

parties, namely, the Government, employers and workers, of the relative merits of pursuing the path of conciliation must find a new equilibrium in the structure and the methods of functioning of the International Labour Organisation.

(x) Concluding the debate on the Director-General's annual report on the policy of Apartheid in South Africa, the Labour Minister referred to the contributions made by Mahatma Gandhi to the cause of human rights. He also drew attention to suggestions made in the course of the debate on the—

Setting up of a special committee for apartheid at the next year's Conference;

—Creation of a joint ILO/Organisation of African Unity expert group to evaluate ILO activities and propose future action;

—voluntary contributions to help ILO establish a comprehensive programme to benefit South African workers.

#### **Meetings of General Managers**

\*75. SHRI K. T. KOSALRAM:

SHRI SUBHASH CHANDRA  
BOSE ALLURI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps that have been taken to curb the growing indiscipline among the Railway workers and their sporadic agitations that have disrupted the smooth running of the trains;

(b) the recommendations made at the meetings of the General Managers held on the 12th and 13th June, 1979; and

(c) the action taken on them?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS & LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a) Firm instructions were issued on 31-3-79 that, in the event of illegal strikes/stoppages of work, consequential action viz., deduction of proportionate wages for the period of absence from work and break in service (involving forfeiture of all leave earned upto the date of the strike, postponement of date of increment and commencement of service afresh on the resumption of duty after the strike for the purpose of eligibility for leave and passes and sanction of special contribution to the Provident Fund and Pensionary benefits on retirement) should be enforced. The instructions also lay down that the condonation of

such break in service can be ordered only with the authority of the President and till the break is condoned, no lower authority can assume that the break will be condoned and give the benefits that they have lost by participation in an illegal strike/stoppage of work.

Firm instructions already exist that stoppages of train services should be viewed seriously and deterrent action taken.

With a view to meet any contingency, some Railway Territorial Army units have been mobilised as a stand-by arrangement for deployment if circumstances so warrant.

(b) and (c) The strategies to be adopted with a view to remove transport bottlenecks, gear up operations and to improve the over-all efficiency in railway administration were discussed in great depth at the Conference of the General Managers of Zonal Railways convened in June 1979 immediately after the new Chairman, Railway Board, took over. Several follow-up measures, based on the decisions of the Conference, including monitoring at the Board level, have brought about a considerable improvement in rail operations.

#### **Bonus to Railwaymen**

\*76. SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA :  
SHRI VASANT SATHE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken over the bonus issue to the Railwaymen and if so, the details thereof;

(b) if not, when this issue will be decided by the Government;

(c) whether Government accept the principle of bonus to Railwaymen;

(d) what are the latest demands of Railwaymen over this issue;

(e) what will be the financial implication if the demand of bonus is not met; and

(f) whether it is a fact that the Railway men are agreeable for the payment of the bonus at the time of retirement?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS & LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The matter is under active consideration of the Government and a decision will be taken by the Government shortly.