

about an amicable settlement. Over the last three or four days I personally have been involved in these talks. I can only say at this stage that I am hoping that in the course of today perhaps the strike will be withdrawn; that is my hope, I would not like to say anything more now.

SHRI S. KUNDU : It is one thing to suggest that due to the strike of the workers certain loss has been sustained. But may I know whether the hon. Minister is aware that lakhs of rupees have been wasted as a result of excess expenditure or extravagant expenditure and also luxurious spending in these two corporations? For instance, recently in Delhi at the time of the opening of the IAC office, about a lakh of rupees was spent and a gala party was thrown where drinks were served to the guests.....

SOME HON. MEMBERS : What drinks? Hot or cold?

SHRI S. KUNDU : Real drinks were served. They may be cold but after that is taken it makes body hot, and hon. Members know it very well.

What steps is the hon. Minister going to take to stop such extravagant expenditure?

DR. KARAN SINGH : I do not think that it would be correct to say that there is extravagant or useless expenditure in the airlines. Certainly, as the hon. Member is aware, the airlines corporation is an undertaking which has to function in close coordination and co-operation with other international airlines and international air services, and, therefore, certain standards have got to be maintained, and, certain types of things have to be done; otherwise, it is difficult for the airlines to keep up in the competition with others.

SHRI D. N. PATODIA : In view of the average monthly amount paid to the technicians, inclusive of all emoluments?

DR. KARAN SINGH : I am afraid I do not have the figures with me immediately.

SHRI D. N. PATODIA : In view of the fact that such strikes have resulted in a loss to the nation and also affected the prestige of the nation, is it possible to in-

corporate some clause in the service agreement by which we can prevent any such strike by any of the workers of Air India? May I also know whether compared to other international airlines, in the Air India, we are paying less in respect of the demands put forward by the workers, or we are at par?

DR. KARAN SINGH : I do not immediately have the comparative figures. But I can say that as far as Air India is concerned, our wage structure is a very high one because it has got to compare not only with that in the foreign airlines but also with the general wage structure in the country.

With regard to the first part of the hon. Member's question, certainly we shall try and see that these strikes become more and more difficult under the service rules, but I do not know whether it is possible for us unilaterally to amend these rules however much we may like to do so; that is a matter which we shall have to consider.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

भारत सरकार के दिल्ली और फरीदाबाद स्थित मुद्रणालयों के कर्मचारियों द्वारा हड़ताल का नोटिस

S.N.Q.-2. श्री रघुवीर सिंह शास्त्री : क्या निर्माण, आवास तथा पूति मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि भारत सरकार के दिल्ली और फरीदाबाद स्थित मुद्रणालयों के कर्मचारियों ने 22 नवम्बर, 1967 से हड़ताल करने का निर्णय किया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उनकी मांगें क्या हैं; और

(ग) उनकी मांगों को पूरा करने के लिये सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI IQBAL SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Out of the total of 45 demands, 34 relate to the upgradation of scales of pay, 3 relate to betterment of service conditions, 7 to the creation of more promotional posts and one to the liberalisation of leave rules for post 1961 entrants.

More than fifty pay scales of the industrial workers of the Government of India Presses have been revised in 1966 in accordance with the recommendations of the Categorisation Committee set up by Government in 1964 (in accordance with the recommendations of the Pay Commission of 1957). Most of the present demands are beyond the recommendations of the said Committee and in view of the general ban on upward revision of pay scales and the widespread repercussions on other industrial establishments, it is not possible to agree to them. Some recommendations of the Committee which were not wholly accepted by Government can, however, be reviewed.

Out of the 3 demands asking for liberalisation of pay refixation, the abolition of trade tests and liberalisation of out-turn, only the last item is under consideration. The other two cannot be accepted.

7 demands relate to the creation of extra posts and the method of filling them up. The creation of extra posts is generally in accordance with workload. Some of the demands can be reviewed, however. The question of filling up of vacant posts has been taken up and in some cases already completed.

In 1961 orders were issued that all industrial employees of the Government of India Presses recruited after 17th November, 1961 will be governed by the leave admissible to factory workers. The question of abolition of this distinction between post-1961 entrants and pre-1961 entrants is being examined.

श्री रघुवीर सिंह शास्त्री : क्या यह ठीक है कि फरीदाबाद प्रेस के कर्मचारियों ने 17 अक्टूबर को हड़ताल की थी तथा निर्माण एवं आवास मंत्रों के हस्तक्षेप और आस्वाशन पर

वह हड़ताल 21 नवम्बर तक के लिये स्वीकृत कर दी गई थी। परन्तु फिर भी कम्पेन्सेट्री एलाउन्स के सम्बन्ध में उनकी जो मांग थी वह अस्वीकृत कर दी गई?

श्री इकबाल सिंह : हां, यह ठीक है कि पहले उन्होंने एक दिन हड़ताल की थी और उस के बाद हड़ताल नहीं की। जहां तक कम्पेन्सेट्री एलाउन्स का ताल्लुक है, उन को यही कहा गया था कि फाइनेंस मिनिस्ट्री को दोबारा लिखेंगे वह दोबारा लिखा गया।

श्री रघुवीर सिंह शास्त्री : श्रीमन्, गवर्नमेन्ट प्रेस के कर्मचारियों की यह सब से बड़ी और व्यापक हड़ताल है। क्या यह ठीक है कि औद्योगिक विवादों में सरकार वालन्ट्री आर्बिट्रेशन की नीति को प्रोत्साहित करती है, यदि हां, तो बताया जाय कि सरकार अपने औद्योगिक प्रतिष्ठानों और विशेषतः प्रेस कर्मचारियों के इस मामले के अन्दर वालन्ट्री आर्बिट्रेशन की बात से क्यों कतराती है?

श्री इकबाल सिंह : इस मामले में जहां तक प्रेस के कर्मचारियों का ताल्लुक है, कतराने का कोई सवाल नहीं है। उनकी यूनियन्ज हैं और उन यूनियनों की मारफत जो-जो बातें आती हैं उन पर गौर किया जाता है। जहां वालन्ट्री आर्बिट्रेशन की बात है, उस के सम्बन्ध में हम बात करते हैं, लेकिन जहां यूनियन्ज हैं, वहां पर उन यूनियन्ज से बातें करते हैं।

SHRI K. N. PANDEY : Is it a fact that before the strike materialised, the President of the Labour Union, affiliated to INTUC, had written a letter to the hon. Minister to invite the representatives for negotiations at his level so that the strike could be averted? If so, what action was taken on that and what is his attitude now?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI JAGANNATHA RAO) : It is true that the President of the Union met me and we had a discussion when the hon. Member was also present. The representations made

by them are under consideration and I hope that something will be done.

SHRI M. L. SONDHI : Is the hon. Minister aware that there is a widespread feeling among the workers that those in authority are able to place their relatives in important positions there and in fact there was a *dharna* and widespread resentment against this practice which almost partakes of the character of corruption, and that the Categorisation Committee did not win the confidence of the workers at all? So instead of using the big stick method, why not invite their co-operation and initiate a new era in the management of the Press?

SHRI IQBAL SINGH : As far as inviting the co-operation is concerned, we are ready for it. We have invited them and some suggestions are under examination and sympathetic consideration.

As far as the Categorisation Committee is concerned, I have laid on the Table a statement showing the recommendations which have been accepted. Moreover, the Categorisation Committee was not a pay commission or pay revision commission.

SHRI B. R. KABADE : Is it a fact that the Nasik Press workers are also involved in strike, and if so, what is their number?

SHRI IQBAL SINGH : We have no information about it.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : This Categorisation Committee headed by Shri P. K. Sen was formed because on the Pay Commission proper representation was not given to the press workers. The Categorisation Committee submitted its report long ago. Then we had many rounds of discussions with government representatives and the Minister and we were assured that the recommendations would, after discussion, be sent to Finance for concurrence. Has any decision been taken to see that Finance do concur with the recommendations of the Categorisation Committee so as to give entire satisfaction to the employees?

SHRI IQBAL SINGH : As far as the recommendation of the Pay Categorisation Committee is concerned, I admit there were so many meetings between the

workers representatives and Government officials, and we have sent our recommendation to Finance as Finance are also concerned, and we are finalising all these recommendations, and we may lay them on the Table of House in a day or two.

श्री रणधीर सिंह : स्पीकर साहब, एक मिसाल मझूर है "बकरी दूध तो देती है, लेकिन मँगनियां कर के देती है।"

MR. SPEAKER : This is the Question Hour.

श्री रणधीर सिंह : मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जब मांगें ठीक हैं, उनकी बातें आपके सामने आती हैं, बाकायदा टाक्स होती हैं, तो मिनिस्टर साहब वहीं बातें पहले ही क्यों नहीं मान लेते, जायज बातें क्यों नहीं मान लेते? क्या वजह है कि स्ट्राइक की नीवत आती है?

श्री इकबाल सिंह : जहाँ तक उनकी मांगों का ताल्लुक है, जो-जो मांगें ठीक होती हैं, उन को मन्जूर करते हैं, लेकिन जो ठीक नहीं होती हैं उन को मन्जूर नहीं कर सकते। जहाँ तक इस बात का ताल्लुक है कि हम किसी प्रेशर से उनकी मांगें मन्जूर करते हैं या नामन्जूर करते हैं—यह ठीक नहीं है। वह एक कैटेगरी इजेशन कमेटि है, पे-कर्मिशन नहीं है, इसलिये जो मांगें मानी जा सकती थीं, उन को हम ने माना है।

श्री प्रकाश बीर शास्त्री : जो विवरण मंत्री महोदय ने सभा पटल पर रखा है इस में तीन स्थानों पर इस प्रकार की बातें लिखी हैं—कुछ सिफारिशें जो कि सरकार के द्वारा पूरी तरह स्वीकार नहीं थीं, उनकी पुनः समीक्षा की जा सकती है। दूसरी जगह लिखा है—कुछ मांगों पर पुनः समीक्षा की जा सकती है—जो कि सात अतिरिक्त पदों के सम्बन्ध में है। तीसरी जगह लिखा है कि 1961 के बाद तथा 1951 के पूर्व हुई भर्ती का अन्तर समाप्त करने के प्रश्न पर विचार किया जा रहा है। यह जो सरकार का डांबाडोल मन है क्या यही कारण है कि जिस के कारण इस प्रकार के महत्व-

पूर्ण मुद्रणालय में हड़ताल हुई है। आज ही प्रातःकाल लोक सभा के जो कागज गये हैं, उस में यह सूचना भेजी गई है कि मुद्रणालय में हड़ताल होने के कारण दूसरी चाँजे छप नहीं पा रही हैं अर्थात् इस हड़ताल का प्रभाव इतनी महत्वपूर्ण लोक सभा की कार्यवाही पर भी पड़ा है। सरकार एक बार निर्णय कर डाले कि हम ने यह सुविधा देनी है और यह नहीं देनी है, ऐसा कह कर कि विचार किया जा रहा है ऐसी स्थिति में सरकार कब तक इस मुद्रणालय को रखना चाहती है ?

श्री इकबाल सिंह : यह ठीक है कि जहाँ पर लोक सभा और राज्य सभा के कागज छपते हैं, वहाँ आज हड़ताल हो गई है, लेकिन जहाँ तक इस बात का ताल्लुक है कि कौन-कौन सी बातें मन्जूर की जा सकती हैं, वे हम ने मन्जूर की हैं और उन्हें मैं एक-दो दिन में टेबिल पर रख दूंगा। जो-जो बातें मन्जूर की जा सकती थीं, उन को मन्जूर किया गया है, एक भी ऐसी बात नहीं है जो हम मुनासिब समझते थे और उस को मन्जूर न किया गया हो। जो बातें मन्जूर नहीं की जा सकती थीं, जैसे जो बातें कंटेनराइजेशन कमेटी के अख्तियारात से आगे जा सकती थीं, उन को मन्जूर नहीं किया गया।

श्री शिव नारायण : अध्यक्ष महोदय, हड़तालों का मैजोरिटी मालिकों से ज्यादा है। देश के अर्थ को उत्पन्न करने में वे ज्यादा सहायक हैं। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जैसा मिनिस्टर साहब ने अभी कहा है कि उन्होंने फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर को रिपोर्ट किया है, मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि वह रिपोर्ट आपने क्या की है, वह जरा बता दीजिये ?

श्री इकबाल सिंह : मैंने यहाँ कहा है कि वे बातें फाइनेंस मिनिस्ट्री को भेजी गई हैं और जो उन्होंने मन्जूर की हैं, उस के मुताबिक हम ने मन्जूर किया है।

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

CALCUTTA HIGH COURT JUDGEMENT ON 'GHERAOS'

*181. SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the Calcutta High Court judgement on the illegality of the 'Gherao' movement and harassment of the factory executives and technicians; and

(b) if so, the measures Government propose to take to set matters right in the light of the above judgement and check the deteriorating law and order situation in the industrial belt of the country ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN) : (a) Government of West Bengal have informed us that their two relevant circular letters have been quashed by the Calcutta High Court as bad in law and *ultra vires* of the Constitution. Certified copies of the judgement are awaited.

(b) The State Government have instructed all the concerned authorities not to take any action in accordance with the instructions contained in their circulars dated 27th March 1967 and 12th June 1967 which had been quashed by the High Court.

BERTHING PROBLEM AT KANDLA PORT

*187. SHRI VIRENDRAKUMAR SHAH : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a ship has to wait for over ten days in the mid-stream for berthing at Kandla;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Kandla port authorities, after the ship is berthed, take as much as twenty days to unload the cargo;

(c) if so, the reasons for such delays in berthing at Kandla;

(d) whether it is also a fact that over 50 per cent of the port facilities like cranes and barges are not in a good condition; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to improve the working of the Kandla Port ?