

LOK SABHA

Thursday July 15, 1971/Asadha 24
1893 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Implementation of Recommendations of
Wage Board for Hotels and Restaurants
in Delhi

*1141 SHRI S M BANERJEE Will
the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABI-
LITATION be pleased to state

(a) whether recommendations of the
Wage Board have not been implemented in
many hotels and restaurants in Delhi

(b) if so, the steps taken by Govern-
ment in this regard and

(c) the action taken against those
owners who have not yet implemented the
same?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABI-
LITATION (SHRI BALGOVIND VER-
MA) (a) According to the Delhi Ad-
ministration, this is not so. There would,

however, appear to be some differences be-
tween the managements and the employees
over the interpretation of recommenda-
tions of the Wage Board relating to pay-
ment of arrears of wages

(b) and (c). The recommendations of
the Wage Board for hotels and restaurants
in Delhi are not statutorily enforceable,
its implementation can only be secured
through persuasion. The Industrial Rela-
tions Machinery of the Delhi Administration
has already held a number of meetings with
the parties and is endeavouring to promote
a settlement.

SHRI S M BANERJEE The mere
wording that the recommendations of the
Wage Board are not statutory does not
give any consolation to the employees, and
they have not accepted that they are only
recommendatory and not mandatory. I
would like to know whether it is a fact
that nearly 19 hotels and restaurants in
Delhi—it may be more now—are on strike
since a very long time and whether they
met the hon. Minister Mr. Khadilkar. I
would like to know what advice he gave
them and what steps Government are tak-
ing to see that these recommendations are
implemented.

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND
REHABILITATION (SHRI R K KHA-
DILKAR) In all 13 hotels and restau-
rants are on strike. If some more have
joined, I can't say, I have no information.
Out of total employees of 837,718 have
joined the strike. When the representatives
met me I told them that our machinery
here will be at their disposal for settlement.
Our commissioner got in touch with the
Delhi Administration and Regional Com-
missioner and as has been stated earlier,

still both the parties are sticking to their position and no common ground for agreement has been reached.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : I want to know whether hotelowners suggested this to be referred to adjudication and employees rejected it. In the absence of that agreement I would like to know what machinery is going to be provided to resolve the dispute and whether negotiation will be held once again.

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : There was a suggestion but yet no order has been passed or any case made out for reference to adjudication. Our efforts are directed to bring about a settlement. But I am not certain how far both parties are prepared to give and take.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Once the employees have rejected the question of adjudication, what other machinery is there on this issue and I want to know whether the Minister is arbitrating himself on this issue.

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : No other machinery is available because as the hon. Member knows, this is not statutory. There is no compulsion or legal sanction with us to enforce them. The only way is to persuade the proprietors and employees to come round and find out a solution. That is all. There is no other machinery as such.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : What is this reply, Sir? Let him say, the restaurants will be taken over by the Government.

श्री मूलचन्द्र डाया : कर्मचारियों ने जो माँगें रखी हैं, क्या वे कानून बाज़िब हैं और क्या सरकार कानून के द्वारा उनको कोई सबब दिला सकती है या नहीं— या वह केवल बातें ही कर सकती हैं ?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : This is not a statutory award. After this was accepted by the Delhi Administration, the workers and employees sat together and reached an agreement. The only dispute is regarding service charges to be raised from 8% to 15%. But according to the award, the only provision is up to 10 per cent. Regarding arrears of wages for about 15 months, from July 11, 1967, there is a dispute.

Agreement with F. A. O. to finance Agricultural Projects in India

*1142. **SHRI K. C. PANDEY :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of agreements entered into by Food and Agriculture Organisation with India to finance agricultural projects in India;

(b) the salient feature of such agreements and which of them have come into force; and

(c) the likely benefits to be achieved as a result of completion of the projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) to (c). The Government have not directly entered into any agreement with the F.A.O. but the Government sponsored Indian Freedom From Hunger Campaign Society have made six agreements with that organisation during the last one year. They relate to milling of rice, carcass processing, education and training of farmers and poultry development. The end result will be achievement of higher production and better processing of agricultural goods.

Food and Agriculture Organisation, however, acts as an executing or sponsoring