

While giving recognition the Ministry and the Commission consider only all India trade unions. There are some trade unions functioning at the all India level which do not enjoy the majority of the workers in particular regions. In such cases would the Government consider giving recognition to a regional trade union?

MR. SPEAKER: May I inform the hon. Member that it is not a general question about recognition of trade unions? But if the Minister is very obliging, I do not mind.

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR: Certain qualifications have been laid down for recognition of unions on an all India level. A trade union must have coverage in a number of States, and a number of industries the consensus about membership in the last Labour Minister's Conference was four lakhs. It is only when a trade union satisfies all these qualifications that it be entitled to recognition as a central organisation.

Peace Treaties with Foreign Countries

*401. SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has initiated talks for signing treaties with some Countries on the pattern of Indo-Soviet Peace Treaty; and

(b) if so, the names of such countries?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH): (a) No, Sir,

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: May I know whether in order to remove misunderstandings about the Indo-Soviet Treaty in foreign countries during the course of her present tour, the Prime Minister offered to negotiate such treaties with some other countries -

SHRI SWARAN SINGH: No, Sir. There was no such offer made by the Prime Minister during her tour abroad.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: If India has not initiated any such moves, have some other countries done so?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH: Not yet.

श्री श्याम नन्दन मिश्र : जिस प्रकार की शान्ति संधि भारत सरकार ने सोवियट रूस की सरकार के साथ की है क्या उसी प्रकार की शान्ति संधि वह विश्व के अन्य समाजवादी देशों के साथ करने के बारे में भी सोच रही है ?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH: No, there is no such proposal at any advanced stage at the present moment.

Setting up of Common Welfare Fund for Workers of Mining Industries

*402. SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a common welfare fund for the workers of 36 mining industries other than the coal, mica, iron ore, limestone, dolomite, and gold;

(b) if so, the main features of the proposal; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BELGOVIND VERMA): (a) to (c). A proposal for the setting up of a common Fund, which will cover the welfare of the workers employed in certain mining industries, is under consideration. The Fund is expected to be run on more or less the same lines as the existing statutory Welfare Funds for the coal, mica and iron ore mines. The Fund is proposed to be financed by the levy of a cess on the minerals concerned.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: May I know whether any assessment has been made of the number of people involved in those mines, other than the 36 mining industries that have been enumerated? If so, what is the nucleus that is going to be formed by the Ministry in order to initiate this fund which is under contemplation by the Ministry?

SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA: There are two proposals. One is going to be executed very shortly for dolomite and limestone workers. The other is for the rest of the

mining industry. I cannot give the actual numbers but, so far as I remember, it is 1,05,000. We are working out a proposal to put effect to it and a legislation would be brought forward soon.

SHRI DAMODAR PANDEY: May I know whether this proposal of the common welfare fund will cover the mica and bauxite mines?

SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA: Yes, Sir; it will cover all the mines except mica, coal and iron ore, salt and gold mines and the limestone and dolomite mines which we are covering separately.

Non-Deposit of E. P. F. and E. S. I. Contributions by M/s. Krishna Silicate and Glass Works Limited, Calcutta

*403. **SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE:** Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether M/s. Krishna Silicate and Glass Works Limited, Calcutta which had closed down its two factories, one at Jadavpur and the others at Baruipur, 24—Parganas Dist. (West Bengal), had not deposited lakhs of rupees of Employees Provident Fund and Employees' State Insurance contributions with Government;

(b) if so, the amount involved and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken by Government against the management?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR): (a) to (c). A statement containing required information is placed on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

The Provident Fund and the Employees' State Insurance Corporation authorities have reported as under:—

Employees' Provident Fund:

Both the factories of M/S. Krishna Silicate and Glass Works Limited (one at Jadavpur and the other at Baruipur) were covered under the Employees' Provident Funds and Family

Pension Fund Act, 1952 as one establishment. It has still to pay a sum of about Rs. 5.46 lakhs on account of arrears of provident fund contributions. Certificate cases have been instituted against the employers and prosecution proceedings under Employees' Provident Funds and Family Pension Fund Act, 1952 have also been initiated. Action under Sections 406/409 of Indian Penal Code against the employers has also been initiated.

Employees' State Insurance Corporation:

(i) Jadavpur Unit is in default towards Employers' special contribution upto the 31st March, 1970 for Rs. 1,58,459—and Employees' contribution upto September, 1968 for Rs. 309.83 plus interest on delayed payment of Employees' contribution amounting to Rs. 139/-. Dues for further period are under assessment.

(ii) Baruipur Unit is in default towards Employers' special contribution upto the 31st December, 1970 for Rs. 1,10,088/—and towards Employees' contribution including interest upto November, 1960 amounting to Rs. 683.40. Dues for the subsequent period upto date of closure are under assessment.

Legal action under the Employees' State Insurance Act for recovery of above amounts had already been taken. Legal action for recovery for subsequent period upto date of closure is under consideration. The employer was also prosecuted under Section 85 of the Act. He was fined Rs. 25/- or in default simple imprisonment for 10 days.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: It is mentioned in the statement that the employers are in arrears to the extent of Rs. 5.46 lakhs on account of provident fund contribution. To that extent, they have deprived the workers of their benefits. In the case of Employees' State Insurance Corporation, one factory failed to deposit contribution amounting to Rs. 1,58,459 and another factory Rs. 1,10,088. So, the employers are cheating the workers by not depositing their contribution. But what steps have you taken? You have taken legal proceedings and they have been fined Rs. 25. Why this liberalism towards this type of employees? Why have the government not forced the employers to pay their dues? Secondly, there was a tripartite agreement to open the factories. Have the government