

recommendations. Wherever they find it difficult to implement any particular recommendation either on account of any change in the circumstances or on account of any mistake which might have crept in, they report once again to the Estimates Committee.

Therefore, these are the ways in which the matter is dealt with. The reports do not come up formally for discussion before the House. In the course of the general discussion of the Budget and the debate on the Demands for Grants, hon. Members can raise any particular point in accordance with the recommendations of the Estimates Committee or otherwise also, and say that such and such recommendations have not been implemented so far, and so on.

No day is allotted for discussion separately on the Report of the Estimates Committee.

**Shri Mohamed Imam:** What about the Public Accounts Committee's reports?

**Mr. Speaker:** I am not able to say off hand.

#### CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

##### TOKEN STRIKE BY NAVAL DOCKYARD WORKERS, BOMBAY

**Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur):** Under rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Defence to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

"Token strike by Naval Dockyard Workers of Bombay on the 17th May, 1957."

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia):** On the 8th May, 1957, the Naval Dockyard Employees' Union, Bombay, served a notice on the Captain Superintendent of the Dockyard, stating that the workers of the Dockyard would observe a token strike

on Friday, the 17th May, 1957, in support of their demands. The demands indicated in the strike notice were as follows:—

- (i) Appointment of a new Pay Commission to improve the existing scales of pay of Government employees and immediate grant of 25 per cent. of the wages as interim relief, pending the implementation of the new Pay Commission's recommendations;
- (ii) Increase in dearness allowance in accordance with the rise in the cost of living index ;
- (iii) Abolition of discrimination made between industrial and non-industrial employees, as regards leave and introduction of uniform leave rules for all Central Government employees;
- (iv) Grant of conveyance allowance, and accommodation;
- (v) Abolition of casual labour system in 217 Pet. Contract Platoon Type A, Wadala, and treatment of all workers with six months' continuous service as temporary; and
- (vi) Application of Industrial Disputes Act to Indian Air Force installations.

On the 17th May, 1957, a majority of the workers of the Dockyard staged a token strike. There is another Union of workers of the Naval Dockyard, called the Indian Naval Dockyard Workers Union. That Union had given a directive to its members that they should not refrain from work. Arrangements had been made to carry on all essential services at the Dockyard and the other units during the period of the strike. The strike was called off, and the workers resumed their duty on 18th May, 1957, at opening hours. No untoward incident has been reported.

Most of the demands made by the trade union are of a general nature.

[Sardar Majithia]

The issues affect not only the employees of the Naval Dockyard, but employees under other Ministries of the Government all over India. Two of the demands, namely, those relating to the abolition of the casual labour system and the application of the Industrial Disputes Act to Indian Air Force installations do not concern the employees of the Dockyard. These demands will be examined, but in view of their nature and their wide and all-India implications, such examination would require time. The Trade Union has available to it the necessary machinery for representation and for seeking redress. A ~~work~~ strike is not part of such action and such a procedure was quite unnecessary to draw attention to grievances which could be represented according to usual procedure and about which the Trade Union sent a communication only on the 6th May. Demands (5) and (6) have been raised by the All India Defence Employees' Federation in the Negotiating Machinery at the top level, and they have been separately under examination. As regards provision of accommodation, it had already been decided earlier that accommodation should be provided at certain places including Bombay for some percentage of the civilian workers.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee** rose.

**Mr. Speaker:** It is not usual to put questions after such statements.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** I am only making a suggestion, not putting a question. I invited his attention to this on the 15th May. Now it is only a post-mortem examination. I only wish to draw his attention to the fact that in such cases had the statement been made on the 15th itself, we would have been able to avoid the strike.

**Mr. Speaker:** Very well.

## LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION (AMENDMENT) BILL\*

**Mr. Speaker:** The House will now proceed with legislative business.

**Shri Amjad Ali (Dhubri):** Before you proceed, may I make a submission?

**Mr. Speaker:** On the Bill?

**Shri Amjad Ali:** No, before you proceed, Sir, I have a privilege motion to move.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member ought not to be impatient like that. With respect to various matters, hon. Members have to give notice to the Secretary which will be conveyed to the Speaker. He has to look into it and exercise his judgment over it; then he will bring it before the House. No paper, which is sent to the Secretariat or addressed to the Speaker, will lapse. It will be examined and some order will be passed and communicated. If I allow it, I will allow it to be raised on the floor of the House; if I do not allow it, of course it lapses.

Therefore, the hon. Member may come and see me. I have just been told what exactly the matter is. I will consider it.

**The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956.

**Mr. Speaker:** The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956."

**Shri Bharucha (East Khandesh):** On a point of order. Is the Finance Minister competent to move for leave to introduce the Bill without first making copies of the Bill available to hon. Members, thereby restricting the privileges of Members? I raise this under rule 72 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business.