईस के अन्दर तीन-तीन और चार-चार मील दूर तक मजदूरों को जा कर काम करना पड़ता है। वहाँ पर घुमा रहना है, हवा नहीं आती है। इन सब के साथ उसको गिजा भी अच्छी नहीं मिलती है और इस सब का नतीजा यह होता है कि बीमारी बढ़ती है। इस सब का नतीजा यह होता है कि उनकी हड्डियाँ गल जाती हैं, शरीर मुर्दा से दिलाई देने हैं। चालाक लीडर जो लेबर के बारे में बहुत कुछ कहते हैं, मैं समझती हूँ, काम की बात नहीं कहते हैं। हमारे लीडर फीम्ट्री लेबर में ही काम करते हैं, एग्रिकल्चर लेबर में जाने की उनकी हिम्मत नहीं होती है क्योंकि वहाँ पर पैसे नहीं मिलने हैं। जहाँ पर उनको पैसे मिलने हैं वही पर वे काम करते हैं। जहाँ पर वे काम करते हैं वहाँ पर झगड़े ही करवाते हैं, तकलीफ देने वाली बातें ही करवाते हैं। ऐसा करके कैसे वेसा की तथा किसानों की तथा लेबर की भलाई हो सकती है? सारी ये लोग नहीं पहनते और न ही लेबर की भलाई में इनकी कोई इच्छा प्रतीत होती है। मैं उनसे पूछना चाहती हूँ कि आज केरल में क्या हो रहा है, क्या ऐसी ही बातें हो रही हैं? वहाँ पर ऐसी बात नहीं हो रही है। मैं समझती हूँ कि घर में एक बात वे करते हैं और बाहर दूसरी बात करते हैं। यह नहीं होना चाहिये।

मैंने रिपोर्ट में देखा है कि बैलफेयर फंड में तथा प्राबिडेंट फंड में भाष के पास सौ करोड़

[संजयी लक्ष्मी बाई]

रुपया मौजूब है। धाप इससे दवाखाने भी बना सकते हैं और कहीं कहीं धापने बनाये भी हैं। इन दवाखानों में धाप अच्छी धक्की दवाखं भी बेते हैं, इंजेक्शंस भी धक्के बेते हैं, टी० बी० वैड्स भी रखते हैं लेकिन मैं समझती हूँ कि जब तक इस्तान की गिञ्जा अच्छी नहीं होती है, बीमारी पर काबू नहीं पाया जा सकता है, बीमारी बढ़ती ही जाती है। धापने कभी इस पर विचार ही किया प्रतीत नहीं होता। इसके बारे में सामनेवाले भाइयों ने भी कुछ नहीं कहा है। धापके पास बैलफेयर फंड में बहुत ज्यादा पैसा जमा हो रहा है। मैं चाहती हूँ कि इस में से दो लाख या तीन लाख रुपया खर्च करके गोदाम खोलें। अगर धापके पास इतना रुपया नहीं है तो धाप जमा कर सकते हैं। मैं धापको हकीकत की बात बतलाना चाहती हूँ कि माइस में तथा फेक्ट्रीज में जो मजदूर काम करते हैं वहा पर उनको बहुत ज्यादा महगाई का सामना करना पड़ता है। वहा पर उनको चार पाच रुपये रोज भी मिले तो भी उनका गुजारा नहीं होता है। मैंने देखा है कि अगर गाय में टिमाटर दो घाना सेर हैं तो वहा पर घाठ घाना सेर बिकते हैं, अगर चावल घाठ घाना सेर हैं तो वहा पर सवा रुपया सेर बिकना है। इस महगाई का कारण यह है कि जो शैतान ब्यापारी हैं, वे पैसा ज्यादा खा जाते हैं। वहा पर छोटे छोटे दुकानदार बैठे हांते हैं और वे इन मजदूरों को अपना मोहताज बना लेते हैं। यह बात मैं काम तौर पर माइस के बाएं मे कहती हूँ। नजदीक कही पर चूबि तरकारी बोर्ड नहीं जाती है इन बास्ते वह भी वहा पर महगा बिकनी है। इस बास्ते वहा पर चार रुपये से भी कुछ नहीं बनता है और वे कुछ बचा नहीं पाते हैं। जब उनका गुजारा नहीं होता है तो वे चिन्ताते हैं कि वेब्रिज बढ़ायो और धाप बढ़ा देते हैं और उनकी यह माग रोज-रोज बढ़ती जाती है। इसका अगर किसानों के ऊपर दुरा पड़ता है। किसानों को अपना

धायन और धान इत्यादि ज्यादा बेचना पड़ता है और बाप में उनको मुश्किल हो जाती है। वे पैदा भी कम इस तरह से कर सकते हैं और इसका मतीबा यह होता है कि पैदावार कम होती है और धापको दूसरे मुल्कों के धापे हाब फैलाने पड़ते हैं। इस बास्ते मैं चाहती हूँ कि धाप दो तीन लाख रुपया खर्च करके जैसे कि पहले रेलवे डिपार्टमेंट में स्टोर हुआ करते हैं, वैसे ही यहां भी खोलें। रेलवे डिपार्टमेंट वाले धापने नौकर चाकरो को जितना प्राबिखन एक धायबी का होना चाहिये, उतना दिया करते हैं और बाकी जो उनकी तनखाह होती थी वह वे दिया करते हैं और सब भी ऐसा ही किया जाता है। जब तक धाप वहा पर माइस और फेक्ट्रीज में ऐसा सिस्टम नहीं रखते हैं तब तक अच्छी तरह से लोग मज में धपना गुजारा नहीं कर सकेगे। हर चीज गुदाम में से मिलनी चाहिये।

हमारी स्कीम में एक डिफेक्ट होता है। जब भी कोई स्कीम बनाई जाती है तो लाखो रुपये की वह बना दी जाती है। उनमे तमाम पैसा खर्च हो जाता है। मैं चाहती हूँ बहुत मोची सादी स्कीम होनी चाहिये। जिस तरह मैं धाप बैलफेयर फंड में निकालकर दवाखाने खोलते हैं या ट्रैनिंग सेंटर चलाने हैं या फ्लामर-विप देने हैं या स्कूलों को एड देने हैं और जितना-जितना एक-एक से खर्च करते हैं, इन्ही स्कीम से एक गोदाम बना करके अगर धाप लेबर को तमाम का तमाम सामान दे दे तो कोई तकलीफ नहीं होगी। यह बैलफेयर का बहुत बड़ा काम होगा। इसमे धोर बड़ा बैलफेयर का कौन सा काम ही सकता है।

पोलिटिकल पार्टीज फेक्ट्रीज में जाती हैं, वहा पर मगड़े इत्यादि करवाती हैं यह नहीं होना चाहिये और न ही इसकी इजाजत होनी चाहिये। धाप एक एम्प्लॉयमेंट लॉजें जिस से कोई भी पोलिटिकल पार्टी वहा पर जाने न पावे। जिस तरह से लोग खर्चिये में काम

करते हैं, वैसे ही लोगों को वहाँ काम करने की इजाजत रहती चाहिये। यदि ऐसा हुआ तभी असाई के काम हो सकेंगे। जब कुछ मिलना नहीं है तो पोलिटिकल पार्टीज चिल्लाती हैं, बार-बार स्ट्रइक्स करवाती हैं और इससे बहुत ज्यादा नुकसान होता है। एक-एक वीक में दो-दो बार स्ट्राइक्स हो जाती हैं। कभी-कभी हंगर स्ट्राइक भी हो जाती है। यूँकि आप बहुत उदार दृष्टिकोण अपनाये हुए हैं और दिल खोल कर मदद कर रहे हैं, उनको दे रहे हैं, इसलिए ये सब मुश्किलात पैदा हो रही हैं। ११-१२ साल हमें आजाद हुए हैं। एम्बेम्बेंट इस किस्म की नहीं लाये हैं। मैं चाहती हूँ कि जो मौजूदा कानून है उसकी आप एम्बेम्बेंट लाये ताकि वहाँ पर पालिटिक्स न चलने पाये।

मैं समझती हूँ कि जिस तरह से जिल्म अच्छा बनाने के लिए गिखा की और अच्छी गिखा की आवश्यकता होती है, उसी तरह से दिमाग से सोचने के लिए भी गिखा होनी चाहिये। जो मेहनत मजदूरी करते हैं, वे अपने दिमाग से बहुत ज्यादा सोचते नहीं हैं, उनको खाने को कम मिलता है, मुँह से लगते हैं। उनके जो बच्चे होते हैं, वे ऐसे होते हैं कि उनको हाथ में लेने को दिल नहीं चाहता है, कीड़ो मकौडो की तरह से वे रहते हैं, खाने को उनको नहीं मिलता है। इन बच्चों के लिए हम क्या कर सकते हैं, यह भी हमें सोचना होगा। जो मजदूर हाते हैं, उनको मिसगाइड किया जाता है, उनको बहकाया जाता है और जिधर कोई ले जाता है, उधर चल देते हैं। इस वास्ते मैं चाहती हूँ उनके कैरेक्टर को बिल्ड करने की तरफ भी ध्यान दिया जाए। हजारों भीलों से धमरीकी, रूसी, चाइना और इंग्लैंड वाले धीरतों और मद ह्वारे यहाँ आते हैं, जो कि बड़े अच्छे-अच्छे कैरेक्टर को बनाने वाले हैं। वे हमारे देश में आ कर हमारे लोगों के

कैरेक्टर को तब्दील कर देते हैं। वे आ कर हमारे यहाँ रहते हैं, परमाषा बोलने वाले, परमजहब वाले, हमारे यहाँ आ कर देगो भाषा बोलते हैं और हमारे दिलों को कंबट कर देते हैं। पता नहीं उन के अन्दर क्या आदु है। जब वे ऐसा कर सकते हैं तब हम लोग जो कि इसी देश के रहने वाले हैं, इसी देश की भाषा बोलते हैं, कैम्प्राज में जा कर उन के दिल को तब्दील क्यों नहीं कर सकते उन के कैरेक्टर को बनाने की कोशिश क्यों नहीं कर सकते? इस वेनफेअर फंड से आप इस काम को कोजिये ताकि दूसरे प्रादमियों को वहाँ कोई गड़बड़ करने का मौका न मिले। आज तो हालत यह है कि कोई हुवा मे भी बात कर दे, कह दे कि चूहा भा गया, तो वे बशावत करते हैं। आप को उन हः सब तरह से मजबूत बनाना चाहिये। आज उन ह दिमागी गिजा को जकरत है। इसके निये उनको अच्छे-अच्छे लेक्चर्स की जकरत है, आप उन को बह दोजिये, उन को रामायण की कथा सुाने का, भजन सुनने का मौका दोजिये तो इस से बहुत लाभ होगा। उन के कैरेक्टर को बनाने के वास्ते वहाँ पर आप लेडो बर्कंस से सहायता लीजिये। लेडो बर्कंस कं ट्रेनिंग के बारे में आपन रिपोर्ट में आप ने लिखा है कि आप ने ११५ लेडो बर्कंस की ट्रेनिंग दी है। दिल्ली और बड़े शहरों में मुनिसल चार माल से मेहनत कर के आप कुल ११५ धीरतों को ट्रेनिंग दी पाये है, टेलरिंग में, निर्दिग में या दूसरी चीजों में। लाखों धीरतों में से केवल ११५ धीरतों को ट्रेन कर सके हैं। क्या आप इन से ज्यादा धीरतो को ट्रेनिंग नहीं दे सकते हैं? यह जो आप अपनी बड़-भारि कमजोरी बता रहे हैं। आज आप लेबरर्स में बहुत थोड़ी धीरतो को काम करने के लिये भेजते हैं, वहाँ पर जो दूसरे प्रादमी काम करने जाते हैं वह गड़बड़ करने की कोशिश करते हैं, भगड़े छेड़ते हैं इम चीज को दूर करने के लिये बड़े तजुबकार और चरित्रवान काम करने वाले लोग मौजूद होने चाहिये

[श्रीमती जसवी बाई]

धीर बहा पर काम करने वाली धीरतों केलिये क्यादा फेसिलिटीज दी जानी चाहिये यह मेरा तीसरा मुद्दाव है ।

बीषा सुभाव धनएम्पलायमेंट के बारे में है । यहाँ पर उस का परसेन्टेज दिया गया है । अभी उपर वाले हमारे सामने इस बाँध को ले कर बहुत चिन्ता रहे थे कि यह नहीं हुआ, वह नहीं हुआ । जहाँ तक परसेन्टेज का सवाल है इन्फ्लेक्शन सबॉट्स ३ परसेन्ट है, एजुकेशनल ५ परसेन्ट है, इनफ्लेक्शन ५१ ७ परसेन्ट है, स्किन्ड जो है वह ७ ५ परसेन्ट है जो लोग देहातो में रहते हैं । वे भजे से गाँवों में विसा सा कर भच्छे भच्छे मकान बना कर रहते हैं । धाप उन को नल के पा १, गिजा धीर दूसरी तरह की सहूलियत हाँ देते ही है, उन को यहाँ पर ४ ६०, ५ ६० रोज मिलता है, उन के लिये धाप प्राविडेंट फंड, डेवेलपमेंट फंड, वेल्फेयर फंड धादि की सहूलियत भी दे रहे हैं । नतीजा यह होता है कि बहा से सब लोग भाग कर शहरो में आ रहे हैं धीर बहा पर काम करने वाले नहीं रहते । बहा पर यह होना चाहिये कि जितनी जगह हों उतने ही धादमी ले लिये जायें, वह एक महीने तक काम कं यहाँ पर । साथ ही एक काई सिस्टम भं होना चाहिये कि जो काम करना चाहेगा उस को शहर में ही रहना होगा । धर्म एम्पलायमेंट के बारे में हमारे लोग बोल रहे थे कि हिन्दुस्तान को धाजाव हुए ११ साल हो गये लेकिन धनएम्पलायमेंट क्लम नहीं हुआ, सरकार की डूट है कि वह लोगों को एम्पलायमेंट दे । हाँ देना चाहिये, लेकिन लोगों को काम भी तो ठीक से करना चाहिये । धाप धाप की बचमेंमेंट है, देसी बचमेंमेंट है, कोई इन्डिया बचमेंमेंट नहीं है, धाप को सोचना चाहिये कि जो काम लोगों को करना चाहिये वह वे भी तो कं । यहाँ पर होना यह है कि धीर लोग रहते हैं धीर सरकार के सहारे

पर रहते हैं । हमारों लोगों ने एम्पलायमेंट एक्स्चेंज में नाम लिखा रक्खा है, लेकिन वह हर एक काम करने के लिये तैयार नहीं है मैं बहुत भदब से यह सुझाव देना चाहती हूँ कि एम्पलायमेंट एक्स्चेंज में जितने नाम लिखे जाते हैं उन में से जितने धादमियों को धाप को सेना हो उन को एक दम से सेनेक्ट कर सेना चाहिये । इसी जगह पर मैं एक सरकार का भी डिफेन्ड बतलाना चाहती हूँ । साल पर साल धुजर जाते हैं, तीन-तीन साल हो जाते है धीर लोग एम्पलायमेंट एक्स्चेंज के बचकर लगाया करते है अपने छल में तरह-तरह की धाधा ले कर भाते जाते रहते है । मैं कहना चाहती हूँ कि धाप उन को जूठी धाणा में मत रलिये । धाप साथ कह दीजिये कि यह पोस्टुम क्लम हो गयी है धर उन पर बिचार किया जायगा । धाजकन लेबर धीर प्लैनिंग एक मिनिस्टर के पास है । वह मिनिस्टर इस समय यहाँ पर नहीं है । मैं कहना चाहती हूँ कि उन की प्लैनिंग भी कुछ गलत है । उन को अपनी नेक्स्ट इभर की रिपीड में इड को सेना चाहिये कि कंभिटरों में गिजा का इन्तजाव हो गया । अभी-अभी मैं ने सुना कि ७ ६० का एरु मन धान मिलता है कंट्रोल रेट से, १६ ६० का एक मन बाबल मिलेगा धाह दा किसान के पास । धाप को डाइरेक्ट किसान के पास से जा कर बाबल लेना चाहिये । धाप १६ ६० नहीं १० ६० मन लें तो भी लोगों को १ ६० का दो, सवा दो सेर बाबल मिलेगा । गेहूँ का भी यही हाल है । बीष में जो लाग होते है उनकी क्लम होना चाहिये । अभी मैं ने देखा कि धनबाद में पानी नहीं, बाबल नहीं । ऐसी हालत में ४ ६० मन में राम किलता भी है तो उस से क्या फायदा है । इस की बचह से धापको विककट होती है ।

आखिर में एक बात लेंबर मिनिस्टर साहब से फिर कहना चाहती हूँ। उन की मिनिस्ट्री में जो लोग काम करते हैं वह बहुत सोचने वाले हैं, सज्जदार लोग हैं। मैं उनके डिपार्टमेंट के लिये सुझाव देना चाहती हूँ कि वह लोग स्वयं काम को भी देखें। डिपार्टमेंट के लोग सज्जदार होते हुए भी एककुमल प्रैक्टिकल वर्क को नहीं देखते हैं।

इसके साथ ही यह सुझाव भी देना चाहती हूँ कि मुझे साधुओं और मत्पुरुषों में बड़ी श्रद्धा है। उही में से श्री सुबडा जी महाराज हैं। उन्होंने जनता के लिये बड़ा काम किया है और उन के ऊपर कफ़ी लोगों को बड़ी श्रद्धा है। ऐसे-ऐसे लोगों को लेंबर मंत्रालय में धा कर धर भारत सेवक समाज में धा कर काम करना चाहिये। अगर इस तरह से होगा तो हमारा काम ठाक-ठीक रूप में चलगा। सरकार का इन सुझावों पर गौर करना चाहिये और हमारे सदस्यों का भी इन बात का मानन के ऊपर जोर देना चाहिये क्योंकि यह बड़ी महत्त्व चीज है।

Shri L. Achaw Singh (Inner Manipur) Mr Chairman, I have moved a number of cut motions on the Demands for Grants under this Ministry. This Ministry is supposed to look after the employment policy of the Government—the interests of labour so far as security of their services is concerned, their wages and their social security. On a scrutiny of the employment exchange figures in the country we find that the number of applicants on the live registers rose from 82 lakhs at the end of 1957 to 194 lakhs up to the end of January 1959. During the same period only 2,01,528 applicants were placed in employment, as the Report shows. In spite of other factors, namely, a rise in the number of employment exchanges opened etc there is definitely a deterioration in the

employment situation. The Economic Survey published by the Government of India admits the fact in the following terms in para 14

“While it is not possible for lack of adequate data to assess in any precise terms the trends of employment and unemployment in the economy as a whole, the various pointers mentioned above would appear to indicate some worsening during the year of the employment situation in some sectors of the economy”

We find that there have been closures in the textile and jute mills, tea plantations, mica mines etc, and certainly they have affected the situation. It is indeed a great paradox of planning that in spite of so much of investment, spending and consumption and more investment and consequent employment opportunities, employment situation deteriorates every year.

The Reappraisal of the Second Five Year Plan published by the Planning Commission also says that the employment potential outside agriculture would be 7 million instead of 9 million, as estimated earlier. It applies when the outlay of the public sector is maintained at Rs 4,800 crores and the private sector outlay is more or less according to the Plan. Now because the outlay in the public sector is Rs 4,500 crores additional employment opportunities are estimated at 65 million. It is a matter of great concern that our Government has failed to provide employment gainful employment, to our population. Our successive Five Year Plans emphasise more investments, and more effective labour supply. Yet, one of the serious problems we are facing in this country is that of unemployment and under-employment. It is estimated that because of the growth in population there has been an increase in the labour force at the rate of two million persons per year. That is why I have still a great doubt if the Ministry would be in

[Shri L. Achaw Singh]

a position to cope with this worsening employment situation in this country. Therefore, I would suggest that the Ministry should seriously consider this matter.

Coming to other sectors, the main industrial employment comes more from the traditional artisan industries like bidi-making, coir matting, carpet weaving and building industry than from the modernised forms like cotton and jute textiles, railways and mines. It is estimated that cottage and small-scale industries provide employment for 20 million persons in contrast to 7 million persons in organised industries. Indian economy is predominantly agricultural with over 70 per cent. of her economically active population engaged in agriculture. A large proportion of those engaged in agriculture, namely, 14.6 million out of 71 million, are landless labourers. About these people the statistics relating to their socio-economic conditions were not available till recently. It is a fact that labour conditions of majority of the labour population in the small scale industries and agriculture are deplorable and so it will be in the fitness of things if steps are taken by the Ministry to take special care of these labourers. We understand that the Ministry is looking into the conditions of labourers in the agricultural sector and it will be good if the Ministry comes forward with some legislation on this subject.

Here I would like to say that the Ministry has no positive policy in the labour matters. The tentative attitude is designed rather to steer clear of all ideological and class conflicts and keep the two arms of production—labour and capital—content. This will not do. Since we in India do not have a strong labour movement, it will be the duty of the Ministry to encourage genuine labour activities in all sectors of our economy and have some positive attitude. The Economic Survey published by the

Government of India suggests that there is continued excess of supply of unskilled persons registered in the employment exchanges and that there is also a great shortage of experienced engineers, surveyors, overseers, stenographers, doctors, health visitors and similar qualified personnel. So, it seems that the training scheme under this Ministry is still inadequate and more scope should be given. Otherwise, our Plan schemes have to suffer.

In this connection, I would like to refer to some important matter in my own territory. Manipur is a Centrally administered area. There is a proposal to start an industrial training scheme there. There is no technical school in that part and now unemployment, especially educated unemployment, is increasing. So, the institution should have been started earlier. The proposal was to start it in 1957. Three years have passed now and so long there has not been any practical application of that scheme. Last month about 60 applicants have been selected by the Adimjati Technical Institute for the training. There is one Adimjati Technical Institute which imparts training to tribal students for some trades. Though the scheme has started, there is no building, no implements, no tools and no equipment for these people. The staff of the Adimjati Technical Institute is going to impart training to these students in their spare time, say, after three or four o'clock in the evening. I think we are not going to make full utilisation of the money which has been sanctioned by the Government of India. I am told that about Rs. 8 lakhs have been provided for this scheme. Now there is a proposal also that a separate building would be constructed. I would like that the Ministry should take up this matter with the Manipur Administration and as early as possible fully qualified staff should be appointed and a separate building should be constructed at the earliest opportunity.

In this connection I suggested to the Manipur Administration that the Adimjati Technical Institute should take up immediately the work of giving training to others, that is, non-tribal students in that State because the Institute was not having enough number of students. If the Institute was also interested in the work of giving training to others, that is, the non-tribals, that will be very much benefiting our people. At last that has been taken up. But then there have been many difficulties and the sooner all these difficulties are removed, the better it would be for the people there.

Now I would come to the condition of motor transport workers in general. The Ministry has already taken to consider an approved legislation on the subject. But we understand that there is no independent or separate legislation on this subject. A survey was made in 1956 about the condition of workers in different States. We understand—and it is our practical experience—that drivers have to work for long hours. Of course, there is a Motor Vehicle Act which provides only nine hours of daily work and 54 weekly hours, spread over days, but no hours have been fixed for conductors, cleaners, inspectors and other staff. The Payment of Wages Act, the Factory Act, the Workmen's Compensation Act and all these are applied in some States but not in others, with regard to the transport workers. Therefore these workers have been put to much disadvantage regarding working hours, spread over, over-time allowance and weekly holidays. So, I urge the Ministry that legislation should be brought as early as possible.

I would also like to refer to the actual conditions of transport workers in my own territory. Most of the labour laws are not applied in our case. Drivers have to work from three o'clock in the morning to three o'clock in the evening. They are on the line from three o'clock in the

morning till three o'clock in the evening. Then again they are also engaged in the loading and unloading of goods. Therefore they have to work practically for fifteen hours. There is no system of counting over-time. Fines and deductions are also made in a very arbitrary manner and illegally too. There are no standing orders which are certified by the authorities in the private and the public sectors. Workers in the motor transport are treated in the most inhuman and shabby manner. I urge the Ministry that they should look into these matters.

As regards the implementation machinery, I have also referred to the condition of transport workers, but as a whole we have seen in the Report that the number of non-implementation cases has been increasing. There are 1,100 cases of non-implementation of labour laws, awards and agreements. These are reported to be by February 1959. The Report says that several State Governments and Union Territories have already started tripartite committees to implement these laws, agreements and awards. Now, it has been said in the Report that Manipur has got no labour problem to necessitate the setting up of a committee. It is based on wrong information and I submit that the various labour laws are not implemented in my part. In the Public Works Department, Electricity Department, State Transport, printing presses both Government and private and the Imphal Municipality as well as in numerous factories, shops and establishments most of the labour laws are conspicuous by their non-implementation. Therefore I would request the Ministry to set up some implementation committee for that Territory also.

I would say only one word about recognition matters. It has been said that there are outsiders in the trade unions. We have a small number of trade unions in our territory but then the Government press that there

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should be no outsiders in these unions and that if they have outsiders they would not recognise them. In these parts the labour movement is very weak and without some enlightened worker they cannot express themselves. So, it will be quite proper and in the fitness of things that the labour unions in these parts should be given recognition if they are of a representative character, if they are also registered and if they fulfil the conditions provided in the Trade Union Act.

Shri K. N. Pandey (Hata): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am really thankful to you for having given me an opportunity to express my views on this Demand. Before making any observation in this regard, I want to make it clear that I belong to an organisation which believes in making constructive suggestions. We do not believe in finding fault with others. We are always ready to censure ourselves if something goes wrong in us.

While looking to the labour organisation in the Western countries and America if you look to our organisation, I want to ask my hon. friends as to where do we stand. I went to West Germany in 1950 and at that time I found that there was no organisation of labour at all. But in 1958 when I again visited West Germany in the month of October, I found that now there is an organisation of labour representing 62 lakhs of workers—was built up within five years! Labour movement on an all Indian scale is going on for the last 28 years but how many workers are represented by it? Even you combine the membership of all the four organisations, it is less than 16 lakhs. Do we search our hearts to see as to where the wrong lies? Our country is a democratic country, yet we are lacking in some respect or somewhere or somebody does not believe truly, although outwardly they say that they

believe in democracy but actually they do not.

How the British Trade Union Congress has come to such a strength in U.K.? It is not because the labour disputes have been referred to labour courts or tribunals as often as in India and that they have won the cases in the tribunals but because of what they have achieved so far by mutual agreements. I can tell you that in between 1957 to 1958 only 1,100 cases have gone to tribunals in England whereas in India the number will go to several thousands. But still we represent 16 lakhs of workers. Now the time has come when we decide to function on democratic lines. Unless we adopt the same policy of settling our disputes by mutual agreements, I do not think Indian labour movement gain strength.

I must thank the hon. Labour Minister who convened a conference at Naini Tal in order to forge a code of conduct or a code of discipline by mutual agreement. That was done. As a result of those codes a self-restrained was imposed by employers also that they will not unnecessarily declare lock-outs or deprive the workers of employment. But at the same time restriction was laid on the labour organisations too that they will not create unnecessary troubles in the history of the labour movement. What happened after those agreed codes were drawn up? I found that in Jamshedpur, there was a great strike. Why? Because an agreement was arrived at between the I.N.T.U.C. and the employers regarding wages and other facilities which was going to give strength to the I.N.T.U.C., and confer benefits on workmen. Only to weaken the I.N.T.U.C. movement there, the call of strike was given.

I can give one more example. There was the lightning strike in Bombay. Was it in accordance with the code of discipline or code of conduct? How can these organisations

function democratically? Unless you help them and unless you create an atmosphere so that the Unions may function democratically, they are not going to function. In Rampur, I can give a recent example. The Sugar Board, has already recommended that at least Rs. 3 should be given as interim relief to the minimum wage earner, so that a worker who was getting Rs. 85 per month, after getting the interim relief, will get Rs. 88 per month. In Rampur by reason of the agreement, he would get Rs. 88-8-0 per month the last two years. Still there was strike. I can tell the Labour Ministry that if they simply leave this code of discipline and code of conduct to be applied or to be followed at the sweet will of the parties, I do not think they will be able to succeed.

May I suggest one thing? In case any organisation is found violating this code of discipline or code of conduct, recognition must be withdrawn from them and they should be penalised in a way so that they may realise in future that they should not violate the code of discipline or code of conduct. It does not only apply to the workers; it applies to the employers also. If you want to bind the employers, the workers must also be made to behave with the rest. This is my suggestion.

The next thing that I want to point out is regarding the constitution of Wage Boards. I am really thankful to the Ministry that realising that the cost of living was rising high, they constituted Wage Boards for three industries. This was a pressing demand for the last few years, and the I.N.T.U.C. thought that the time has come when Wage Board should be constituted, and the wage prevalent in the industrial area should be revised. I am really thankful for the establishment of the Labour Bureau. They are taking a census of wages on an All India basis. This labour Bureau is doing very useful work. They are also conducting a fresh family budget research in order to

facilitate the work of the Wage Boards.

The Labour Ministry took the step to call a conference here in order to fix norms on the basis of which wages were to be fixed. But, at the same time, it has been stated that the Boards have to look to the paying capacity also. After all, paying capacity depends on so many factors. Immediately after the constitution of the Wage Board, there was an agreement in several factories in Bombay where the minimum wage of Rs 55 rose to Rs. 65. In the U.P. it has gone up to Rs. 60 simply because of agreements. But, after the Wage Board recommended an interim relief of Rs. 8 what do the employers say? They say, unless the Government issues orders, they are not going to implement it. Our helplessness lies here. The Central Government has no power to issue an order unless they bring a Bill before Parliament. I do not know what step they are going to take. On some persuasion of the Wage Board, some employers have agreed. Most of the employers say, unless the Government order is issued, they are not going to implement. If this is the fate of interim relief. What will happen about the final recommendation? Because, that is also coming. The Wage Boards consist of eminent economists, distinguished public men and the High Court Judges as Chairman. But, they have got no power at all. They can simply function in an advisory capacity. I want to draw the attention of the Ministry to the fact that unless these Wage Boards are fully armed with powers to issue an order or decide just as the tribunals do, their recommendation will be an article to be kept in cold storage. This is my suggestion.

Apart from that, I wish to point out that cost of living has not gone higher only in the sugar, textile and cement industries. If it has gone higher here, it has gone up elsewhere also. Wage Boards should be constituted for other industries too. This

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has been our pressing demand for the last three years. Still, we have repeated the same resolution in our Dibrugarh session. I think the Labour Ministry should take note of it and take such a step so that the wages are revised in other industries as well.

It is a very wrong plea that if the wages of the workers are increased, there is a tendency to inflation. Who says like that?

An Hon. Member: The Labour Minister.

Shri K. N. Pandey: In a planned economy like this, I do not think there is fear of inflation. With regard to the sugar industry, I can tell you that the raw material—sugar cane—costs only Rs. 14 and naya pause 47 for each maund of sugar whereas taxation comes up to Rs 13 and naya pause 36. Wherefrom will inflation come? I do not know from where this fear has come. This is a wrong plea and I think the Labour Ministry should be well aware to take note of this.

I am very much thankful to the Ministry that before they constituted the Wage Boards, they fixed the norms at the Indian Labour Conference. How are these norms going to be taken into consideration? If you take these norms, it is but natural that the present wages may go to double or sometimes more. If you simply thought that wages will go higher and if you deprive the workers on this plea, I do not think any satisfaction may come in the labour field.

Then, I wish to refer to two Acts. First about the Transport Motors. The transport industry is being more and more taken by the States. They are controlled by the States. We are hearing in that a Bill is coming in this House in that regard. But, it is not coming. There is a rumour outside and people have started saying that this industry is controlled by the Government itself and so they are

delaying the bringing of a Bill before the House. I do not doubt the Ministry's sincerity and honesty. I think they are very eager to bring forward a Bill. Still, as there is delay, it is creating doubts in the mind of the people. Then, I want to say that the Factories Act is a very old Act. It was modified, no doubt, in 1948. But, it requires a thorough revision. There are so many things. You cannot say that our Factories Act is something inferior to that prevailing elsewhere outside India. Because, in some cases, we are more advanced so far as overtime is concerned. I have found in so many factories in America and elsewhere, if the worker does work for all the seven days in a week, he is entitled to double overtime if he works only on the 7th day. Here, the law is, even if the worker has completed 48 hours and if he has to work over time, he gets double rates of wages. So, that old Act required modification to a great extent.

Next, I would like to refer to one other important matter, namely, unemployment. This is a very serious problem. It is not only in this country that there is unemployment. I can say that in America also there is unemployment.

Shri Nath Pal (Rajapur): Do you know about America? The dole paid to an unemployed there is higher than the salary of many of the people employed here.

Shri K. N. Pandey: I am in favour of solving it. This is not a case which India only is facing. Even America is facing this unemployment problem.

Shri Nath Pal: How many there are compared to the population? He is misleading.

Shri K. N. Pandey: This problem is becoming serious and I think the Ministry should look to it ...

Shri Nath Pal: Only look and do nothing.

Shri K. N. Pandey: The other day the hon. Minister made a speech about this. We were been told that the purchasing power of the consumers have gone down and that they are not able to purchase the cloth and that is why there is accumulation of stocks. It is due to mismanagement that the factories are closing. So, the time has now come for the Government to be careful and they should take control of those factories and run those factories themselves. Because, I feel, Sir, that if we leave it to the sweet will of the employers there will be a serious problem of unemployment. I can give you the example of Kanpur. Already four thousand workers are affected. Three mills have closed down. If similar cases are coming from other parts of the country, that will create an extra problem before the Ministry. I do not think that the fault lies entirely with them. It depends upon the circumstances. My appeal is that the Government should take notice of the seriousness of such things into consideration and take early steps so that these things do not handicap the way of progress of our country.

Shri Bhagavati (Darrang): Mr Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister, while initiating the discussion, has taken a balanced view as to the case of the labourers and also the attitude of the employers and he indicated the principles on which the labour policy of the Government is based I welcome them with the moving of the wheels of industry, it has been realised, Sir, that the workers have to play a very important role. But the fact remains that the worker, either in the field or in the factory, is today the lowest paid man in the whole country. If the producer cannot get adequate amount to like a reasonable standard of living, I do not see how incentive can be created for more production. In this country there is a wide gap between the earnings of the actual producer who toils and does physical

labour and those who are not directly employed in, say, productive work, but goes and does some desk work. The gap is very wide. The earnings of those people who are engaged in productive work should not be less than those who are engaged in un-productive work. That difference, I think, must go. The policy of the labour department should be to create conditions or the atmosphere in which the actual workers can get enough and reasonable income to lead a reasonable standard of living and so that an incentive is created in the labourers. An impression is sought to be created that the labourers now-a-days have become indisciplined and that they do not discharge their duties properly. I do not think that this is a correct view. As far as the Tea industry is concerned, I can say that production there has not in any way suffered on account of labour. As a matter of fact, productivity has increased. During the last year, the total production of Tea has been more than seven hundred million pounds. This is what has been provided for in the Second Five-year Plan. According to the target, production has been made. But, may I tell you what is the number of actual labourers engaged for this purpose? The number of labourers has been the same. So, it has been proved that increased productivity has been achieved with the same number of labourers. More production has been effected without increase of workers. This only proves that productivity per head has increased. So, it is not correct to say that labourers nowadays do not work properly and they are less disciplined.

It is also said, Sir, that there are so many labour legislations nowadays and that the labourers have been paid more than what the industries can pay, and that the industries have become uneconomic or unattractive. Now, I do not think this is a correct view. I will give certain figures so far as the Tea industry is concerned.

[Shri Bhagavati]

14.58 hrs.

[Mr. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

Before the year 1952, workers in the Tea industry used to get only thirteen and a half annas and some rations. In 1954 it has risen to Rs. 1-75 or so. Formerly they used to get rations. Now they do not get rations at concessional rate. The amount is given in cash. To that extent there is conversion. Considering the rise in the prices of commodities, this is not very much. As regards income, earned by the company, I wish to quote certain figures. The net profits per acre, excluding taxation, in respect of the non-Indian managed Tea estates were 100-55 in 1939 whereas in 1953 it rose to 377.8. The retained profit per acre in 1939 was 35.33 whereas in 1953 it rose to 262.66. In Indian-managed tea estates, in 1939, it was 85-80 while in 1953 it became 524-87. The percentage of dividends to paid-up capital in 1939 in non-Indian-managed tea estates was 10.2, while in 1954 it rose to 32.8; in 1939, in Indian-managed tea estates, it was 0.4, while in 1954, it rose to 9.3. Thus, the total rise was from 6.4 to 24.2 in 1954. This shows that the dividend given to the shareholders has increased very much, while the income of the labourers has not increased correspondingly. So, it is wrong to say that labourers nowadays are asking for much more which the industries cannot give.

15 hrs.

Now, wage boards have been set up in certain industries, while certain other industries have been left out. I do not understand what can be the purpose or what can be the meaning behind this discrimination. As a matter of fact, there should be uniformity of wages throughout the country in different industries, in different sectors. There is already a great

difference in the wages in different industries in different parts of the country. That can never be said to be a good thing. There should be uniformity in wages throughout the country, in both the public sector and the private sector in different industries. Of course, the capacity of the industry to pay and the cost of living are also to be taken into account. But after having taken them into account, there should be one uniform policy throughout the country in the matter of giving wages, and in finding out what should be the proper wage.

As I said, wage boards have been set up for certain industries. In those industries, the wages may rise, while in the other industries the wages may remain as they are. That will create more discrimination or more differences. I think this is not just and proper. I, therefore, urge that there should be a wage board for the tea industry also. That is an important industry in the country. That industry should not be left out of this scheme.

There is another very important question. There is the question of the marginal tea estates and uneconomic tea gardens. Already, some tea estates have been closed down in Cachar of Assam; there is a threat to close down some more, and some thousands of labourers have been laid off. This is a serious problem. Up till now, not much has been done to solve the problem. In the first instance, Government have now no power to intervene in the case of mismanaged gardens or closed gardens. The Government of Assam and the Indian National Trade Union Congress and Chah Mazdoor organisations have been pressing the Government of India in the Commerce and Industry Ministry to bring forward a legislation empowering the State Government to intervene in the case of mismanagement or closure. Even that power has not

been given so far. I think that is very necessary. In England, there is such a power to regulate or control agricultural farming when there is mismanagement. So, we can very easily bring forward such a legislation in Parliament and empower the State Government to intervene when the occasion arises.

There are many uneconomic units in the tea industry. Below 100 acres, there are 5,283 units comprising of 32,835 acres. Again, between 100 and 300 acres, there are 340 units with an acreage of 64,000. A great percentage of these tea estates is owned by Indians. They are newly acquired estates. I think Government have to do something to relieve the difficulties of these tea estates.

One difficulty is that there are too many of taxes. The Government of West Bengal and the Government of Assam have imposed road and entry taxes on tea. That may be good for quality tea, but for common tea that is a very great handicap. I think these things should be considered, and they should be given some relief.

The other day, the hon. Minister said that the training programme had been accelerated. But from the report of the Ministry, it is seen that sanction has been given only by the Government of India, but difficulties have arisen at the State level at the time of implementation. The implementation is always very important. We always formulate plans and even accord sanctions, but at the time of implementation, we flounder. That is the snag. So, I think we should find out ways and means how we can implement these very important schemes.

The problem of unemployment has become menacing. Even in the tea gardens of Assam, you will be surprised to know, that there are 66,000 unemployed at present. A recent survey conducted by the Assam Gov-

ernment has shown that there are 66,000 unemployed persons in the tea gardens of Assam. So, this is a very big problem, and for the solution of this problem, a bold step has to be taken. England which was not a socialistic State adopted the Beveridge plan. I do not see why India which is a socialist State cannot adopt such a plan.

Shri Rajendra Singh (Chapra): Let us look at the report of the Ministry of Labour and Employment for the year 1958-59. I confess that I feel a little bewildered. This report is extremely scrappy, scanty and sketchy. Compared to the report of the Commerce and Industry Ministry, it is a miserable and poor document. If one tries to make out some meaning from the many mentions of departments and the references to so many things, one would hardly make out anything. I hope that next time when the report is brought out, the Ministry would take ample care to see that reports are brought out in a fashion whereby, after a careful perusal, one can find out some sense and the picture of performance of the Ministry.

Yesterday when the hon. Minister was speaking, I heard him with all the respect and all the care that I was capable of. Whenever he speaks, whether inside Parliament or outside, I take him somewhat seriously rather more seriously than I take the Prime Minister of India. Though I know quite well that in this House or in this country it is blasphemous to make any adverse observations on the Prime Minister of India. The glory and the greatness of this country lie in greatly praising our Prime Minister, whether there be any occasion for it or not. I do not want to digress from that convention, and I leave it there.

Much is talked about and made of the code of discipline in industry. The test of the pudding is in its eating. So far as the intention, the

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idea, the efforts of the Labour Minister are concerned, I do not dispute them much. But what matters is the performance and the implementation aspect. The Labour Minister alone, noble as he looks—he has noble intentions, and he makes noble efforts—however good his intentions, cannot deliver the goods. That much I know. He has to contend against powerful Ministers and powerful State Ministries. Labour laws, however nobly laid down, cannot be implemented unless all the Ministries at the Centre and in the State co-operate and co-operate honestly.

This takes me to my own State. It was agreed, it was a gentlemen's agreement, at the Naini Tal Conference that there would not be any inter-union rivalries, but in my own State, since it was agreed at Naini Tal, the whole spirit and the whole convention have been flouted. In the district of Darbhanga in my State, people know and the hon. Parliamentary Secretary who is there, himself will agree, if he has an inch of honesty in his heart, that Shri Suraj Narain Singh happens to be the unchallenged and undisputed labour leader of that area, not from today but from long before this country was made free. A union was recognised long before by the Government as well as by the management. There, the INTUC people, about whom so much tall words were said by my hon. friend Dr. Melkote, just propped up a fake organisation, and before the organisation could come into being, it was recognised by the Government as well as by the management. What a wonderful implementation of the code of discipline!

This takes me to Japla. Japla has a cement factory. There we have our union, a single union, and no other union, and Basavan Singh, Chairman of the PSP, happens to be in the same way the undisputed labour leader in Bihar. We had our union, and there, one of my comrades misbehaved and we parted company. Much is made of

honesty on that side, but the INTUC people took him, and even when he had no ground to stay there, his union was recognised by the Secretary of the Government of Bihar. That Secretary happens to be my friend. I do not want to speak anything against him—not that I do not want to speak anything against anyone who is my friend, but because of several other considerations.

Last time I sought an interview with the Chief Minister of Bihar. He is termed there the lion of Bihar, and I am sure whatever wrong he does, my hon. friend the Labour Minister here can never dare to beard that lion. I explained to him all the circumstances and told him, and appealed to him not to forget that we were not enemies of this country. As my hon. friend Shri Nath told the House, the PSP has a glorious tradition, not only so far as the question of freeing this country from alien rule is concerned, but also so far as the problem of reconstructing, remodelling and refashioning the society to the needs and aspirations of this country are concerned. Dr. Melkote said the Communists believe in violence, they resort to violence, they were cut-throats, they terrorise and just shoot down and kill those persons who do not agree with them. Unlike them, even though we have a broad agreement with this Congress Government on matters of democracy, on matters of industrial peace and development, what is the treatment they have meted out to us? I do not hold any brief for the Communists, but one knows the world from one's own experience. From my own experience I can say very honestly to you that nobody can be worse than you so far as the question of democratically dealing with opponents is concerned. That is my charge against this Government. So, that is a most wonderful example of the implementation of this Naini Tal code of discipline!

There is my hon. friend, I do not know whether he is in the House. At Barauni the power plant will be

installed. That is known to everybody, but I do not know when it will be. This Government should have done it long before, that is also my grievance, but it is to come. Similarly, a refinery will come. After all, it will come. It is a matter of the future, not the present, and there is no industrial worker here, but nonetheless, a trade union has been registered and recognised also. I do not know for whom that trade union is and for what that recognition is.

That takes me to the question of the railways. So far as industrial peace is concerned, it can never remain confined to sugar, textile, jute and all these sundry industries Government is today by and large the biggest employer, employer not in the sense of employing clerks and officers, but employing industrial workers. The hon. Labour Minister is not able to deliver the goods on the railway front, S. Indri, iron and steel factories like Rourkela and Bhilai and other Ministries like CPWD and Defence, and he appeals to the industrialists who are incorrigible people, who know only their profits. They do not care whether the country is prospering or going down. Their only motive in life, since their birth, is to see that their profits swell. They could not be cured. But so far as Government are concerned, in which the hon. Minister happens to be a Cabinet Minister, he can at least give his suggestions, he can bring his colleagues round to his own views and intentions. But there also he has utterly failed. I say that so long as the Ahmedabad group of leaders happen to rule the roost in the INTUC, the INTUC would misbehave and misbehave to the ruin of this country and to the detriment of industrial relations. There can be no two opinions on that. When I say 'Ahmedabad group', of course the hon. Minister also happens to be from that group, but I exclude him.

Shri L. N. Mishra: Very kind of him.

Shri Rajendra Singh: The hon. Minister said something about wage policy.

Shri Nath Pal: The hon. Minister was originally from the Punjab.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: An hon. Member says that he was originally from the Punjab.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: But he has forgotten it.

Shri Rajendra Singh: My hearing aid is missing. This sort of interruption will make me confounded.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is rather more convenient for him; he would only speak and not listen.

Shri Nanda: But he has not heard you.

Shri Rajendra Singh: The hon. Minister has made out a case that taking 1939 as the base, industrial wage has increased by 5 per cent. Many speakers have pointed out—and I also want him to bear in mind—that before he makes out such a case, he must make a full investigation and come to an irrefutable and incontrovertible conclusion. I think he has failed in that respect. The CPC has recommended, after going very deep into the matter, that on every 20 points increase, there should be a corresponding increase of Rs. 5. Today, with 1939 as the base, we are having an increase of 500 points, so far as our cost of living index is concerned. I am confining myself to the employees of the Government. They get today nearly Rs. 75 at the base. It comes to 320 points. Now, what about the rest? So his argument or conclusion that there has been a 5 per cent increase so far as real wage is concerned, over the 1939 base, is perfectly wrong.

My hon. friend, Shri S. M. Banerjee, has pointed out how the calculation of the hon. Minister as regards the employment position in this country is similarly wrong and fallacious. He says—this is on his own admission; I am not saying anything from

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my own side—that today only 15 per cent of the people on the live register get employment. That is, 85 per cent of them are left out and put in the backlog and that way, the strength of the backlog at the end of the Second Five Year Plan would be somewhere about 7.5 millions. But from that calculation, it would come to somewhere near 12 millions, not 7.5 millions. And it was rightly pointed out in the course of the debate that one of the major objectives of our Plan was defeated. I do not say one of the major objectives, I say it was the principal objective on the day this country was made free that we would provide—and this was very expressly laid down in our Constitution—employment to every able person. What has happened to that pious declaration so solemnly laid down in this House? He says that today wherever you go employment is increasing. That way, even when the Britishers were here, everywhere there was increase of employment. That increase would be there. That increase would be there whoever is in power in the country. The question is whether that increase is commensurate with our needs and requirements. The increase is awfully below our needs and requirements. And if this question is not tackled vigorously and honestly, woe betide this country.

My leader, Acharya Kripalani, pointed out that not merely the bias but the basis of the Plan should be the utilisation of the manpower of this country. The basis of the Plan should not be machine and money. If you proceed on the latter basis, you will fail. But nobody heeded him. The Planning Minister talked of industrialisation, investment, employment and all sorts of things which one talks about in Russia and America. Today, in this respect, the Plan has failed, and even after two years, if it emerges out it would emerge out in a very bad shape. It would not be recognisable whether

we had a Plan or not. (Interjection by Shri Braj Raj Singh). I differ from Dr. Lohia, and that is well known to my hon. friend. But he was absolutely correct when he said that in an under-developed country, the basis of planning should be small industries. When I say this, I think of the day when the Russian Revolution succeeded. When somebody asked Lenin 'what is Communism?', he said 'Communism is Soviet Russia plus electricity plus co-operation'. That way he defined Communism at that time in Russia.

Today in this country, what could be Socialism? Socialism would not be the big machinery that we are going to have here and there or the many big buildings here in Delhi or such luxurious investments all round us. Socialism would be the mapping out of the manpower of this country and putting it to use. We talk of machine and money. Where is the money to get from? Our tax on limit has over-reached itself. You can bleed the people white, but you cannot get the money. You can of course ask the people to work for you and they will cheerfully work. That has been done to some extent even in China. I do not agree with the philosophy of China. But I say that even as regards iron after investing so much of money in Rourkela, Bhilai and Durgapur, we are going to have only about 3 million tons or so. Whereas, I am told, in China they are going to have over 9 million tons of iron. The quality of that iron would not be the same as the quality of the iron we are going to have from our steel industry; nonetheless, they would be producing that much quantity of iron. That is made by small-scale industry, putting so many people on work by providing them with small ovens, small furnaces, hearths and all that. Could we not have done that in Chota Nagpur where all the mineral wealth is lying? We did not do that. We think of America, of Russia and splendours of all these countries.

The Minister has talked of bonus. He has said that he is indulging in loud-thinking. I thought that this loud-thinking is the privilege of our Prime Minister. He alone indulges in this pastime. But, now, my hon. friend, the Labour Minister has also taken it up.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: May he be his successor.

Shri Rajendra Singh: I have no objection from labour side if bonus could be taken to be ploughed back. But that question would come later on.

I want to suggest in all earnestness and seriousness that you advance loans to the capitalists for expanding and developing the existing enterprises. Then you want it back. If those loans could be advanced in the name of the labourers and if they could be made financial partners in the existing and coming industries, I think, you will be going a long way. History has not recorded a single instance, even in America, where money has been given to somebody to be a bigger capitalist or to somebody who is not a capitalist to become a capitalist.

There is not time.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Should I show him the time?

Shri Rajendra Singh: You have rung the bell.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have rung it.

Shri Rajendra Singh: Is it the last ring?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No; the first.

Shri Rajendra Singh: As regards the All India Port and Dock Workers Federation, they reached a settlement with Government on 18th June, 1951. The broad points of the settlement were P.T.O., additional leave facilities, privilege leave, casual leave,

additional pay for night work, banning of double shift work, local demands to be discussed and decided by local authorities etc. I think Shri Chavan said about levy. I do not want to go into the details. But, one very pertinent fact remains there. Forty per cent levy was made; but, instead of 40 per cent only 33 per cent was collected. Five per cent was either mis-used or left with the employers. The amount comes to Rs. 5 lakhs. The Labour Ministry is sleeping over the matter. That should be looked into; and I do not know why it has not been looked into.

There is a class of worker known as non-regular. They should have been registered within the month of October, 1950 under the Calcutta Dock Workers (Regulation of Employment) Scheme, 1950. Not a single man has been registered up to date.

Bonus is paid in Bombay and not in Calcutta, though there was a record production of 10.1 million tons last year.

Similarly, there are so many points and it shall not be possible for me to go over all of them. But there is the question of the recognition of union. The union which has been de-recognised today has been there since 30 years before. One union, which was foisted on the dock workers by Mr. Suhrawardy when he was the Chief Minister of Bengal, is propped up and foisted on the workers. There was a spot verification 2 months before (and I have heard the bell) and that verification has found out that the union which was a representative union has not been recognised and is not given the right to deal with the local authorities in spite of the fact that the union happens to be a federating unit of the All India Dock and Port Workers' Federation.

One minute more and I have finished.

[Shri Rajendra Singh]

I am coming to the Mines Department. Here also the question of implementation arises. You can frame laws, make all noble enactments here at the Centre. The implementation side rests with the officers and with State Governments. I do not say that all officers are dishonest; many of them are quite honest. I have had occasions to meet them and I felt convinced of their integrity. But the question is; how is it that what has been decided and settled, what has been arrived at as a result of arbitration, adjudication and award, is not being implemented?

Only one point about collieries. Even the Labour Appellate Tribunal directed that it should be changed—in 1957. But the coal mine owners have not taken any steps. One sentence and I finish. We need to put in action the recommendation of the Implementation Committee regarding certain changes in the wage structure and return railway fare.

I am concluding my speech though a very vital point is being left out. If you can permit me—I am speaking on behalf of the H.M.S. and H.M.S. organisations of labour.

Mr Deputy-Speaker: I am sorry, I cannot allow.

Shri Rajendra Singh: I realise your difficulty, Sir. But here I am not speaking in Parliament for the fun of speaking but to see that some business is done and that is why.

Mr Deputy-Speaker: That should be left to me.

Shri Rajendra Singh: That is true.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now the hon. Member must conclude.

Shri Rajendra Singh: Thank you, Sir.

Shri S. L. Saksena (Maharajanji): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have care-

fully read the speech of the hon. Minister which was circulated to all of us. And, I am very glad that he has made a frank exposition of the whole situation. He has admitted frankly that there was back-log in the employment of 5.3 millions and that at the end of the Second Plan this will be increased to 7.3 millions. This then is the position.

The hon. Minister is a seasoned old-time labour leader and he knows what unemployment is. Fortunately, he happens to be also the Minister of Planning. He has rightly said that the real solution of the problem is a bigger Five Year Plan. He has pointed out other methods for curtailing unemployment like opening closed mills and other things; but they cannot really solve the big problem. The problem can only be solved if we can provide a bigger Plan which can show that it will provide us more jobs than the number of new persons who will seek employment. I, therefore, charge him for not having drawn up a bigger Plan which would, at the end of the Second Plan, have wiped out that back-log.

Of course, he can tell me that we have not the money. The Plan which had provided for Rs. 5,500 crores has been pruned down to Rs. 4,000 crores only. That is certainly one thing which we have to consider. But I would tell him frankly that the Second Plan should have been framed on these considerations, whether we can provide employment to all people in the country. I can tell him—and he also knows it very well—that if there is unemployment, there will be some explosive element and everything will come down before him.

Now, we are thinking of drawing our Third Plan. I would request the Minister to take this point into consideration when making the Third Plan. He must see that in the next Plan, at any rate, we must be able to develop so much of employment potential that there is no back-log left and

we are able to wipe out this unemployment. He has said that the real problem is population but you cannot kill the new population which is coming up and which will join the ranks of the unemployed labour very soon. Unless you provide employment for them all your plans will go away. If we compare ourselves to the countries like America or Russia, the comparisons may not be fair. But we have to keep ourselves abreast of times and try to compare our progress with countries which began a little later than us in the rung of the ladder. The First Plan of China cost Rs. 15,000 crores and it was completed in 1957. Both our First and the Second Plans come to about Rs. 6000 crores in the Public sector. The Chinese Second Plan is much bigger—three times the First Plan. By the time we end our Second Plan we shall have spent only about Rs. 6500 crores in the public sector. Taking the private sector also, we may say that we have spent Rs. 9,000 crores in all. But by that time China would have spent about Rs. 40,000 crores in its two plans. If we have to survive as a democracy, we have to take note of these questions. It is said that our Third Plan should be of order of Rs. 10,000 crores. I ask the hon. Minister whether he will be able to absorb the backlog of the unemployed who will number about 7.3 millions at the end of the Second Plan; this will be higher than 7.3 millions according to us. Therefore, I want him to prepare the Third Plan on the basis that by the end of the Third Plan we should be able to wipe out this backlog and provide jobs to everybody. It is not impossible to have a Plan of that measure because we could have even carried out a bigger Plan if we had the determination and earnestness. Our agricultural production is very small. The Chinese began with 90 million tons and went up to 300 million tons. Our production is lower and we should increase. I am glad the Congress Party has now adopted co-operative farming as its objective. But I

wonder if it is earnest about it. Our production cannot be increased in any other way in these small patches unless there is co-operative production. There are other ways also. We can nationalise many industries. For instance, take the sugar industry; it can be taken over and nationalised. The other industries also can be nationalised. State trading in imports and exports also can be taken up. I do not think the problem is so difficult if we really make an earnest attempt. If we attempt a Plan which will remove unemployment then we shall have done something real. On that basis we should have a Plan of Rs. 25,000 crores. With a smaller plan, you shall not be able to remove unemployment by the end of the Third Plan period. We must tighten our belts, if necessary, but we must fulfil this essential need. There should be no unemployment left at the end of the Third Plan.

If we have a Plan it can be fulfilled only if the labour which is the producer of the real wealth is enthusiastic about it. That enthusiasm has not been there. I will illustrate my point by taking only one industry with which I am connected. In 1949, the minimum wage of sugar workers was fixed at Rs. 55 per month when the production of sugar was 10 lakh tons for the whole country. The production is almost doubled now and it is now about two million tons. But the wages are as they were ten years back. The number of workers has also gone down by 20 per cent. With less workers, the production has doubled but the wage is still the same as they were ten years back. The Tariff Board had recommended in 1950 that the Nimbkar Committee Report should be implemented and it recommended a twenty-five per cent wage increase. It has not been done. But we say to the labour that if it produces more, it will get more. The sugar industry workers have done that. They have produced double the amount of sugar in the last eight years and their number has gone down by 20 per cent.

[Shri S. L. Saksena]

Yet their wages are what they were ten years back. I say that an interim increment to the extent recommended by the Nimbkar Committee should be given just now. My friend on the other side has just now said that even Rs. 3 per month which was recommended by the wage board is not being given by the employers. That is the position. In the first decade, the sugar industry earned a profit of 110 per cent of the capital and in the last fifteen years the amount of money is much more. With these huge profits, it is not fair that the labour should starve. I implore the hon. Minister to consider the case of labour. If he wants the labour to support him in fulfilling the Plans, it deserves full consideration. Even Rs. 3 is not being given by the employers even though that is a very small increment. In the case of the sugar workers, an increase has been recommended by the Nimbkar Committee; the Tariff Board also recommended it. Interim steps should be taken till a final award is given by the national wage board. I pray to the hon. Minister that if he wants the labour to fulfil its task and feel enthused about the Plan, here is a case where they should be given the increment recommended ten years back.

Not only has that thing not been done, but even the bonus has been reduced. In 1950, they got a bonus formally approved by the appellate tribunal. During the last three years, they were producing double the amount of sugar but the bonus has been reduced by about 60 per cent. The price of cane also has been reduced from Rs 1-10-0 in 1949-50 to Rs 1-7-0 during the last three years. The sugarcane mill owners have got Rs 2 extra profit out of sugarcane alone. The labour also costs less now because it is now less by 20 per cent. **Still, the bonus has been reduced. How will the labourers co-operate?** There will be more industrial disputes. I would make this request to the hon. Minister. The sugar industry worker is not paid even Rs. 35 per

month. He is paid the wages only for four months and for eight months he is not employed. He earns Rs. 200 during those four months Rs. 220. For eight months, he has to starve. Every labour committee has recommended that he should get some off-season wage. The other two committees also had made a recommendation in this direction. I am giving this instance from the sugar industry where the workers have produced double the quantity of sugar with less labour force. He is not given what is due to him. He does more work but he is not getting any benefit. I have seen that in America, in China, in Russia, in Britain, in every other country, when he produces more he gets more. There are incentives. Bonus is given, but here the bonus has been reduced to 60 per cent. because they produced double the amount of sugar that they produced ten years back. I think the hon. Minister will at least implement the recommendations contained in the Nimbkar Committee's Report of 1950.

I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to two more important things in regard to the administration of labour laws. In the year 1952, I found that China had 11 million workers organised into trade unions. The number has now gone up to 30 million workers. After 12 years of freedom, we have only less than five million workers in the different trade unions. This is something which is a shame to us. I think there should be a target fixed in regard to this matter also. Let the hon. Minister see that within a certain date not a single worker is left out of the trade unions. Trade unions must be freely registered and recognised. I am sorry there are some registrars who do not register some trade unions. They show some discrimination to some unions. I would like to tell the hon. Minister, his honour demands that in his time every worker in the country should be included in one or other trade union in the country. Trade unions should be freely registered and recognised. He must see that by 1961 no worker is

left outside the trade unions. Cases brought to his notice of non-registration of trade unions should be immediately looked into, and he should see that they are registered

Again, one general cause of labour unrest is the refusal to refer cases of disputes to adjudication. Every person has got a right to go to a court and get justice done in respect of his grievance, but a labourer has not got that right. If he takes his case to the court, he is first asked to send his representation to the Government and it is left to the Government to refer it to adjudication or not. This is a most heart-rending provision. The employers are making full use of it. They corrupt your officers in order that they may shelve the cases instead of referring them to adjudication. I know of a case in Gorakhpur where one employee was dismissed by the employers. That case was not referred to adjudication because the employers bribed the officers concerned. What I say is, this is a very potent source of corruption. Apart from that, this is one of the main causes of industrial unrest. Therefore, every worker should have the right to go to the labour court to seek justice in a dispute. Recently, we had a strike in the Rampur factory for 34 days. Why? Because the demands of the workers were not referred to adjudication. If they had been referred, there would not have been any strike, which continued for 34 days. That factory produces about 7,000 maunds of sugar every day. In 34 days, Sir, you can imagine, the nation has lost 2½ lakh maunds of sugar. The workers lost their wages and the employers lost their profits.

Therefore, if there is a provision that every dispute that is raised by the workers will automatically be sent to adjudication, such strikes will not happen and there will not be any national loss. There will also be industrial peace to a very great extent. What happens now is, by the refusal of the employer to refer the dispute to adjudication his own profits are

lost and the nation also loses because of fall in production. So, let this right be given to the workers. If there is any dispute let them go to the labour court and get it settled. I can tell you, nobody here is anti-national, nobody wants that there should not be any progress, nobody wants that our Plans should not be fulfilled. Everybody wants all that. Therefore, I suggest that the labour laws should be amended, industrial peace should be restored, everybody should be able to have his union registered and refer his case to a tribunal. In that case the workers will do better work and produce more, as in the case of sugar industry where they have doubled the production with 20 per cent less number.

Lastly, Sir, I would like to refer to the Calcutta Docks. I have been the President of the Calcutta Dock Workers' Union. I want to tell you that a key industry like the Docks is not being properly looked into. The workers do not want to slow down their work or do anything of that kind. What they want is a proper recognition of their union. I say, hold a plebiscite and if you find that the majority of workers are not for the Dock Mazdoor Union, do not recognise it, but if you find that the majority are for the union then you must recognise it. Once it is recognised you will find that there is industrial peace and there is no need for the large amount of money that is being spent today for security measures. I hope the hon. Minister will see that the union there is given proper recognition.

Shri Abid Ali: Sir, I must confess that I am disappointed with the debate today.

Shri Nath Pai: Sir, is he replying or is it only an intervention?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He is intervening.

Shri Abid Ali: I am disappointed because we do not want to go away from here feeling that all is well in the Labour Ministry and all that could

[Shri Abid Ali]

be done has been done, as the criticism heard here was not of any, I may submit with all humility, significance.

Shri Nath Pal: More is to come.

Shri Abid Ali: So, Sir, this part of the job, of finding defects also in the working will have to be done by ourselves.

The little criticism that we heard today was with regard to the issues about which, I may submit, the hon. Members who have mentioned these may not be fully aware of the position about which they were talking. Firstly, it has been said that we are very much partial to I.N.T.U.C., we are showing discrimination and all that. But figures do not justify these charges. The hon. Member who spoke first said that we were not referring matters concerning labour disputes to adjudication and a very large number of these remain pending for years and years. Sir, here, the statement with regard to States sphere says that about 20,672 disputes had come for investigation or conciliation in these departments and out of these the number of cases settled was 11900—57.56 per cent. That is for the States. So far as the Centre is concerned, in 1958, provisional of course, 2334 cases came out of which 63 per cent. were settled. Also, Sir, whenever occasion arose adjudications were allowed. I am sure the figures in this respect will satisfy the hon. Members that we are dealing with these matters on merits and not with any partiality. Out of the 2245 applications received from the I.N.T.U.C. they got adjudication in 49.3 per cent. cases. Out of 1700 and odd applications of the A.I.T.U.C. they got adjudication in 60.5 per cent. cases. Out of 1097 applications of the H.M.S. adjudication was granted in 63.2 per cent. cases. In respect of the U.T.U.C. out of 294—it is not very clear here, it may even be 234 they were granted adjudication in 73.8 per cent. cases. Therefore, the I.N.T.U.C. got the least percentage so far as applications with regard to adjudications were concerned.

Shri S. L. Sakseena: They never raised any dispute.

Shri Nath Pal: They hardly raise any disputes.

Shri Abid Ali: The figures that I have submitted show that they submitted 2245 applications.

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): May not be so irresponsible like you.

16 hrs.

Shri Abid Ali: Unfortunately, sweeping remarks were made in regard to the working of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation. The hon. Member went to the extent of saying that money was wasted and the workers were not getting any benefit out of this organisation. Where does the money go? The workers get Rs. 13 so far as medical benefit is concerned and they get Rs. 18 as sickness benefit and then the administrative cost is only Rs. 5 per every worker insured. So, this also should convince the hon. Members that whatever amount is collected is rightly and genuinely spent for the good of the workers, and for their benefit. The administrative expense, as I said, is only Rs. 5. On medical care for the workers, the amount that has been spent by the Corporation is Rs. 4.65 crores; cash benefit, Rs. 4.90 crores. Our administrative expense ratio is also going down. In 1952-53 it was 12.93 whereas in 1957-58 it was 9.8. So, the hon. Members will be convinced that all that is possible is being done. About the balance of Rs. 14 crores, it is the intention to spend the amount for construction of hospitals. Already a programme has been chalked out, and plans have been made for the construction of houses costing about Rs. 15 crores. The amount which is in balance will all be spent. In addition to that, whatever is collected in future, the deficit will be met out of that.

I myself am very particular about this matter. When I go on tour I

visit hospitals and dispensaries and I visit the officers, and talk to the workers away from the sight and hearing of the officers so that they may tell me in their own language about their difficulties, and what the difficulties, if any, are how much time they have to wait for realisation of the amount, how much time they have to wait in the dispensary, etc We go deeply into all these details and I may convince the House not that there is no room for improvement everywhere, improvement can be made—that the remarks or the information of the hon Member is completely unfounded

About the Calcutta dock workers, three hon Members have made a reference *Perhaps obviously their information is based on the brief supplied to them by one individual, and therefore they are not in possession of full facts* Here, the INTUC is not in the picture, it is not in the dispute The Congress is not concerned with this dispute It is a fight between two wings of the UTUC

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Ferozabad) What was the result of the verification which was conducted by the Ministry about the reputation and character of the union?

Shri Abid Ali. I will come to that I said it was about two wings of the UTUC No other organisation is involved in this matter A particular gentleman to whom reference was made, was disowned by the workers We asked the Regional Labour Commissioner to have an investigation The gentleman claimed that his union has collected Rs 60,000 in a year as membership fee He was asked to produce the records or at least to produce the bank accounts An organisation which collects Rs 60,000 must have the bank account He said he had no bank accounts and had no records My hon friend has asked me to give him the result of the verification On what basis can the verification be made when the records were not produced?

Then, when the workers disowned him, after their complaint was received, an investigation was made. The union which appointed this gentleman who was the general secretary of the union, removed him from general secretaryship, and said the union law recommended him to be placed on the Dock Labour Board Therefore, he was nominated there Subsequently the said union passed a resolution and removed him It was not a question of an INTUC man or a man of any other organisation They recommended another person We accepted the recommendation and the same union retained the seat, of course through a different person

Shri Braj Raj Singh: May I know if the Labour Minister is prepared to conduct an on-the-spot enquiry about the character, so far as the two wings which are alleged to be so by the Labour Minister, are concerned?

Shri S. L. Saksena: What about a plebiscite?

Shri Abid Ali Very recently a suggestion was received from the organisation and we asked them to give us details about their membership, etc Something was received from them—not very satisfactory—and it has already been sent to our office at Calcutta for conducting a verification and checking of the membership In case this particular wing of the UTUC gets a verdict in its favour, well it does not concern us and we are not getting any benefit out of it as the INTUC are Congressmen That should be remembered by the hon Members

Shri Braj Raj Singh: Why not have a plebiscite there of the workers?

Shri Abid Ali It has been said that peace is not there in Calcutta Certainly peace is very much prevalent in Calcutta, because this particular person has been disowned by the workers Formerly steamers were waiting for berth now berths are waiting for steamers Why? There is

[Shri Abid Ali]

peace in Bombay, Madras and other ports too.

Some reference was made to the understanding between the Transport Ministry or something like that and about which our Prime Minister gave assurance and all that. That assurance was relevant or current or was concerned with all the ports. If that has been carried out with regard to the other ports, why should it not be carried out in Calcutta?

My friend from Satara referred to some machines existing or non-existing and amendment made or not made. We are not concerned with it. But what I am concerned with is about the workers getting their dues. When I was in Calcutta on the 30th January—reference was made to this—I went round and met the workers, a very large number of workers, and even the general secretary disowned by the union came to me and met me, and he came along with several friends. I explained it in the public meeting and I again confirm it here.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It was not as the result of the meeting of the gentleman with the Minister that the union disowned him!

Shri Abid Ali: That was in 1956 or 57, and my meeting took place in January, 1959. Therefore, these two have not even the remotest connection. I was referring to the suggestion that the machines are there or not and the amendments were there or not, rightly or wrongly, I confirm here the assurance that I gave there, that is, because of the change or re-numbering or change of numbering, whatever it may be, the workers should not suffer and that no junior should become senior and no senior should become junior. They asked me, what about the past. I said, "retrospectively". I hope this assurance will satisfy my hon friends opposite also. I said that no worker will suffer on this account or gain on this account, or suffer in any way

whatsoever. The *status quo* is maintained and shall be maintained.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: Is it not a fact that attendance money is not being given to them even if they report to duty?

Shri Abid Ali: It will not be paid if they do not report.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: They are reporting.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I hope a full speech by the hon. Member will not be forced in now.

Shri Abid Ali: What I was submitting is, there is no trouble anywhere. Even in Calcutta there is no trouble. The workers are not suffering. Of course if they choose not to present their card in proper form, it will not be taken notice of. If they choose to remain absent in this way they will not be entitled to attendance allowance.

So far as the understanding or announcement or talk with the Transport Ministry was concerned, all that was agreed to has been honoured to the extent it was possible.

My friend who spoke first—belonging to the Communist group—said that we have not been able to honour the Nani Tal agreement. With regard to the recognition of unions, he said not even a single union has been recognised. I do not know if a single union has been recognised or not. But I know this that we have not received any complaint on this question from a single union, except the one he has mentioned this morning, viz., the Bombay Girm Kamgar Union. It is true that it has not been recognised, but they may be amused to know that when verification department officer went to check the records, the Union officer said that he has no records to produce. This is the exact position. Simply because they say that they have got membership more than any other union, should we accept that and

give them recognition? According to the Bombay Industrial Relations Act, if they are entitled to recognition and the labour department of Bombay Government refuses recognition, they can go to the court and after proper hearing, the court will decide. If anybody is misbehaving, they can go to the court.

Shri Tangamani (Madurai) Is it the contention of the hon Deputy Minister that the INTUC is having the largest membership in the textile industry in Bombay?

Shri Abid Ali: The textile industry in Bombay is governed by the Industrial Relations Act, which says that whichever union has 15 per cent of membership is entitled to recognition and if there are more than one union, whichever has more membership should be accepted. If the provisions of the Act are not being followed, they can go to the court.

Shri Jadhav (Malegaon) May we know when the records were asked for verification?

Shri Abid Ali. After the lists were received about membership for the purpose of verification—that was perhaps in November or December last year—after the list was received from them, it was sent to Bombay for all the unions and this is the report which we have got, which is sufficiently authentic, I am also making that statement here. If it is challenged, I am prepared to convince any hon Member, our records are open for inspection.

With regard to wage boards, my friend, Shri Pandey, said that the interim recommendations which were made have not been honoured. We are doing all that is possible to persuade the sugar mills to honour this recommendation, which was unanimous. He was very much doubtful as to what will happen to the future recommendations of wage boards which have been appointed. Certainly, we are alive to the need and I may assure him and the House that the recom-

mendations of the wage boards will have legal status and certainly when this matter comes up before Parliament, the matter will be discussed further.

About transport workers some hon Members made mention. Particularly my friend, Shri K N Pandey, has heard some news that because transport has become public sector mostly, we may not bring forward the promised enactment. That is not correct, because the workers in the public sector should be treated much more favourably and in a better way than the workers in the private sector. Regarding delay, we have this process of tripartite consultation, etc., and because of that there has been some delay. There is no intention to delay the matter even by a day.

He complained that these workers do not get protection of any Act. It is not correct. The Minimum Wages Act, the Payment of Wages Act, the Workmen's Compensation Act and the Industrial Disputes Act are all applicable to these workers also. We have covered the transport workers very recently by the Provident Fund Act also and about a lakh of workers will benefit by it from this 30th April.

About the Imphal training centre, some complaint was made. I may assure the hon Member that persons living in the backward areas should receive more sympathetic attention and all their needs should be fulfilled as far as possible. There is no delay so far as the establishment of the institute at Imphal is concerned. I hope this will start working very soon. Already the administration there has been requested to enlist trainees, so that they may be available and do all that is necessary, so that the centre starts functioning very soon. All labour legislations enforced in other parts of the country are applicable to the centrally administered areas as well. I request hon Members not to wait for the budget debate or for any Bill or Question Hour, they are welcome to send us any complaint.

[Shri Abid Ali]

which they receive and I can assure them that whatever we receive will get the deserving consideration

Shrimati Sangam Laxmi Bai has given very sound advice, which is of great value I hope she will be able to persuade and also succeed in convincing the other friends that that is the right line Whatever is possible for us, surely we will try to be helpful. We are considering all matters concerning workers with sympathy and earnestness and whatever is possible for the Labour Ministry is being done, because we want the industry and the country to prosper and workers and others should get their due shares. The difference is, some people want to impose conditions like, first this and then that. Our workers are also patriots. They understand the necessity of the country, the economic structure and with whatever is available, they play their part very well.

So far as the mines are concerned, some reference was made. Apart from wages which have increased and other facilities like safety in mines, etc, the welfare department is working very well. Any hon Member who has been seeing these things with a reasonable mind should be convinced that the welfare department is doing its job very well. There have been local sports, regional sports and all India sport and similarly in art also. For the first time, the coal miners are coming to Delhi. About 400 workers must have left yesterday to go round the country—Bharat Darshan—and a very small amount has been taken from them. Major part of the accidents

Shri Prabhat Kar: It is there in his sub-conscious mind!

Shri Abid Ali: It is very interesting that even very small things please the other side. Major part of the expenses would be met by the Coal Mines Welfare Fund. They will come here, go to Bhakra, see their country

and be convinced of what is being done, so that they will also do their job very well, enthused by seeing the development schemes all over the country.

An Hon. Member: What about Jamshedpur?

Shri Abid Ali: About Jamshedpur, something was said. The hon Members who referred to it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There is peace outside, the whole trouble is inside.

Shri Abid Ali: The information given to them by persons who informed them was not correct. It is a fact, sometimes it is being asked: there is a strike here or a trouble there, who will pay to the workers? Apart from loss of crores of rupees that the country suffered, workers themselves lost wages to the tune of Rs 25 lakhs. Who will pay them?

Shri Tangamani: Employers

Shri S. M. Banerjee: For persons who have lost their lives, how do you calculate it?

Shri Abid Ali: About personal life, hon Members should know how many workers were there. They should know themselves. My hon friend, Dr Melkote, has made a reference to workers killed by arrows very recently. My friend from Hyderabad area said that pregnant women, when their husbands were being attacked by Communist members, came to their rescue and those pregnant women were attacked. In other places also all that is happening.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There should be no arrow shooting here. There should be silence.

Shri Hraj Raj Singh: Was somebody killed by these arrows?

Shri Abid Ali: Yes, four by poisonous arrows. The INTUC workers were being attacked. They went to the

Union office and locked it from inside. Then the trade unionists working under the auspices of the Communist Party went on the roof of the building, broke the tiles and shot arrows on the workers inside. Not only that they burnt the photographs of Mahatma Gandhi, Netaji Subas Chandra Bose, Babu Rajendra Prasad and Shri C. Rajagopalachari, for whom they have a little soft corner now-a-days. Even his photograph was burnt. So, these things are happening. (*Laughter*). It is not a matter to be laughed at. It is very very unfortunate. But what has happened during the last week or fortnight has given them some wisdom. I hope they will not give up that wisdom.

Shri Jaipal Singh (Ranchi West—Reserved—Sch Tribes): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I request I may be pardoned for my interruption. Arrows are always associated with Adivasis. It is for the first time in the history of this country that arrows are being associated with communists climbing roofs. What I just want to see is that the correct fact is recorded.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What should the Minister do for this?

Shri Jaipal Singh: He does not know what an arrow is. I do not think he has seen one. No Adivasi will ever shoot an arrow like that. It has not happened. I challenge him to corroborate this fact. It is very unfair for a Minister to get up and accuse the Adivasis of shooting arrows. I do not think he knows what he is talking about.

Shri Abid Ali: No, no. The hon. Member should not get excited. I never uttered a word about Adivasis. Adivasis were never mentioned at all. The matter about which I have made a reference was.....

Shri Jaipal Singh: He was talking of the incidents where arrows were shot. I can assure the hon. Minister that he has no business to make such a wild statement.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Minister says he was talking of somebody other than Adivasis.

Shri Jaipal Singh: He is talking of an incident where people have been shot by arrows. I challenge the hon. Minister....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Why should he challenge him?

Shri Jaipal Singh: He must mention the place. I strongly protest. I challenge him, my hon. friend over there, to tell me the name of the place and the name of the house where people climbed and shot. Let him mention the name. That is the only thing I have to say.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That can be done afterwards, not now.

Shri Abid Ali: The hon. Member should not get excited.

Shri Jaipal Singh: I am not excited. But he should not tell us lies.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. Such words should not be uttered. The hon. Minister has clearly stated that he is referring to a different incident, different occurrence. So, why the hon. Minister insist "No, that is the one that he means"?

Shri Jaipal Singh: He has stated that people went to the roof and shot arrows and so on. Let him mention the place. What place is it?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: When the Minister says that he is not referring to it, it should not be taken that he is referring to the occurrence or incident which the hon. Member has in mind.

Shri Jaipal Singh: What place is it? What roof is it? Let him mention the name. Then I will withdraw everything that I said.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Even otherwise, saying the Minister lied that does not look fair or proper.

Shri Jaipal Singh: It is mendacity. Let him mention the place.

Mr Deputy-Speaker: Now I am asking him he ought to withdraw the statement "he is uttering lies"

Shri Jaipal Singh: I withdraw everything provided he can corroborate what he says

Shri Raghunath Singh (Varanasi): It is unparliamentary, it should be withdrawn

Mr Deputy-Speaker: That should be a different thing—whether he corroborates or not, that could be seen. Even if he does not corroborate everything, still saying that a Minister of this House has lied does not look fair. I will ask him to withdraw it.

Shri Jaipal Singh: I am willing to withdraw everything provided he does not refer to Adivasis.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is clear. He has not said anything about Adivasis.

Shri Jaipal Singh: I humbly submit that others do not know how to shoot arrows. I am sure he does not know it.

Mr Deputy-Speaker: That may be correct—it relates to shooting. That is a different thing. But I have asked the hon. Member to withdraw those words.

Shri Jaipal Singh: So long as he dissociates from reference to Adivasis I withdraw it. I have said so. Let it not.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He has already said that. He has made it very clear that he is not associating it with any Adivasis.

Shri Jaipal Singh: Then it is all right.

Mr Deputy-Speaker: It is not all right. Then he withdraws those words.

Shri Jaipal Singh: Every bit of it, so long as the dissociates.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I do not know whether "so long as" is conditional or is contingent. The Minis-

ter has made it clear that he does not associate it with any Adivasi.

Shri Jaipal Singh: Then I have no mental reservation.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is all right. This is withdrawn.

Shri Abid Ali: For the information of the hon. Member I was making a reference to the incidents in Goa?

Shri Jaipal Singh: That is an Adivasi area.

Mr Deputy-Speaker: Now let him come to his point.

Shri Abid Ali: The matter went to court, the charges were proved and the accused were convicted and sentenced. Now the appeal is pending in the Patna High Court. I was referring to that incident. I never referred to Adivasis. I am more concerned with the friends who are working under the auspices of the AITUC.

Then a reference was made to the Jamshedpur incidents. There they have gone to the extent of issuing pamphlets, and the AITUC organisation, the Action Committee, has gone to the extent of saying that if this is not done, there will be fire in that area to the extent that no water.

Shri Tangamani: One a point of order.

Shri Abid Ali: I am concluding.

Mr Deputy-Speaker: Let us hear the point of order.

Shri Abid Ali: I am sorry.

Shri Tangamani: There was a reference to some incidents in Jamshedpur and then our hon. Deputy Minister referred to an incident in some other area, and he himself stated that the matter is now pending before the Patna High Court. When the matter is pending before the High Court, I would like to know whether he should make allegations, make reference to the various details of it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker Now he says the court has given its orders. On the adjudication it has passed the order and convicted the persons.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: It is pending in appeal.

Mr Deputy-Speaker. So long as it is not set aside, the adjudication by a court is final. As it is, it has not been set aside by some other court.

Shri Abid Ali: I was concluding by saying about the pamphlet issued by the Action Committee which says that if the Government and the Committee are not careful then after the downfall of INTUC in Jamshedpur there will be fire in Burnpur and Kulti which cannot be extinguished with the entire water of the Ganges. To that extent they want fire in Kulti and Burnpur, the industrial belt. It is for the House and the electorate to decide how to deal with persons who can become anti-national to that extent.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: These things were referred to by me. I will read some portions from the findings of the investigation wherein it was stated:

"During the course of investigation it was traced that secret meetings of the comrades and selected committee members (small committee) were held in the 2nd week and 3rd week of February in which it was discussed and agreed upon to overawe the Government by paralyzing it, creating chaos and disorder and failure of the 5 years plan to achieve their object."

It was a one-day token strike. Can it be termed as a conspiracy to overthrow the Government? And he says 'anti-national activity'. He is not only provoked but wants to provoke us. If he wants to know the entire thing, let him at least read something, let him study them. This is most unfair.

Shri Keshava (Bangalore City)
Mr Deputy-Speaker, Sir, my hon friend, Shri Oza, was pleased to term this Ministry as an unenviable Ministry. I would like to suggest that this is a very important Ministry of our Cabinet and that it must be all-permeating and must make its presence felt in almost every other Ministry concerned. I have been given to understand that labour is concerned with almost every other Ministry and when they take any decisions it is the Labour Ministry that has got to be consulted and referred to. It is only in consultation with this Ministry that they have to come to any conclusion.

I am very happy that the hon Minister was pleased to make a very interesting speech while initiating the debate. One thing that I am inclined to suggest is that I heartily agree with the observation made by the hon Minister that we do not agree with the agitation of the Press and other quarters that any wage increase is working against national development. So far as that is concerned there is no use in trying to adopt the tardy and the trying method of persuading and discussing with our capitalist friends and others and try to induce them to combine private profit with public good. It is rather a very difficult procedure and as such in the development of our country for years to come we have to engage ourselves in passing a series of legislative enactments for the welfare of the downtrodden who have been thrown in the mire by the capitalist landlords and the so-called higher classes and subsequently in a scientific manner by the Britishers. As such it is very necessary and I heartily endorse that observation made by the hon Minister.

One thing that I would like to bring to the notice of the Ministry is that much we made of the fact that there was discrimination in favour of the INTUC. On the other hand my grievance is that so far as I know of the affairs in the State of Mysore the

[Shri Keshava]

Government is holding the INTUC at a great distance. In fact, they surrender themselves to the unions of the Red Flag. If INTUC adopts the constitutional and peaceful methods and if any approach is made, no notice at all is taken of it. But if the other union declares a strike or carries on a procession, immediately the Government concerned surrenders and grants them the necessary demands. This is the way in which discrimination is functioning. It may not be out of place if I mention that even in the Ashoka Hotel, very recently one Mrs. Bhojwam was charge-sheeted and taken to task for having enlisted the other workers in her department as members of the INTUC. Such is the discrimination that is sought to be complained of against the Union. It may not be out of place if I were to say that the management directly or indirectly encourages this and our Government is not in a position to control that administration in spite of the fact that these things are brought to their notice. Somehow we are told that that concern is in the hands of another Ministry, the Commerce and Industry Ministry. The other concern is in the hands of the Defence Ministry. In fact, in the City of Bangalore the HAL and Bharat Electronics are in the charge of the Defence Ministry and the ITI and HMT are in the charge of the Commerce and Industry Ministry. Even there I find very serious reports are being made of the invidious distinction made not in favour of the INTUC but in favour of the associations of the Red Flag. I would like to suggest and request the Government to keep their hands off any union of labour—it does not matter—and allow the real trade unionism to develop in our country. At present, unfortunately the real trade union spirit is not there. It is merely politics and as such Government must be interested in a healthy growth of the trade union spirit.

Even so far as the small matter connected with the labour welfare offi-

cers is concerned the appointments of labour welfare officers are made by the Government—the management makes it. The workers are always holding the man in suspicion and always take him as a part and parcel of the management itself. Because the management appoints the labour welfare officers, in order to be true to their salt, these men also are not in a position to have an impartial view of the matters brought before them. Of course, they are meant to look after the welfare of labour and to take care of the smooth running of the concern and things of that kind, but unfortunately as they are appointed by the management, they are not in a position to do that. I would like to make a suggestion that we must have a regular cadre of labour welfare officers who are independent by themselves and are directly appointed by Government in any unit that requires them. They must be in a position of being transferred from one unit to other. It is only in those conditions that labour welfare officers would be in a position to bring to bear upon the matters before them a very dispassionate and disinterested view of the case and place the real facts before the management.

So far as wages are concerned, I am happy to note that the hon. Minister is also pleased to consider that the demand for increase in wages is justified. But we must create a sort of a climate to satisfy that legitimate demand. It is not that the labour is not nationalistic and it is not that the worker is unwilling to sacrifice for the sake of the country. In fact, there has been a significant instance which I can quote from the Secretary's Report in the Dibrugarh Session of the INTUC. The Assam Branch of INTUC has made a considerable contribution to the National Savings Scheme.

"The organised labour under the INTUC has been co-operating

fully in making the small savings drive a success and our workers have shown full consciousness of the importance of small savings in the present day context. The steps taken by the Assam Branch of the INTUC among others in this regard needs special mention. It has invested to date about Rs 8 crores in National Savings."

It is not a small sum and if only this drive is further encouraged in all other spheres of our country I am sure the worker would not in the least hesitate to come forward for the sacrifice that he is called upon to make for the successful working of the Second Five Year Plan. The only thing is that we have got to create the proper atmosphere. A link has to be created between production and profit and bonus. I am happy that Shri Banerjee has already referred to this matter and said that the worker is ever ready and willing. The only thing is, you must take him into confidence. That can only be done when the link between increased production, enhanced profit and his wages is brought about. It is not that he is unwilling or wanting in any manner to make any national sacrifice. It is worth while making some efforts in that direction.

As regards unemployment, in our country, it is very difficult to get the quantum of unemployment. There are a few Employment exchanges. These Exchanges also show a steep rise in unemployment figures. The figure has risen from 9 lakhs to 12½ lakhs. Even on these figures reliance cannot be placed because most of our job hunters are very unwilling to get themselves registered in these Employment exchanges. Most of them do not, for their own reasons. Perhaps it is because they do not get jobs even if they register or it is a job itself to register themselves. From the information we have, we also see that it is not the jobless persons that are registered in the Employment Exchanges. Most of them are part-time workers. As such, the data are

not sufficiently accurate and satisfactory for us to draw any conclusion. Perhaps, if we had figures from the various industries where we have been seeing increased employment, we could have had some estimate of the quantum of unemployment in our country. I do not for a moment agree with my hon friend Shri Banerjee who wanted us not to take any serious notice of the question of increase in population when we consider the question of unemployment. It has a very serious bearing and the increase in population is not a small figure. The increase in population in India is to the extent of 5 million a year.

Shri D C Sharma (Gurdaspur): What can we do about it?

Shri Keshava: We must find additional employment. We cannot try to prevent it altogether. On the other hand, even if we take into consideration the death rate and other matters, we have no other option except to continue to make our efforts for purposes of finding employment for the unemployed. No doubt, it is a stupendous problem which requires a huge and Herculean effort on the part of the Government and the hearty co-operation on the part of our people. I think we are taking steps in the direction, but I am not satisfied with the quantum of effort put forth in this regard by our Labour Ministry.

So far as unemployment of the educated is concerned even in Bangalore city, I find, in spite of instructions issued by the Central Government, the Central Government institutions themselves do not appoint the local labour available. Even if a chaprasi is wanted he is brought from the UP or Bengal or any other place to which the Managing director or other principal person concerned belongs.

Shri C K Bhattacharyya (West Dinajpur): That solves some unemployment problem of UP or Bengal.

Mr Deputy-Speaker: There ought to be no objection if one is brought from Bengal

Shri Keshava: I am saying

Mr Deputy-Speaker: I am telling the other hon. Member He should have no objection You can have This hon Member cannot have

Shri Keshava: I think putting up information bureaux attached to the Universities and increasing the number of Occupational training institutions in a very large measure are some of the means that we can adopt to reduce unemployment In fact, our young men are going more and more into clerical jobs If only they learn technical subjects, they can divert themselves to the various occupations In fact, it is not strange for us to know that our young men put in their applications for every college and they get into the college from which they get response to their applications It is not as if they get into a particular college for which they are best fitted. That is not the way in which things are functioning They are ignorant of things I would suggest that an analysis must be made of the cancelled appointments for want of suitable personnel in these various Employment exchanges and that information should be forwarded to the educational institutions It is only then that our young men, of the future generation will be in a position to divert themselves to the particular occupations where they could have a better hope of employment That, has got to be done That is the source which has got to be informed about it

From all these considerations I think we have got a good report to make of the country and I am sure we shall have a much better one in future years

Mr Deputy-Speaker: Shri T. B. Vittal Rao

Shri Jadhav: Already two Members from the Communist group have

spoken This is the third speaker Shri Nath Pai may be given a chance

Mr Deputy-Speaker: Shri Muhammed Elias has spoken

Shri Jadhav: Only one Member from the PSP group has spoken.

Shri P. G. Deb (Angul): None from our group has spoken

Mr Deputy-Speaker: It is a fact that nobody has spoken from his group The difficulty is, all groups cannot be accommodated in every Demand

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Sir, the hon. Minister while initiating the discussion in respect of the Demands for the Ministry of Labour and Employment, has posed certain problems One is whether increase in wages to workers leads to inflation I must submit that my organisation had several times answered this question. He has himself cited certain figures. A little more examination of the figures would have revealed the actual state of facts For instance, in the coal industry in 1956 there has been an increase in the price of coal as a result of the implementation of the Industrial Tribunal's Award What has happened? Let us examine which are the industries that use coal The most intensive use of coal is cement, taking away Railway In the cement industry in 1956 the profits have risen In spite of the fact that coal price has been increased and 5 per cent of the production of the coal in India is used by the cement industry, the profit of the cement industry, according to the abstract supplied by the Cabinet's Statistical organisation, it has risen from 425 to 450 per cent That is the net profit without taking away depreciation and other things.

Secondly, he has posed another problem whether increase in wages will narrow down profits with the result that there will be less incentive for the industrialist to invest We are .

Shri Nanda: That, at any rate, does not occur in my speech. The hon Member may deal with it.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I may say a few words about it. In the coal industry, during the last 10 to 15 years, the whole equity capital invested is only Rs. 24 crores. As a matter of fact, the amount that has been ploughed back into the industry runs to Rs 24 crores to Rs 30 crores by way of depreciation and various other things. But the wages during this period have not increased very much, though the fact remains that productivity has increased considerably and production has increased as a whole by fifty per cent. during the course of the last decade.

Then, I would like to refer to certain other items like Housing, Social security and Wages. In the Fifteenth Session of the Indian Labour Conference it was decided to refer the matters relating to the wages of workers in certain industries to the Wage Boards. They have referred only two industries after that. The Iron and Steel Industry has been making profits of 300 to 400 per cent annually. Then, the Paper industry has been making 700 per cent. The case of these important industries which have been making considerable profits, have not been referred to the Wage Board at all. I remember, Sir, when we were formulating our labour policy for the Second Five-year Plan it was the intention, and it was decided also in that Tripartite meeting, that the wage question will be referred to the Wage Board. After three years of the Plan period, what do we find now? These cases have not been referred to the Wage Board. The case of the Textile Workers which have been referred to it has already taken two years. We have not got a report. This creates a lot of suspicion. Even the Coal Tribunal which went into the case of nine hundred collieries have been able to give their report within a year, and I am unable to understand

why there should be such an inordinate delay in finalising the report of the Wage Board for textile workers. I want to have a categorical answer from the hon Minister whether any directive has been issued to these Wage Boards to go slow.

Next, I come to the Works Committee. This is one of the most important things needed for the promotion of industrial democracy. The necessary ingredients for the promotion of industrial democracy are the formation of trade unions and the Works Committees. Unfortunately, we find that the Works Committees have not been functioning properly in this country. And, it will work properly only when the elected representatives of the workers are in the Works Committees. It should not entirely be left to the employer to draw the constituents or to try out the various rules and regulations for the conduct of the Works Committees. Real representatives of the workers should go into the Works Committees. Certain powers should also be given to those Works Committees. Then only they will be able to promote the industrial democracy, which as the House is aware, is very essential for increasing production in the country.

Next, I would like to refer to certain aspects of the Social Security measures. The matter, as the House is aware, has been referred to a Study Group. That Study Group has submitted a report. What action has been taken by Government after the submission of that report? May I know about it? This Study Group recommended that the provident fund under the Employees' Provident Fund Scheme should be increased from 6½ per cent to 8 1/3 per cent. We have to implement the recommendation as early as possible; otherwise, when we introduce the scheme of pension for the workers, it will be very difficult to do these things. Similarly they have made certain recommendations relating to gratuity. They have said that the employers' contribution to the Corporation should be raised to

[Shri T. B. Vittal Rao]

the maximum extent. Now, the employers' contribution is only fifty per cent. of what the employees are contributing. Therefore, Sir, since the report has come out, it is very essential that timely action should be initiated. At least this should be enforced in case of those industries which have been making good profits. To those industries at least this scheme should be applied.

It has been decided, Sir, by the Industrial Committee for Mines, other than coal, that Government should undertake legislation for the constitution of Manganese Labour Welfare Fund for the workers. I do not know why this has not been done. The condition of the workers engaged in this industry is horrible. These workers have been helping us in earning much of the foreign exchange for our country. Manganese ore earns a good lot of foreign exchange and it is necessary to open a Labour Welfare Fund for the workers engaged in this industry.

So much about Industrial relations. Now I have got a few letters which I want to read before the House.

An hon. Member: Let them be placed on the Table of the House.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: They will be placed.

Here is a letter addressed by Mr R. N. Basu, Regional Labour Commissioner (Central) to Shri B. N. Puri, Controller Central Bank of India, Chandni Chowk, Delhi. The letter reads as follows:

"Dear Shri Puri

You may be aware of the complaints which were made against Shri M. L. Blaguna, your agent at Sonapat sometime back. The matter was pursued by the Conciliation Officer (C) Delhi and his report indicates that Shri Blaguna's

conduct was not above-board and that he threw his weight to coerce some of his staff to join a particular Union. These manoeuvres on the part of the Agent have resulted in a considerable agitation among the employees who threatened to resort to direct action sometime back. The situation however took a favourable turn as soon as Shri Blaguna went on leave and the present Agent is following a policy of fairness and impartiality.

In the light of the above I would suggest that Shri Blaguna on return from his leave should be posted to some other branch of the Bank in order to avoid any worsening of the situation."

There is already a Union existing there and that Union is affiliated to the All-India Bank Employees' Association. This is what the Chief Labour Commissioner writes, while acknowledging the letter of Shri B. N. Puri, Controller of the Central Bank of India:

"Please refer to your D.O. letter No. 59/229, dated 14th March, 1959. I very much regret that Regional Labour Commissioner has issued such letter. It may kindly be ignored. I am taking up the matter with Regional Labour Commissioner."

So we find intervention in the formation of trade unions. The employees are not given the right to join the Union of their choice. I am requesting the hon. Labour Minister to enquire into these things.

I would now like to refer to the housing conditions of the coal miners. The Government got Rs. 5 crores in the Coal Miners Welfare Fund organisation. They said that thirty thousand houses will be constructed during the Second Five-year Plan period. Even during this year, that

is, the third year of the Plan, we were told that ten thousand houses will be constructed but only two thousand houses have been constructed. The condition of these people is very deplorable. I would like that some steps should be taken in this direction. If the employers do not cooperate, leave them alone. Where employers are prepared to construct, give at least land to the Labour Welfare Fund Organisation to undertake the construction of houses and to see that they are expeditiously constructed.

16 56 hrs.

[MR SPEAKER in the Chair]

Regarding recognition of Unions, I wish to say something. The Chittaranjan Locomotive works is still a protected area. There is only one Union functioning. It has no recognition. It was registered. I do not want to commit anything, except to refer to what Mr Walter Reuther, the American Labour leader has said in this connection. After visiting Chittaranjan, he wrote an article in the "New Republic" Magazine in 1956, strongly criticising the absence of Trade Union rights. This is the position at Chittaranjan locomotive works. Regarding recognition of the Unions, unless legislation is undertaken, much headway cannot be made. I will cite an instance of what recently happened in Madras. Under the State Road Transport Department, Mr Venkataraman, who is the present Labour Minister, conducted a ballot to decide which is the representative organisation. Two unions were there which contested in the ballot, but because both the unions did not get an overwhelming majority, he has recognised both the unions. That should be the way. It does not matter which union it is, whichever union the workers want should be recognised. Therefore, I am strongly of the opinion that unless and until legislation is undertaken for recognition of the

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unions, not much headway can be made in that direction.

17 hrs

In conclusion, I would only refer to the conditions obtaining in the iron ore mines. The condition of these workers is rather deplorable. A study was conducted by the Ministry of Labour, and they have published a good report. I would only ask the hon Minister to see that their conditions are bettered, by the implementation of the various labour laws in those areas, the proper implementation of the Mines Act and the rules and regulations thereunder and this will go a long way in bettering the condition of those workers.

श्री राम सिंह भाई वर्मा (निमाड)

माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय, सदन में मजदूरों के बारे में, आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० के बारे में और ग्रहमदाबाद मजदूर सघ के बारे में माननीय सदस्यों ने काफी कहा है। मैं एक मजदूर हूँ। ग्रहमदाबाद मजदूर सघ में मैंने तालीम पायी है और आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० का मैं वाइस प्रेसीडेंट हूँ। इसलिए जा चांजज लगाये गये हैं, जो बातें कही गयी हैं उनका कड़ी भाषा में नहीं बल्कि नम्रता के साथ, अदब के साथ खुलासा करना मैं अपना धर्म समझता हूँ।

जिस तत्परता के साथ लम्बी प्रतीक्षा के बाद श्रीमान ने मुझे बोलने का अवसर देने की उदारता दिखाई है, श्रीमान अपनी घटी बजाने में भी बड़ी उदारता करते तो मैं अपनी बातों को सदन के सामने रख सकूँगा।

पिछले दस ग्यारह वर्षों में जब से हिन्दुस्तान आजाद हुआ है तब में भारत सरकार ने मजदूरों के बारे में बहुत कुछ किया है। उसकी तुलना घाय किसी भी देश का इतिहास उठा कर कर सकते हैं,

[श्री राम सिंह भाई बर्मा]

चाहे आप रूस और दूसरे कम्युनिस्ट देशों का इतिहास उठा कर उससे भी उसकी तुलना कर सकते हैं। आप देखेंगे कि भारत सरकार ने बड़ी उदारता और सहानुभूति से हमारे देश में मजदूरों के लिये समाजवाद लाने का प्रयत्न किया है, जिसके लिये हमें अभिमान है और उसके लिये हम सरकार का बहुत आदर करते हैं। इतना ही नहीं प्रथम पंच-वर्षीय योजना में और द्वितीय पंचवर्षीय योजना में इस हाउस ने मजदूरों के कल्याण और बेहतरी के लिये जो श्रम नीति निर्धारित की है उसका हम स्वागत करते हैं और गवर्नमेंट ने उस नीति को प्रमत्ती रूप देने के लिये जो कदम उठाये हैं उनकी हम मगाना किये बिना नहीं रह सकते। इतना ही नहीं देश की इकानमी को सामने रख कर भारत के उद्योग, मजदूरों की बेहतरी और ग्राम जनता की बेहतरी के लिये यहाँ के मजदूरों ने प्रथम पंचवर्षीय योजना और द्वितीय पंचवर्षीय योजना को सफल बनाने में अपनी तरफ से जो कुछ किया है उसके लिये उनके प्रति हमारा सिर आदर से झुक जाता है। उन्होंने देश के निर्माण के लिये अपना खून पसीना बहा कर काम किया है जो कि हमारे आँकड़े सिद्ध करते हैं।

इस सदन में हमारे कम्युनिस्ट मित्रों ने और दूसरों ने बहुत सी बातें कही हैं। उन्होंने मैनीताल कानफ़ेस का जिक्र किया और सन् १९५७ में ११ और १२ जुलाई को जो दिल्ली के ग्रन्दर इंडियन लेबर कानफ़ेस हुई उसका जिक्र किया। उन कानफ़ेसों का जिक्र करते हुये यूनियन की मान्यता का, इंडस्ट्री की मान्यता का, सेंटर की मान्यता का और ग्राम इंडिया बेसिस के ऊपर मान्यताओं का यहाँ जिक्र किया गया और आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० पर कुछ चार्ज लगाये गये। केवल कोई यूनियन बना के और कहे कि उसे मान्यता मिलनी चाहिये, तो ऐसा करने से यह देखने की जरूरत होती है कि यूनियन की मान्यता बड़ी चीज है या मजदूरों के इंटरैस्ट

और देश के हित में ट्रेड यूनियन को चलाना बड़ी चीज है। अगर हम ट्रेड यूनियन चलाने और न देश का हित देखें और न मजदूरों का हित देखें, केवल मान्यता की ही बात करें तो यह कहां तक ठीक होगा। यह दुर्भाग्य की बात है कि आज जो बहुत सी ट्रेड यूनियन कही जाती हैं उनके ऊपर पालिटिक्स छाई हुई है और आज अपने राजनीतिक उद्देश्यों को पूरा करने के लिये मजदूरों को हथियार बनाया जाता है और उनके नाम पर बड़ी बड़ी बातें कही जाती हैं।

जहाँ तक ट्रेड यूनियन का मवाल है, मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि सन् १९१७ में महात्मा गांधी ने अहमदाबाद में ट्रेड यूनियन बनाई थी। उस यूनियन ने सन् १९३४ तक अपने को रजिस्टर नहीं कराया क्योंकि राष्ट्रपिता महात्मा गांधी कहते थे कि हमें तो मजदूरों की सेवा करनी है, हमें रजिस्टर कराने की क्या जरूरत है, रजिस्ट्रेशन का सवाल तो तब आता है जब उस काम में राजनीति लानी हो। आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० की स्थापना भी राष्ट्रपिता महात्मा गांधी की प्रेरणा में की गई, और वह इसलिये की गई कि देश आजाद हो गया है, देश पर पूंजीवाद न छा जाये। आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० मजदूरों को उनके अधिकार दिलाने के लिये बनाई गई थी। आज सामने वाला कम्युनिस्ट गुप यह नहीं कह सकता कि कारखानों में काम करने वाला मजदूर ट्रेड यूनियन नहीं चलाता। और आज हमारे श्रम मंत्री और दूसरे आदर्शवादी नेता यह कह सकते हैं कि देश में आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० की यूनियन सही तरीके से चल रही है। मैं यहाँ केवल बातें नहीं करता। मैं मजदूर हूँ। मैं अंग्रेजी नहीं पढ़ा हूँ और न आपके कानून जानता हूँ। लेकिन जो काम मैं करता हूँ वह अपने देश की सब से बड़ी संस्था पार्लियामेंट के सामने निवेदन कर रहा हूँ।

अभी हाल में भाल इडिया बेसिस पर हमारे कम्युनिस्ट विभो के नेता श्री डागे ने यह ऐलान किया कि हमारी मेम्बरशिप देवा में आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० से बहुत ज्यादा है और उन्होंने बताया कि भारतवर्ष में कम्युनिस्ट यूनियनों की सदस्य संख्या १४,७२,४६६ है और १४८० यूनियनों हैं। नैनीताल कानकेंस के थोड़े ही दिन बाद उन्होंने यह ऐलान किया था। उनकी सदस्य संख्या ६ लाख से बढ़ कर १४ लाख से भी ज्यादा हो गई। मैं यह बड़े भ्रम से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि १६५८ में नैनीताल कानकेंस के समय यह तै ह्रभा था कि भाल इडिया बेसिस पर मान्यता किस तरह से दी जाये और नॉकल बेसिस पर किस तरह से दी जाये। उसके बाद उनकी सदस्य संख्या ६ लाख से बढ़ कर १४ लाख हो गई। इतना ही नहीं उन्होंने बतलाया कि केरल के अन्दर उनकी ४३० यूनियन्स हैं और उनकी सदस्य संख्या २,४८,४२८ है। मैं आपके द्वारा कुछ आकड़े सदन के सामने रखना चाहता हूँ ताकि सदन को मालूम हो जाय कि नेता लोग बाहर किस तरह की बातें करते हैं ताकि लोगो को विश्वास हो जाय कि उनकी सदस्य संख्या आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० से कम नहीं है। यहाँ मजदूरों की भलाई की बात नहीं है, यहाँ तो ट्रेड यूनियन्स पर पालिटिक्स छापी हुई है। उन्होंने बताया कि केरल में हमारी केवल टैक्सटाइल इंडस्ट्री में ३२ यूनियने हैं और उनकी सदस्य संख्या १७,४१८ है। मेरे पास गजट आफ इडिया मौजूद है जिसमें दिया गया है कि केरल के अन्दर टैक्सटाइल इंडस्ट्री में कितने मजदूर काम करते हैं। उस में आपको मालूम होगा कि केरल में टैक्सटाइल इंडस्ट्री में केवल ६४२३ मजदूर काम करते हैं, लेकिन बताया जाता है कि उनकी यूनियनों की सदस्य संख्या १७ हजार से ज्यादा है। शायद जो गर्भ में हैं उनको भी गिन लिया गया है। तो यह देखने की बात है कि कम्युनिस्ट नेता किस तरह की बातें करते हैं और किस तरह

का प्रचार करते हैं कि सरकारी आकड़ों के अनुसार इंडस्ट्री में केवल ६,००० मजदूर काम करते हैं लेकिन उनके रजिस्टर में १७,००० मजदूर हैं। तो यह देखने की और विचार करते की जरूरत है कि किस तरह से अज्ञान मजदूरों का शोषण किया जा रहा है, वे लोग जो मजदूरों के हिमायती होने का दावा करते हैं किस तरह से उनके अज्ञान का लाभ उठा रहे हैं। आप देखें कि जो आकड़े गवर्नमेंट आफ इडिया को भेजे गये हैं और जिनको गवर्नमेंट आफ इडिया ने चारो भारगेनाइजेशन्स को वेरीफिकेशन्स के लिये भेजा है, वे तो ४२३ मजदूर हैं, लेकिन कम्युनिस्ट पार्टी कहती है कि वहाँ पर उसकी यूनियन्स की टैक्सटाइल इंडस्ट्री में सदस्य संख्या १७००० है।

वे फिगर्स मेरे पास हैं। मैं अपने साथ लाया ह। रतलाम के अन्दर एक टैक्सटाइल मिल है। वहाँ मेरी यूनियन है। एंटक ने जो मेम्बरशिप रजिस्ट्रार आफ ट्रेड यूनियन्स को भेजी है वह ४०० है। वहाँ पर टैक्सटाइल मिल में १६०० मजदूर काम करते हैं, लेकिन अभी ए० आई० टी० यू० सी० की तरफ से गवर्नमेंट आफ इडिया को ये आकड़े भेजे गये कि रतलाम में टैक्सटाइल इंडस्ट्री में हमारे ६,५०१ मेम्बर हैं। जैसा कि मैं अभी कहा कि वहाँ पर १,६०० मजदूर काम करते हैं, रजिस्ट्रार, ट्रेड यूनियन्स को उन्होंने ४०० की संख्या भेजी और मान्यता प्राप्त करने के लिये यहाँ ६,००० की संख्या भेज दी। मैं समझता ह कि उन्होंने मजदूरों का सारा कुटुम्ब भी गिन लिया होगा। रतलाम में सारी इंडस्ट्री में ६,००० मजदूर नहीं हैं।

इतनी ही नहीं, इन्होंने दिल्ली की टैक्सटाइल मिल में अपनी सदस्य संख्या १५,००० बताई है, लेकिन आज पंद्रह लोग भी इन के साथ नहीं हैं। मैं वहाँ

बम्बई में है, वही मध्य प्रदेश में है। ये रजिस्ट्रार, ट्रेड यूनियन को प्रार्थनापत्र पेश करते हैं कि हमारी यूनियन को मान्यता मिलनी चाहिए। उनकी एप्लीकेशन मेरे पास मौजूद है। जो पहले की यूनियन है, उस के १७,८५८ मेम्बर हैं। इंडस्ट्रियल रिलेशंस एक्ट के अनुसार यूनियन को प्रति महीने रजिस्ट्रार को रिटर्न भेजनी पड़ती है कि हमारे इतने मेम्बर हैं। जैसा कि मेने अभी कहा, आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० से एफिलिएटिड यूनियन के १७,८५८ मेम्बर है। लेकिन उन्होंने लिखा कि हमें मान्यता मिलनी चाहिये, क्योंकि आई०एन०टी०यू०सी० की यूनियन से हमारे मेम्बर ज्यादा हैं—हमारे १६,५६१ मेम्बर हैं। उन का कहना है कि १७,८५८ से १६,५६१ ज्यादा होते हैं। ये लोग साधारण गिनती भी नहीं जानते ये कैसे गिनते हैं, भगवान जाने इस सम्बन्ध में एक बड़ा भारी एजीटेशन किया गया और उस के बाद रजिस्ट्रार ने कहा कि अच्छी बात है, आप अपने मेम्बरों की लिस्ट दीजिए। उन्होंने आई०एन०टी०यू०सी० की यूनियन से भी और कम्यूनिस्ट यूनियन से भी ऐसी लिस्ट मागी, जिस में बैम्बर का नाम, उस के पिता का नाम, कारखाने के नाम और शिफ्ट और डिपार्टमेंट वगैरह की सूचना हो। आई०एन०टी०यू०सी० वालों ने एक अवधि में सारी लिस्ट बना दी और रजिस्ट्रार को पेश कर दी लेकिन उन्होंने कहा कि आप यह क्यों मांगते हैं, हमारे पास रसीद पढ़ी है, उन को देख लें। यह बड़े मजे की बात है। कानून के अनुसार यूनियन को एक रजिस्ट्रार में नेशन करना चाहिए, जिस में मेम्बर का नाम, उस के बाप का नाम, इंडस्ट्री, डिपार्टमेंट और शिफ्ट और बन्दा जमा करने के बारे में सूचना लिखी जानी चाहिये, लेकिन ये कहते हैं कि हम कुछ नहीं जानते, हमें मान्यता मिलनी चाहिए। उस के लिए रजिस्ट्रार महोदय ने एक नहीं तो पत्र लिखे। दिसम्बर १९५७ से लेकर जनवरी, १९५९ तक उन्होंने दस पत्र लिखे कि इस विषय में जानकारी

दी जाये, लेकिन कोई जानकारी नहीं दी गई। जनवरी, १९५९ में उन्होंने प्रतिनिधित्व के लिए भर्जी दी थी, जो कि सारिज कर दी गई। इस के बाद उन्होंने बहा की अदालत में अपील की और अदालत ने उसी दिन उस भर्जी को सारिज कर दिया और कह दिया कि "नो ग्राउंड"। जब अपील को सारिज कर दिया गया, तो बहा हुंगामा उन्होने मन्ना दिया कि अब यहां की गवर्नमेंट को खत्म करेगे, तभी हम को मान्यता मिलेगी, इस लिए हम को अगले चुनाव में कम्यूनिस्ट को वोट देना चाहिए।

११, १२ जुलाई, १९५८ को दिल्ली में जो इंडियन लेबर कांफ्रेंस हुई, उस में कितने ही एग्जीमेंटस हुए। उस में डागे जी मौजूद थे, मैं मौजूद था। वहा एक एग्जीमेंट यह भी हुआ कि कारखाने में काम करने वाले मजदूरों को तालीम दी जाय और उस के लिए मिल-मालिक तीन महीने का डीयरनेस एलाउन्स वगैरह देंगे और उस में यूनियन का भी सहयोग चाहिए। सब ने उस को एग्जी किया। वह योजना इंदौर के अन्दर शुरू की गई। मेरी यूनियन ने ५०,००० रुपये का बिल्डिंग बनाई। एजूकेशन इत्यादि सब चीजों का प्रबन्ध हो गया। मिल-मालिकों ने ४०० ए० बेटन इत्यादि सारी सुविधाओं के साथ चालीस बर्कसेस का भी प्रबन्ध कर दिया गया और उनको उसके अन्दर दाखिल कराया गया। पार्लियामेंट के विरोध पक्ष के नेता से प्रार्थना की गई कि आप अपने कर-कमलों से इसका उद्घाटन करिये और इसके बारे में उनको लिखा गया। उन्होंने जवाब दिया कि मैं बिवेश जा रहा हू इसलिए मेरे लिए यह कर सकना सम्भव नहीं है। इसके बाद, अगस्त महोदय, दूसरे उन्ही की पार्टी के सदस्य से प्रार्थना की गई कि आप उस स्कीम का उद्घाटन करिये और ४ अप्रैल को उसके उद्घाटन का दिन तय किया गया। ३ अप्रैल, १९५९ को वह माननीय सदस्य वहा से रवाना होने वाले थे। लेकिन वहां के कम्यूनिस्ट नेता ट्रेड यूनियन कांफ्रेंस

[श्री राम सिंह भाई बनर्जी]

के सेंसेटरी ने ३० मार्च १९४९ को लिख दिया श्रीर श्रीरजनल पत्र मेरे पास है, कि धाप कहाँ जा रहे हैं, किस स्कीम का उद्घाटन करने के लिए जा रहे हैं, उसका तो उद्घाटन पहले ही हो गया है और धाप बड़ी भूल कर रहे हैं। यह क्या अज्ञात है कि धाप उसका उद्घाटन करने जा रहे हैं। धाप मत बाधिये। यह सब तमाशा है। क्या यह वर्नमेंट के साथ सहयोग करने की बात है या जनता के साथ सहयोग करने की बात है? हमारे भाइयों ने एक बात देल ली है और यह बहचान लिया है कि वर्नमेंट की भावना क्या है और उस भावना को परखते हुए वे चल रहे हैं। वे उसी तरह चल रहे हैं जिस तरह वे हिन्दुस्तान के ऊपर विदेशियों ने जब हमला किया था तो भारतीयों की भावना क्या है, इसको जान लिया था और यह समझ लिया था कि भारतीय गौ को बहुत पवित्र मानते हैं इस वास्ते हमला करने के बजाय उन्होंने गायों को धागे कर दिया था और बाजे बजाते हुए धागे बढ़ते चले गये थे। उन्होंने समझ लिया था कि हिन्दु गायों के ऊपर हथियार नहीं फेंकेंगे और वे जीत आयेंगे और ऐसा ही हुआ। इसी तरह से हमारे विरोधी दल के लोग बढ़ते चले जा रहे हैं। हमारे कम्युनिस्ट भाईयों ने समझ लिया है कि आई० एन०टी०यू०सी० को बचाव करने के लिए धागे किया जाए और खुद हमला करें तो सारी की सारी चीज ठीक हो सकती है और वे यही कर रहे हैं।

इतना ही नहीं, इसी पार्लियामेंट के अन्दर टैक्सटाइल इन्व्हायरी कमेटी की रिपोर्ट पेश हुई है और उस पर बहस हुई थी। इसी इन्व्हायरी कमेटी ने मुझे दो बार बुलाया था और मैं ने अपना लिखित मेमोरेण्डम भी उसको दिया था और जितना ज्ञान मुझे उद्योगों के बारे में था, वह सब मैं ने उसके सामने रख दिया था। मेरी धार्मनाइजेशन की तरफ से उस कमेटी के सामने क्लोजर के मामले में अपनी बात रखी गई थी और

उस कमेटी ने एक राय से उसको मंजूर किया था। मेरा नाम भी उसमें दिया गया है। मिसमैनेजमेंट के बारे में मिल मालिक जो गड़बड़ी करते हैं, क्लोजर का क्या मतलब है, उसके बारे में भी सारी की सारी चीज उसमें दी गई है। लेकिन मैं धापको बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि इस कमेटी के सामने हमारे भाइयों में से कोई नहीं, कोई उनका भतीजा नहीं, कोई उनके कुटुम्ब का प्रायमी नहीं गया था और हमारे कम्युनिस्ट मित्रों की तरफ से क्लोजर के बारे में, क्यों यह हो रहा है और क्या इसका इलाज है, एक शब्द तक नहीं कहा गया। वही लोग अब क्लोजर की बात करते हैं। जब पहले इसके बारे में चर्चा हुई तो हमारे कम्युनिस्ट भाई बिल्कुल उसके गैरहाजिर रहे और यहां आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० के ऊपर बड़े बड़े आरोप लगाते हैं।

हमारे भाई बनर्जी साहब ने कहा कि मध्य प्रदेश के जो प्रेसिडेंट साहब हैं उन्होंने जो यह कहा है कि ५,००० मजदूरों को कम कर दिया गया है यह बहुत बुरी बात है। लेकिन मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि डॉने साहब ने पहले ही इंडियन लेबर कान्फेंस में राधान-लाइजेशन की बात को मान लिया था और बड़ी तारीफ की थी और कहा था कि यह माइल एपीमेंट धाफ राधानलाइजेशन है। एक दफा धाप इस सिद्धांत की मंजूर करते हैं और बाद में नेतागिरि के लिये धाप उसका विरोध करते हैं, लोगों के अन्दर जब धाप जाते हैं, तो विरोध करते हैं, यह कहाँ तक सही है, यह मैं जानना चाहता हूँ। श्रीमान्, मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि राधानलाइजेशन देखातों और भगवान तक का धाज हो रहा है, सभी जगहों पर राधानलाइजेशन हो रहा है। मैं धापको बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि डॉने जी ने १२-१-१९२९ के अन्दर जब हमारे कुछ बिरादरान पैदा श्री नहीं हुए वे और जब हमारे यहां साधुन ग्रुप की हड़ताल चल रही थी और डॉने जी के ऊपर हमला हुआ, जिस तरह से मजदूर साम्ब हो गये थे, कहा था

Shri S. M. Banerjee: It must be laid on the Table of the House

श्री राम सिंह भाई वर्मा : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं इस पत्र को टेबल पर रखने के लिये तैयार हूँ और मैं चाहता हूँ कि इसको बहा रखा जाय। मैं जितने भी मेरे पास पत्र हैं, सारे के सारे टेबल पर रखना चाहता हूँ। (Interruptions) इतनी सी बात ही नहीं है, अभी तो मेरे पास सर्वेमेंट के गजेट हैं और उनका हवाना देना तो बाकी है।

उन्होंने कहा था कि मैं धात्वसमर्पण करता हूँ और यह जो मिल है यह १४ तारीख से चालू हो जायेगी। यह पत्र १२ जनवरी १९२६ का है और कहा गया है कि १४ जनवरी, १९२६ से यह चालू हो जायेगी। एक और भी बड़े मजे की बात है। उन्होंने यह भी माना था कि इस काउंट के नीचे डबल साइड मजदूर चलायें यह उनकी मर्जी की बात है लेकिन इस काउंट के ऊपर डबल साइड मजदूर चलायेंगे। मैं आपको यह भी बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि महात्मा गांधी जी ने जनवरी, १९३५ में मिल मालिकों के साथ एग्रीमेंट किया था और वह इसी के बारे में था। उसमें यह डाला था कि १८ काउंट के नीचे कोई डबल साइड नहीं चलायेंगे और ऊपर चलायेंगे और उसके लिये ४५ परसेंट वेतन बढ़ा कर के देना पड़ेगा। यह गांधी जी ने अहमदाबाद के मिला धोनेस के साथ दिल्ली में एग्रीमेंट किया था। डांगे जी ने १९२६ में मिल मालिकों के सामने धात्वसमर्पण कर दिया था और कहा था कि इस काउंट के ऊपर भी डबल साइड चलेगी लेकिन वेतन क्या मिलेगा इसका कोई जिक्र नहीं किया। इस तरह से राशनलाइजेशन की प्रथा उन्होंने १९२६ में ही डाल दी थी और प्राय १९५६ में उसी का विरोध किया जाये तो यह पिछड़ेपन की बात होगी।

दूसरी चीज उन्होंने यह लिखी थी :—

"Any worker found loitering in his own or any other department

will be liable to instant dismissal without notice".

तो मैं (Interruptions)

Mr Speaker: What the hon Member says is, preaching is one thing and practice is another thing.

श्री राम सिंह भाई वर्मा : बड़ी प्रचीन बात है। आप तबपते क्यों हैं, यह तो आप ही का लिखा हुआ है। बिना वैसे ठके के मैं भांड का काम कर रहा हूँ।

Shri Panigrahi (Puri): Come out, we will hear you.

श्री राम सिंह भाई वर्मा : पिछले साध और शायद इसी सप्ताह में या दूसरे सप्ताह में मैं ने यह कहा था कि भोपाल के अन्दर कम्युनिस्टो ने एक एग्रीमेंट किया और उसी एग्रीमेंट में (Interruptions) बहुत सा आपने बर्दाश्त किया है और मैं चाहता हूँ कि आप जरा थोड़ी सी बिना पढे लिखे व्यक्ति की बात को भी सुन लें।

उस वक्त मैं ने प्रार्थना की थी कि भोपाल के अन्दर कम्युनिस्टो ने एक गुप्त सम्झौता मिल मालिकों के साथ किया था और उसमें यह ठहराया था कि घाट मजदूरों को जो निकाल दिया गया उनको रख लिया जाये और २८० घादमियों को कम कर दिया जा सकता है। जब मैं ने यहाँ पर यह बात बतलाई और जब कम्युनिस्टो को यह पता चला (शेम, शेम) कि राम सिंह भाई वर्मा ने पार्लियामेंट में यह पर्दा फास किया है तो क्या किया? इसके बाद क्या हुआ? जब २८० मजदूरों की छतनी की गई तो मजदूरों ने काम करना बन्द कर दिया और मिल मालिकों ने लाक भाउट डिवलेंयर कर दिया। सर्वेमेंट ने वह मामला ट्रिब्यूनल के सामने पेश कर दिया, उसको यह मामला रोक कर दिया। उस ट्रिब्यूनल ने जिस के जज मध्य प्रदेश के चीफ जस्टिस सिडे थे यह फैसला दिया कि एग्रीमेंट इलीगल है, लाक भाउट इलीगल है। यह फैसला किसी छोटे-मोटे आदमी का नहीं है चीफ जस्टिस का था।

[श्री राम सिंह भाई वर्मा]

उनकी जवमेंट मध्य प्रदेश गवर्नमेंट ने नवम्बर में प्रकाशित की। उन्होंने अपनी रिपोर्ट में यह भी लिखा कि कम्युनिस्ट इस प्रकार से मालिकों के साथ जो एग्रीमेंट कर लेते हैं उसका नतीजा यह होता है कि दूसरी तरफ हड़तालें होती हैं। जब गुप्त तरीके से यूनियन समझौते कर लेती हैं मिल मालिकों के साथ और उनका मजदूरो का पता नहीं होता है, उनको जानकारी नहीं होती है, तो इंडस्ट्रियल पीस किस तरह से रह सकता है।

श्रीमान्, यह दिल्ली की जवमेंट अभी हाल ही की है और दिल्ली की जो एग्रीमेंट है यह

Mr. Speaker: Order order I am afraid the hon Member has evidently got a long history behind this It is very interesting But I am sorry he is racing against time He must conclude He will have certainly another opportunity to go into this matter

As regards the documents that are tendered, I cannot immediately snatch them from the hon Member Each hon Member is entitled to refer to any particular document and say something on it He is prepared to place it on the Table of the House, but I must look into every one of those documents and see whether they are public documents, real or original, and so on and so forth I will examine them He has no objection, so far as he is concerned If he is prepared to place them on the Table, I will look into them He will conclude now

Shri Nath Pai: May I request you to give me a chance, this side, to speak a few words?

Mr. Speaker: Yes Shri Nath Pai will have ten minutes

Shri Ram Singh Bhai Varma rose—

Mr. Speaker: The hon Member has concluded Shri Nath Pai

Shri Nath Pai: I am deeply grateful to you, Sir The speech of the Minister, I mean Shri Nanda, is in large parts such that it is very difficult to take exception to it It is honest and candid It is honest inasmuch as it reflects his good intention and candid inasmuch as it admits the manifest weaknesses and the failures of the Government But I am afraid it is neither honest nor candid inasmuch as it seeks to create an image of a policy which can be called labour policy Of course, it will require a very bold man who will venture to say that the Government of India have a well-defined, clear-cut labour policy It is true that Shri Nanda has some ideas and some very good sentiments which always find expression whenever he is given a chance to speak Shri Nanda is a symbol of good intentions, and I am afraid he is the epitome of ineffectiveness I am pained to say that I am going to corroborate every word that I have uttered regarding him

The Ministry never functions as the ultimate authority on labour problems, and as the custodian of the cause of labour, as it is supposed to be, neither in the private sector nor in the public sector it is allowed to play its proper role This will be borne out if I refer to the strike in the Premier Automobile at Bombay This will go down in history as a classical example of governmental impotence and helplessness and capital's complete disregard for national interests, its defiance of public opinion, its distrust of labour and its disdain for governmental intervention

If it is true that private capital shows little regard for Shri Nanda's Ministry, it is sadly truer to say that the big brothers in the Cabinet either have ignored the existence of the Ministry or at best they suffer him as a nuisance The big brothers in the Cabinet are the Railway Minister, the Transport and Communications Minister and the Defence Minister

Shri V. K. Krishna Menon likes nothing more than his reputation as a champion of leftist proletarian causes whatever that phrase might mean, but if it comes to face labour affairs in his Ministry it is a strictly prohibited area so far as the Labour Ministry is concerned. The Railway Minister insists that he is the arbiter of more than one million labour in his Ministry and he will not allow the Labour Ministry anywhere near the fringes of his preserve.

Mr. Speaker: He was a Labour Minister himself.

Shri Nath Pai: Yes; in spite of the fact that he was a good labour leader and once a Minister himself

Mr. Speaker: Therefore, he evidently thinks he can manage

Shri Nath Pai: Then there is the Transport and Communications Minister. He is one who believes that he can handle labour. But the moment you mention the word labour he begins to scowl. This is the tragic picture of the way the Labour Ministry is treated in the Cabinet. Added to this is another important factor which contributes to the ineffectiveness of the Ministry. Mr. Nanda is very talented and very able; there are no two opinions about the integrity of the man. But planning has become the key in our thinking and even national action. In order that labour may reach the place which it has been assigned in the two Plans and which he wants it to reach, it requires zealous and dedicated attention. It is placing an onerous burden on any single man to ask him to carry two portfolios. Given the talent of Mr. Nanda, still it is a very serious burden.

May I plead with him, may we try to persuade him, in the interest of better planning and in the interest of a fairer deal to labour, that he break up this bigamous connection with the Ministry of Labour and Planning and makes a final choice as to which shall

have his serious attention and undoubted abilities?

Then, I come to another important factor, the question of unemployment. I am afraid the figure of 7 million which he gave yesterday is dangerously low. If we proceed on that promise, we will be formulating a wrong plan and perhaps we may be creating a very larger and uncontrollable volume of unemployment, a dynamite under the structure of our democracy, for which we are creating these Plans. Prof. Mahalanobis in his address on 19th January, 1959, before the National Institute of Science of India, has given an estimate of the likely volume of unemployment in India by the end of the Second Five Year Plan. It has been already pointed out that there is back-log of unemployment and we are adding 2 million to the labour force every year, and there is a vast number of under-employed people. Here is what Prof. Mahalanobis has to say on this:

"I explained the difficulties of measuring under-employment and stated that there was scarcely any doubt that 10 or 12 million persons in India were unemployed or severely under-employed and that this figure might rise to even 25 or 30 million if consideration is extended to those who were sitting idle for more than half of their normal working time. I had drawn attention to the fact that about 10 per cent of educated persons were probably unemployed, and that this number was likely to rise."

My humble submission to those who are in charge of planning and eradication of unemployment in this country is, it will be a dangerous assumption to put the figure of 7 million as the likely volume of unemployment at the end of the second Plan. It will be anything between 15 and 20 million. Will a Plan of Rs 10,000 crores be enough to meet it? Mr. M. B. Birla I do not know the initials—said in his speech yesterday that it will be disastrous to think that a plan of Rs 10,000

[Shri Nath Pai]

crores will be able to meet anywhere an approximation of the requirements of the country. The Plan will have to be three times that if it were to meet the requirements.

The second thing will be population control in which it is not your mistake. It is a national problem in which perhaps all the four national trade union bodies will have to take part in seeing that there is some control. I am sorry I cannot contribute to the facile argument of Shri Banerjee, who said, "Let population grow; it will take care of itself". It cannot go like this; there will have to be some control of it and the trade unions also can play an effective part.

I come to a very important factor to which the hon. Minister referred, viz., participation of labour. It is a very important thing. Once again, it will be the question of noble intentions not at all fulfilled. India has got a genius, will you permit me to say, Sir, where we vulgarise every noble idea which the other countries contribute and that may happen to the workers' participation also, unless proper, adequate and dedicated preparation is made. Here is the report of Shri Vishnu Sahai. I will quote only three relevant sentences:

"Throughout our visit, we were impressed with the importance of adequate preparation for success of worker participation. In every country we visited, there are workers' colleges, schools, courses, evening classes, seminars, printed literature and the like to train them not merely to become more skilled, but also to acquire understanding of the work they are engaged in, so that they can really 'participate' and not merely be passive tools in the hands of demagogues."

Here is a clear verdict by a man who was asked to go into it, and he tells us that the job we took is very inadequately being done. And he had a

very important thing to say about this—not Shri Abid Ali say that there was no significant contribution—and it was the question of workers' real earnings having gone up by 33.1 per cent. since 1947, which is a fairly correct figure. But if we take 1939 as the base year, the real increase in the real earnings of workers has been 3.5 to 5 per cent. I am not disputing his figure, but there is this relevant, very important, material which he should have placed also before the House, and it is this; that from 1947 whereas there has been a 33 per cent. increase, it is equally true that employment in India—I am quoting Professor Snyder's "Industrial Relations in India", and there the figures which he quoted are from the Indian Labour Gazette—from 1947 remained more or less stationary, it being 187 per cent., if 1939 was the base. It goes on fluctuating between 41, 43, 36, 36, 33, 37, 33 and 38. And what has happened? Nothing. Still, that is the picture. The scholar economist is corroborating it. And in the meanwhile, according to the same authority, this is what has happened to production. Production during the same period has gone up by 170 per cent. higher. National income also has gone very high.

So, we are admitting that more or less the same labour force has contributed to so much of national income. Has added so much to national productivity and production. Does the 3 per cent. increase over 1939 give an adequate share to him in what he has contributed? I am afraid not. In the period, barring last year perhaps, the share of industry, of capital, in the national income will be worthwhile knowing. Shri Morarji Desai is putting on a phlegmatic smile. I have not the time to go on labours figures also. But it is a fact that their share indisputably has gone high. Socialism means a fairer share and the nearer we go towards socialism the shares of those who directly contribute to production, that is, the primary workers will have to be enhanced. And I

would like to have a reply from him on that score

There are a very few small points which, if you will permit me, I would like to mention. Firstly, there has been an alarmingly high increase in accidents in India. As it is, whatever may be the contributing factor, the rate is increasing. May I here point out to you that in 1939 it was 36,600, in 1953 93,000, 1954 94,000, 1955 1,16,000 and 1956 1,28,000? What does it show? What does it mean? It means this that from 27 per cent in 1939 it has risen to the dangerous figure of 45 per cent. The comparative figures for Britain are revealing. There the number of accidents is going down, it is falling from year to year. And I have got a curve prepared by our experts with me which shows that it goes up higher and higher in India. Particularly when we come to the machines that shows a dangerous tendency. And why is it so? We have got the Factories Act. Here in the Second Five Year Plan there are adequate provisions made. Still, what is happening today? Here we find that we are not taking enough care to see that as technology is coming suddenly to our countries, the precautions and the precautionary measures to be taken will have to be adequate. The West had the leisure and the time to evolve a technique to defend the illiterate employees against the hazards of coming into contact with modern machinery. We have not done enough, and the figures speak for themselves.

Shri Abid Ali almost convinced me that he was very much hurt by some reference to the Employees' State Insurance Corporation. Now I will tell you something which is very irrefutable, and it is this. The top posts of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation are Director-General, Chief Accounts, Insurance Commissioner, Medical Commissioner and Actuary. Of these only the first two are filled and the other three are still vacant, and the Director himself is on extension for the last 2-3 years. Then, though the scheme has been

functioning for the last 6-7 years, hospital facilities everywhere are inadequate, despite accumulation of large funds—they have Rs 20 crores with them. I have studied Shri Abid Ali's speech of the 9th. I had asked for copies of that and studied it so that I may be fully equipped, I have studied not only the speech made by him here but also his speech on the All India Radio. I asked for a copy of that through the proper channel and studied it so that I may be fully equipped on the subject of social security. He will give us a picture. We are making buildings for hospitals. 15 plans are prepared. What has been done during the six years that we are having? Funds are accumulating. But even those accumulated funds are not used. Just as I pointed out, Rs 5 crores are being provided through the labour benefit schemes.

In the coal industry, what has happened? Industrial housing in India is one of the worst scandals of our life. Britain is building at the rate of 300,000, that is, three lakhs, of housing units per year. Devastated Germany created a new Germany out of the rubbles and ruins of the last war at the rate of 400,000, that is, four lakhs, of units per year. We find here, by contrast, what a pitiable performance it is. The hon. Prime Minister wants a more beautiful India but we are creating and adding more and more slums in this country. This is not a beautiful India, a new India that is emerging. Every industrial town means more and more slums.

Here is this

Mr. Speaker. The hon. Member's time is up.

Shri Nath Pal: Only one or two minutes more and I shall sit down.

Here is this factory inspectorates that we have. How do they work? The First Five Year Plan—I am quoting from the Plan—said that there must be medical inspectors also. In no State has it been done. Then there

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national income and whether the workers got their due in relation to the increase in national income, he forgets the fact that there are national income statistics for the 1939 period. For the period for which we have data, I pointed out that against a 14 per cent increase in national income per capita, there has been a corresponding increase in the real wages, the real earnings of the working classes. In his anxiety to say something—it was a premature sense of satisfaction expressed by my hon. colleague, the Deputy Labour Minister—he had to say certain things and he said 'hem, of course, very eloquently, but without much substance.

Regarding the other points which hon. Members made, I will, of course, try to deal with them, subject to the limitation of time. I can understand that, if the hon. Members who spoke have not got to say much against the work of the Ministry, it shows the indulgence that they gave to us, because of the conviction on the part of the hon. Members that we were trying to do our best, that we were trying to improve things in the field of administration in the matters of policy, and in our relations with the organisations and also their mutual relations. These are things in which a great deal of headway has been made, as hon. Members will acknowledge.

The task of this Ministry, as was rightly pointed out by an hon. Member, is not easy. We have to reconcile powerful interests of the workers on the one hand and those of the employers on the other, vocal interests, powerful interests and vital interests. In trying to do that we have also to consider the supreme interests of the community because these two classes do not exhaust the entire community and therefore the task becomes still more difficult and we have to consider not only the present but also the future, not only the claims of the workers and the employers, terms of today, but in terms of the future years,

in terms of employment and development of the country, and thus makes our task exceedingly delicate and also difficult.

We have tried to approach this task in some way and we have made an attempt towards the solution of this very difficult problem by a certain approach, and that approach was to bring all the parties together, to make them see what the obligations are, and what their duty to the country is, and how they can do their best towards the improvement of the working class and of the economy of the country as a whole. The outcome was the Code of Discipline and the Code of Conduct and we are now moving towards something which covers a wider field, that is, the Code of efficiency. Sir, why had the Code of discipline to come in? It had to come in because the scene on which and the background against which this policy had to be developed was very unsatisfactory, was very depressing almost. In order that the workers get their due in matters of wages etc., in order that they may have a redressal of their grievances, we have to provide the machinery, means and methods for a fair deal. There may be Government intervention, there may be the machinery of the Government, but the most important thing in this matter is the workers' own organisations. There can be no substitute for that.

18 hrs

I am very glad that the hon. Member Shri S. L. Saksena has pointed it out, and he has asked for action to be taken so that the organisation of the workers becomes stronger. It should extend the entire field of labour. I agree with him. But what is the position today? The number of unions may be increasing; but what is happening today? The average membership per union is diminishing: from 781 in 1951-52 it has declined to 540 in 1956-57. And as for the

average income, it was 3,113 in 1951-52 and it is now 1,970 per union. That is the effectiveness of the trade union movement today. How can it play its role, and how can it make its contribution either towards the uplift and betterment of the working class or towards other matters in the wider sphere of the economy of the country? What was the reason for that? I have tried to find that out, of course; I have been in touch with the labour movement for many years, and I know what is happening. There is this question of destructive union rivalries. There is this question of conflict which is perpetually in progress in this field.

Then, I thought that we might do something in order to see that the situation improved somewhat in this matter. And that was one element in this attempt to develop a code of discipline. If we could not totally eliminate union rivalries, if we could not bring about a unified movement in the country immediately—that may not be possible for certain reasons—could we not at least try to bring about a position of some understanding among the various sections, so that this destructive conflict will be eliminated, and they may be brought into a relationship of emulation, and of competition in the service of the working class? That was the idea.

Here, I must point out that all those who are familiar with what is happening know that there has been, at least, in terms of understanding of the problem and in terms of the possible solutions, an agreement reached in this matter.

This code of discipline to which I am referring, and to which reference was made by many hon. Members in the course of their speeches, is a good thing. It reflects good sentiments, noble intentions, but is it really succeeding? I cannot say in the short period which has elapsed since the acceptance of this code—it has not been many many months, it is not even a year yet—what the fate of

this code of discipline will be. But I have no hesitation in saying that I feel an amount of gratification at the progress that is now being recorded.

In the first place, there is the general acceptance of the code on all sides. And hon. Members representing various sections of the movement have on the floor of this House given assurances that they are prepared to honour it, they would stand by it. So, this is something very valuable. If all the parties concerned are prepared to hold out this assurance that they want to carry it out, that is the best guarantee of its fulfilment. The organisations at the top may have no control over those at the bottom. That is possible, that is there because the movement is not very strong. And so, maybe, here and there breaches are occurring, but that does not mean that our faith in this approach was misplaced; it only means that we have to strengthen the labour movement itself the trade unions which have to ensure that obligations undertaken and accepted by the top representatives are actually being observed at the bottom at the unit level. So, I feel there are reasons, for being grateful for what has been done, and also the keen interest of everybody in this code of discipline which means both what is due to the worker and has to be done by the employer, and on the other side, what the worker owes to the industry and therefore he has to do for the industry. In both these matters there has been a very keen appreciation of what has been achieved in the matter of the agreement.

Not only that. In terms of implementation, also I find that there was practical interest and action. We got a large number of cases in the beginning, and they were attended to. It is not simply that we had the intention and the sentiment that there should be a code, and nothing was done about it. A very adequate machinery was set up in the Central Government, a department of the Government along with a tripartite committee to look

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after that. I have got the figures with me. The number of breaches reported to this machinery has been declining, has started declining, and the breaches which have been reported to this machinery have been attended to, and in a considerable proportion of those cases there has been redress, there has been rectification; in cases arising both out of the code itself and regarding the question of implementation of awards and agreements and observance of enactment etc.; Complaints were received from many sources; they were attended to and a considerable proportion has been redressed. Things have been set right, and these complaints are diminishing in number. That shows the effectiveness of this approach. Not only has it been accepted and appreciated, but it gave an opportunity to everybody to go to some place where, if they had any feeling of things not being dealt with properly by the employers or the workers as the case might be, or the Government or any agency of the Government, they could say that a particular thing was not being done. And then the wheels move, things are attended to. It entails a lot of labour, of course, but things are being attended to, and as I said, there is a considerable measure of success.

What happens in future will not be a sign of the effectiveness or ineffectiveness of the Ministry, but of both the effectiveness of the organisations and their, what should I say, good faith. I accept their good faith, I believe it is going to persist. Therefore, I have no hesitation at all in even forecasting that the thing is going to succeed better in future than even it has done so far. That is about the code of discipline.

There were certain other matters regarding industrial relations, some points raised about which I wish to say a few words. The hon. Member who spoke last mentioned the Premier Automobiles. That is a matter which he would know, possibly relates to the State sphere, and even so I tried

to do whatever I could, and if I did not come up to their expectations. I am ineffective, because I cannot override the Constitution, I cannot do that, and I will plead my ineffectiveness if I could not help them to the extent they thought I should.

Then, what is the other point made? That is, the Labour Minister tries to do things, but then there are others who come in the way in the Cabinet; the Railway Minister has to do something with labour, the Defence Minister has to do something with labour. That is all right.

Shri Nath Pal: You agree?

Shri Nanda: Of course, he has to, just as any employer also has to deal with his labour. Is the Labour Ministry to come in and step in between the employer and his workers in everything? It comes in only when there is a failure, when there is a breakdown, between the employer concerned, whether it is a Corporation or a company, and the workers. The Labour Ministry comes in at that stage. There is a negotiating machinery for the railways, there is a negotiating machinery in the Defence. There are several tiers to that machinery and several levels. That machinery has to function. There is provision for tribunal etc. for adjudication. So where does the Labour Ministry come in at that stage? If these things break down, if these things do not function, if the parties do not stand by whatever obligations they have accepted, then the Labour Ministry comes in, not otherwise.

Therefore, what has been the illustration given of the measure of ineffectiveness? If it is that the Labour Ministry does not go on interfering with everybody, I would rather be ineffective than be a meddling person. I do not want to interfere in other people's affairs.

Shri Tangamani: Will the Code of Discipline extend to these people also?

Shri Nanda: I shall answer that question. I made this announcement once or twice in the Indian Labour Conference also that it is expected that the public sector also should conform to this. I stand by that now. In pursuance of that declaration, I held a conference of the persons connected with the public sector—corporations and companies. It is true that is one section of the public sector. I wanted to deal with it in stages. I took up the corporations and companies in the Central sphere and also in the State sphere. It was a big conference. Some hon. Members must have attended it. We reached agreements there. In respect of all those establishments in the public sector, they agreed and we recorded that agreement. So that has been extended to the public sector.

Now one or two other sections remain. There is the question of railways. We have been dealing with it. I think nobody is going to deny the implications of the Code of Discipline so far as the railways are concerned. The railways have got their own structure. They tell us that they are considering what adaptations are necessary in order to apply the Code of Discipline in their sphere. Therefore, there cannot be any difficulty about that.

So that all those establishments whose workers are of the character of industrial workers, and not civil Administration employees are our concern in this matter, and I do not think that any Ministry can say that those obligations and those agreements are not applicable to them. I do not think that that situation has arisen. I just mention that because this was also possibly an important part of the substance of the accusation made by the hon. Member.

In this matter, it was said that there were delays. A very exaggerated picture was drawn....

25 (A) LSD—9

Shri Nath Pai: I am not interrupting him. But we, those who deal with labour, would welcome nothing more than Shri Nanda's participation. But it has been our experience that he does not participate. I had led a delegation in connection with a threatened strike on the railways. Shri Nanda or his Ministry was not called. There was a P. & T. threatened strike. His conscience kept him away, from coming to the House and voting, because he is basically devoted to the cause of labour. He was never called. I can go on citing chapter and verse. I did not make, as he has tried to make out, an irresponsible charge of ineffectiveness. If he will allow me at a subsequent stage, I will cite instances where his Ministry was ignored. It is because of his basic sense of loyalty that he is defending his Cabinet. But what I have said is the truth.

Shri Nanda: If he is to speak for me, I cannot agree to that. I have said that I am not now making any claim to perfection even in this matter. Maybe that in some cases things may have happened, I may not have been in a position to stop certain developments. There may be some cases, some rare cases here and there. What are the reasons? We need not go into them now. Something happened as a result of an enquiry report; the workers did something and then when the Prime Minister takes charge of it and the matter still remains between the Ministry and the workers, I do not think that it was necessary a call on me to come into the picture when I knew that it was in the best hands and things were being attended to. Why should I? But as I said if that is the ultimate upshot of what the hon. Member has to say, I can further consider as to where my lapse was and I will come and make an acknowledgement here.

I was saying this about the delay. A very exaggerated picture was drawn—one year with the Labour

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Commissioner, one year with somebody else and one year with the Labour Minister. I have got the record here. There is no time to produce all that. Every step is being taken to expedite this. The amount of time that is being taken at various stages in the industrial relations machinery has been going down and things are now very much better than before.

Shri D. C. Sharma: You said last year that the Journalists' Wage Committee would submit its report by the end of March, 1958. Now, it is April, 1959 and still it has not submitted its report. There is inordinate delay.

Shri Nanda: Which Committee?

Shri C. K. Bhattacharya (West Dinajpur): The Wage Committee for journalists.

Shri Nanda: That is a question—not of the industrial relations machinery but—of the set up created for it which functions autonomously. This Government does not give direction to wage boards. They function with the representatives of the workers and employers and there is a Judge and there are independent persons associated with it. It is not for the Government to give directions to a Wage Board to bring in a report within a certain time because it has to do its job and discharge its responsibility. That much about delays regarding which I have a very adequate answer.

There was the question of discrimination in the matter of industrial relations. A letter was read out and some other letters were read out from this side. It is very difficult to deal with letters in this manner. I understand the difficulty of the hon. Members also in this matter. But they are writing to me so often. Why did they hold this up till this moment. Why did they not bring it before so that I could see what it was and what it amounted to. I do not think that it amounts to much. If it does—there

are hundreds of officers working all over, and—if any officer has not behaved properly, it is our duty to see that we deal with him effectively and he is punished if he has done anything wrong. But that does not mean that the machinery is wrong. Was it every brought to our notice? Is it that we did not deal with it? That was not the position.

Now, I would like to take up this question of implementation I have got here information to show that steadily our machinery for implementation is getting grip of the situation although in the States I cannot say that everywhere they have set up the needed machinery. But they are also progressing in this matter and we are trying to see that even in the States—because of the code of discipline and the general agreement,—we maintain some kind of a touch regarding these matters. We are trying to do our best so that there is expeditious settlement there also. I hope that things will steadily get better even in the States—I do not say everywhere—wherever there are difficulties.

About wages, Sir, I would like to say just one word. The wage boards are mentioned. We cannot control their speed. The Sugar Wage Board has given an interim decision, and the question has arisen as to why it is not being implemented. We are going our best to see that it is being implemented. We have asked the Chief Ministers of States to take a hand in it, to see that there is no delay in the matter. The organisation of the employers have been asked and the latest information that I have received from them is that they think that it should be done. But whether their individual units will do that or not is the question I am faced with.

Shri S. L. Sakama: Will there be any legal authority to bind them?

Shri Nanda: I am just coming to that.

Shri Khadilkar (Ahmednagar). As regards the wage boards you were just now suggesting that it takes time, their work cannot be hurried up. As regards the Wage Board for journalists it was announced that the decision would be made available by the end of March. Because of the delay the workers have suffered in between, according to your own observation. How do you avoid the suffering the workers are put to by the wage freeze that is being imposed during that period?

Shri Nanda: I may immediately answer that question. The committee was appointed. I expressed the view that the work should be completed in a certain period. Of course, I could not, as I said, dictate to the committee. They had a direction to carry out their task with a view to bring out an agreement which will be just and fair in terms of the Supreme Court decision. It required a lot of examination of data, registers, this, that etc., including the accounts. A number of people were engaged for that purpose. If they do something which is not fully satisfactory from their point of view and if again we are faced with the situation that the matter again goes to the Supreme Court, will it be better for the working journalists? A few days more time taken in order to ensure that they are fully satisfied, that everything possible has been done to make it proof, to the extent it is possible, against this kind of treatment, I think, is worthwhile.

Shri Khadilkar: But how do you propose to compensate the workers for the loss that they suffer in between?

Shri Nanda: It is for this committee to say that retrospective effect will be given from a certain date. That is the answer.

Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya: If I may make a submission here, the committee has made the situation worse by announcing the tentative proposals

Unless these are put into effect at once the present generation of journalists who had asked for the betterment of their lot will be buried five fathoms deep and after that the recommendations will come into effect.

Shri Nanda: It is not going to be that long, because I can assure the hon. Member that very possibly, it may be, that in the course of this session we may have this report.

I was saying that the Sugar Wage Board is confronted with this situation, that an interim award is not implemented. It may be that its final award may also meet with the same treatment, encounter the same kind of heavy weather.

The question, then, for the Government is this, whether the system of wage boards which stands on a voluntary footing will work or not. I can assure the House that if there is any difficulty about it, the Government will approach the House for sanctions and powers to enforce these things. I may also say, we have got legislation also ready in order that we are not caught napping. I have got a Bill ready which will enable these wage boards to become statutory. Therefore, we are not taking any chances about that.

Shri S. L. Saksena: Why are you, then, delaying it?

Shri Nanda: It was because we felt that if everything is done by consent of the parties and in an agreed way, that would be better. If the decision given by a wage board is carried out in that way, it strengthens the whole voluntary approach of doing things. If the way of doing things on a basis of mutual understanding succeeds, it is good for all. If it does not, it means that we cannot leave it at that. We will have to do something about it and we shall do that.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): It seems that the Wage Board have taken

[Shri S. M. Banerjee.]

much time. Will it be too much, especially in regard to the-textiles and the working journalists, if the Government asks that the Wage Committees or the Wage Board should recommend some interim relief to those employees?

Shri Nanda: Did anybody prevent the Sugar Board from giving an interim relief? That means therefore that the Boards know that they can do that. Therefore, the question does not arise.

There is one thing to which I attach importance and to which reference was made by me in my speech.

Shri K. N. Pandey: Regarding interim relief, may I point out one thing? Regarding the interim relief, being a member of the Wage Board, we tried to persuade the employers to get it implemented, but they said unless Government order is issued they are not going to implement it. So, that difficulty is there.

Shri S. L. Saxena: If we pass a Bill making the recommendations of the Wage Board binding on the Mills before-hand, then the Wage Board will also be assured that their recommendation will be implemented. Otherwise, they may be fearing that if there is a recommendation they will not be implemented unless there is the legal authority behind it. They would not be functioning properly until such a Bill is passed.

Shri Nanda: I have agreed that if any orders of ours can cut short the delay by a single day, that order will be given today. But the question is not an order of the Government. It will be an authority derived from law. No order can do that, and we are willing to bring in legislation immediately, if we find now that in a few days there is no assurance that this is going to be implemented quickly.

The important thing to which I was referring was this. I concede this point. I would not take the stand

that everywhere the workers are getting wages which are absolutely adequate and nothing more has to be done. I am glad that the hon. Members there have accepted my position that it is no good for the workers even to ask for 25 per cent. uniformly, but where there is a case certainly they should get something. Hence the Wage Board and the adjudication process. But I was pointing out that they could get more than they are getting and what is now coming in the way of this is this fear of inflation and this need for investment. It is said that if you give them more, prices will rise, which neutralise the advantage and there is nothing more dangerous for the working classes than the rise in prices. See the curves of wages and the curves of prices and you will find that real wages have only fallen in that period when prices were rising, and the wages always lag behind prices.

The answer to the question, on one side, lies in success of the Plan in the matter of agricultural production. Secondly, the answer is, it should not necessarily mean inflation if the working classes get more, or a cut into investments if we give the working classes more—provided they are allowed to become participants and sharers in this process, of ploughing back. A part of industries' profits is being ploughed back. It is a good thing, but the question was that this should be done not only on behalf of the shareholders, but of the workers also to ask for something more being given to the employees from profits only and thinking that that is a very big source, will bring disillusionment. If a minimum rate of return is given on the employed capital, what would be left to be distributed among the workers if all that is to be distributed will be one rupee or two rupees or three rupees per head per year. It is nothing very much. But what could be done was this. The workers could offer and say, Well, this product is ours also and the need for investment also is

something which we understand and appreciate. Then let us get more bonus, if the court says we cannot give you more than two months or three months, because it will mean that the surpluses for the investment will be reduced, and will also mean higher prices, the workers' answer can be that we shall also see that the additional portion which is due to us will be invested in the concern, or in some general scheme which can be worked out. Similarly regarding wages also it could be done. So, that was the point which I made regarding which the hon. Member, Shri Banerjee, said that it should be considered. Of course, we must consider the way in which this idea can be developed. This is an important idea and I think it is in the interests of the workers. We must pursue it in order that we may get some kind of workable arrangement.

About social security there were one or two things stated. About provident fund, it was asked why we are not doing more about it in spite of the report of the study group on social security. Certainly we are trying to do; this should be extended to units having 20 or more. This is important and I think we should do it soon. We are trying in that direction, and we are trying to remove whatever obstacles are there. Similarly, raising the rate from 6½ to 8-1½ is also very important. But we are unable to do it immediately, because the textile industry was in a bad condition in that period. I called the employers, had talks with them and told them, if one industry is not able to do it immediately, why not the others, which have the capacity? So, we are examining the capacity of each industry separately, so that, if it cannot be an over-all arrangement, at least we should proceed to deal with those industries which can afford to pay.

Regarding Employees' State Insurance, the hon. Member also said something, and the Deputy Minister gave some answer. There is a reserve and

there are accumulations I think we should have done something more much earlier and more hospitals should have been built. I do not want to recount the various difficulties, but there is a programme which is being steadily developed in the various States, because there also, we are in the hands of the States—acquisition of land and all that. There is a programme which will consume Rs 8 crores. So, the hon. Member need not spend any uneasy nights over that accumulation.

Shri Nath Pai: Out of 5 posts, only two posts have been filled and the remaining three are vacant Why?

Shri Nanda: Three more have been filled.

Sir, I do not want to take much of the time of the House....

Shri Nath Pai: If you are ready to convince us, we are ready to sit

Shri Nanda: It is for the Speaker and the House to decide. If I am called upon to give some answer, I am prepared to do it.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members must be following what the hon. Minister said. There are ways of saying it. There are no doubt many other things which may require explanation, but enough has been said. So, he may conclude now. *(Interruptions)*. Hon Members must always bear in mind that whenever a Minister insists on his being heard, we have never refused to do so. He has said all that he has to say.

Shri Nanda: I do not say that. I have something more to say, but I do not want to encroach much on the time of the House. I do not say that, because that will mean that some of the things remain which cannot be answered by me. I can answer them.

Shri Nath Pat: Even if he is not convincing, he is very interesting. He should proceed.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members cannot force a Minister to go on.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: We wanted to raise a discussion on the report of the study group on social security. You were not pleased to allow that, but you said that we may raise it during the course of the debate. So, even within the little time we got, we said something about that. We would like to hear the Minister's reply about the report of the study group.

Shri Nanda: It would not take much time. That report is going to be studied in a tripartite committee. After all, we cannot dispose of it like that. We will meet the hon. representatives on the other side and see what is to be done. There is nothing more to say about that particular aspect.

Mr. Speaker: We will sit for ten more minutes. If the hon. Minister wants to elucidate some more points he may do so within that time.

Shri Nanda: Yes, Sir. About unemployment, a point was made that this rate of increase of population should not affect the number of unemployed. He possibly missed the point that the increase is occurring not so much because of increase in birth rate, but because of diminution in the death rate. So, it affects the rate of survival at various age groups and then it starts contributing to the total working force. So, it is not that its effect is going to come after 15 or 20 years.

About the mismanagement of gardens in Assam a point was raised that some power should be given. I think I should agree. We are considering it. There should be some power in the hands of the Government to see that in these gardens the risk of unemployment arising is dealt with somehow. Something has to be

done about it so that the workers' interest can be protected there.

About trade unionism I will say a word. There is registration and there are other kindred matters and other difficulties. And, as the hon. Members know, the next Labour Conference is going to be confined to the discussion entirely of the whole question of industrial relation, every aspect of it. Anything which remains to be decided, we are going to discuss at length. The objective is common—trade unions should be made stronger and there should be no discrimination at all. There cannot be any question of discrimination, so far as the Registrar is concerned, because there is an appeal. And if there is any difficulty in administration, we can see to that.

About adjudication the hon. Member, Shri Saksena, made a point that anybody should be able to come and get redress. I agree with him. When we shut out all industrial strikes then it is our duty to see that the machinery that we provide is accessible and available to everybody. At any rate, here in the Central Government this is what we are doing. Unless the matter is so trivial, and on the face of it, this cannot be referred to a court, we do it, and I believe the same trend is developing everywhere. And if there is any deficiency in this matter, we shall look into it at the time of this Conference when we are meeting to discuss the whole question of industrial relations.

Then, Shri Saksena made a plea for bigger plans which will enable fuller employment to be given which will even wipe out the backlog. I cannot promise that the Third Five Year Plan will be of that size that it will, after meeting the requirements of the new entrants into the working force fully, also wipe out the old backlog. That will be a big thing to do. Even if we are able to progress to that position where we can provide

for all the new entrants, it will be a great step forward. But that will depend upon whom? Upon the workers also. Because, it is again a matter of effective utilisation of resources, of productivity and, in addition, of higher size of investments. Therefore, the workers can do something about it. We have made experiments regarding productivity in various units and we find productivity can rise in a range varying from 16 per cent to 112 per cent or something like that, without retrenching workers, without entailing any great deal of capital investment, so that there may be scope for raising productivity and thereby increasing the surplus which will enable both the workers to get something more and investment to be extended, so that the workers can have more employment.

After all, these are all because of workers. They have to be looked after and properly provided for so that it should be possible for every worker to play his part.

Then an hon. Member referred to workers' participation, which is a new thing. We have made some preparation there. As the hon. Members perhaps know, we have simultaneously started a workers' education programme. It may not be a very magnificent thing, but an effort is being made. And it is a part of the duty of the trade unionists to give more education. Is it only for the Government to take up all these things? It is a part of their work also. The Government, on its part, will do whatever is possible to give education. And the workers' participation, as I said, should be extended on a very large scale, at least in those aspects e.g. sharing information about working of the industry which will enable the workers to look into the working and see whether the management does its part properly.

I know that there may be a few points more left. There are, but I can assure the hon. Member and

others that whatever I have noted, I shall either speak to them or send them in writing answers to those points. I may not have convinced the hon. Member about everything, but after having spoken in that vein of confidence if he finds that there was not much to stand upon, it is but human not to be immediately prepared to accept the fact that one was wrong. It may be that after a little while when he has pondered over the answers he may feel that really there was not very much to complain of.

One last word about this Ministry. I say that these things are done and those things are done. It is not the question of the Labour Minister doing it. It is the question of the whole Ministry doing it. It is the product of common effort of all of us and any distinction to be made would be invidious. References were made to my colleague, the hon. Deputy Minister. I thought that it is my duty and I owe it to the House to say a word about it. Maybe, he causes irritation sometimes. There are counter-irritations also. But I can say from my close contact with him from day to day, that he is an upright man. Therefore any insinuations, and the words used, *lie, et cetera* are entirely out of place. Also I may on this occasion refer to the enquiry into this accident at Chinakuri. There, when the request came that I should answer, I agreed. But it was not because of the reason that was given, that he could not deal with it fairly, that I accepted it. He has got strong views about things, but so far as the policy of the Government and impartial administration is concerned, we are all together. There may be a lapse on my part. There may be a lapse on his part. If it is pointed out we all try to make amendments.

I have done.

Mr. Speaker: I have noticed that irritation arises not when one hon. Member knows and the other hon. Member does not know, but when

[Mr. Speaker]

both hon Members know and each is able to answer the other, then irritation comes in

Shri S. M. Banerjee: We should avoid irritation

Mr. Speaker: I am here to see that no irritation occurs. Do hon. Members want to press any of the cut motions?

Several Hon Members: No, no

Shri Nath Pal: We would like to give him a clean slate in spite of what we have said!

Mr. Speaker: I shall treat all the cut motions as withdrawn by the leave of the House

The cut motions were, by leave, withdrawn

Mr. Speaker: The question is—

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the fourth column of the order paper, be granted to the President, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands Nos. 67 to 69 and 127 relating to the Ministry of Labour and Employment."

The motion was adopted.

[The motions for Demands for Grants which were adopted by the Lok Sabha are reproduced below—Ed.]

DEMAND NO 67—MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 18,39,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges

which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Ministry of Labour and Employment'."

DEMAND NO. 68—CHIEF INSPECTOR OF MINES

"That a sum not exceeding Rs 19,74,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Chief Inspector of Mines'."

DEMAND NO. 69—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS AND OTHER EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

"That a sum not exceeding Rs 9,64,92,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment'."

DEMAND NO 127—CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

"That a sum not exceeding Rs 3,20,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Labour and Employment'."

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, April 7, 1960/Chaitra 17, 1961 (Saka).

[Monday, April 6, 1959/Chaitra 16, 1881 (Saka)]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.		COLUMNS	WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS—contd.		COLUMNS
S Q No.	Subject	9915-54	U.S.Q No.	Subject	
1665.	Oil jetty at Kandla Port	9915-19	2708	Delhi Transport Undertaking	9962-63
1666.	Kadur-Chickmagalur-Sakaleshpur-Mangalore Line	9919-21	2709.	Stations in Bikaner Division	9961
1667.	Dam on river beas	9921-22	2710.	Water taps in Bikaner Division	9963-64
1668	Calcutta milk supply scheme	9922-27	2711	Movement of foodgrains	9964
1670.	Supply of chemical fertilizers in Delhi	9927-30	2712.	Cheque system in Post Offices	9964
1671	Indigenous systems of medicine	9930-35	2713.	Schools on Central Railway	9964-65
1674.	Tractors	9936-37	2714	New Railway Stations	9965
1675	Flood forecasting cell for Yamuna river in Delhi	9937-39	2715.	Divisional system on railways	9965
1678.	Assistance for road construction	9939-45	2716	Private branch lines	9966
1679	Nellore vice	9945-49	2717	Adulteration of foodstuffs in Delhi	9966
1680	Zoo in Himachal Pradesh	9949	2718.	Loco sheds	9967
1681	All-India electricity grid	9949-51	2719	B C G. Team in Uttar Pradesh	9967
1682	Accident to trainer aeroplane at Patna	9952-53	2720	State Electricity Board for Mysore	9967
1683	Price of rice in Tripura	9953-54	2721	Jagadhri-Chandigarh-Rupar-Ludhuana Line	9968
WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.		9954-90	2722	Commonwealth Coaxial cable Telephone System	9968-69
S Q No.			2723	Hand-grenades on Railway Track	9969
1669	Integral Coach Factory Perambur	9954-55	2724	Price of sugar	9969
1672	Guest House and Canteen at Ajanta and Ellora	9955-56	2725	Storage practices in U S. A	9970
1673.	T B Hospitals	9956-57	2726	Complaints recorded in complaint books	9970-71
1676	Supply of wheat to Punjab	9957	2727	Wireless inspectors	9971-72
1677	Import of Burmese Rice from U S S R	9957-58	2728	Damage to rabi crops	9972
1684	Railway freight concession	9958-59	2729.	Supply of wheat to flour mills	9972
1685	Financial assistance to co-operative marketing and processing societies	9959	2730	Imported foodgrains	9972-73
1686.	"Model Villages" in Delhi	9960	2731	Filling of posts	9973
1687	Suggestions for increasing "Railway Efficiency"	9960-61	2732.	Bridge over D V C Canal	9973-74
1688.	Merchant Navy Training Board	9961	2733	Production and consumption of rice and wheat in Tripura	9974-75
1689.	Construction of Cham-bal Bridge	9961-62	2734.	Survey of children's Physical Development	9975
1690.	Traffic Survey in Delhi	9962	2735.	Import of Foodgrains	9975-76
			2736.	Import of Railway sleepers	9976
			2737.	Goods Traffic from Champaran	9976-77
			2738.	Engines for electric trains	9977

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO
QUESTIONS—contd

U.S.Q. No.	Subject	COLUMNS
2739	Pollution of rivers by industrial discharges	9977-78
2740	Approach roads on S Railway	9978
2741.	Uniforms for Carriage Wagon Staff	9978-79
2742	Panchayats	9979
2743	Survey Projects on Railway	9980
2744	Post Office Building, Jullundur City	9980
2745	Truck accidents in Tripura	9980-91
2746	Cadastral Survey in U.P.	9981-82
2747	Smoking in Railway Compartments	9982
2748	Singareni Collieries	9982-83
2749	Dehydration	9983
2750	Drainage schemes	9983-84
2751	Allotment of wagons	9984
2752	Transport facilities	9984-85
2753	Line capacity of Barajamda-Banaspani-Rajkharwan Sector	9985
2754	Urban water supply schemes in Punjab	9986
2755	Karnatak Health Institute, Ghataprabha (Mysore)	9986
2756	Nutrition Research Laboratory, Hyderabad	9987
2757	Medical Colleges in Mysore	9987
2758.	Asian Malaria Conference, New Delhi	9987-88
2759	Contract for luggage and parcels	9988-89
2760	Rural water supply schemes	9989
2761.	Cold storage plants	9989-90

REPORT OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE
PRESENTED

Twelfth Report was presented

9990

COLUMNS

PETITIONS PRESENTED

9991

Shri D. R. Chavan presented the following petitions :

(i) Two petitions signed by a petitioner each regarding the withdrawal of exemption from levy of duty on vegetable non-essential oils

(ii) One petition signed by a petitioner regarding the Finance Bill, 1959

CALLING ATTENTION
TO MATTER OF URGENT
PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

9991-93

Shri S. M. Banerjee called the attention of the Minister of Irrigation and Power to the reported interim agreement between India and Pakistan about the use of the Indus river and its main tributaries for irrigation purposes

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Hafiz Mohd, Ibrahim) made a statement in regard thereto

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

9993

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar) made a statement correcting reply given on the 27th February, 1959 to a Supplementary by Shri Vajpayee on Starred Question No 722 regarding Training of Refractionists and Opticians

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS 9993-10186

Further discussion on Demands for Grants in respect of the Ministry of Labour and Employment concluded. The Demands were voted in full

AGENDA FOR TUESDAY,
APRIL 7, 1959/CHAITRA
17, 1881 (SAKA)-

Discussion on Demands for Grants in respect of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture commenced. The discussion was not concluded.