

**Strike by Local Dailies**

\*239. SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI  
SINHA:  
SHRI KANWAR LAL  
GUPTA:  
SHRI RAM GOPAL  
SHALWALE:  
SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the local dailies observed a strike on the 24th January, 1968 and no paper was brought out on the 25th January, 1968;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI HATHI): (a) and (b). A token strike was observed on the 24th January, 1968 by the employees of newspaper establishments, to protest against the non-implementation by employers of the recommendations of the Wage Boards for Journalists and Non-Journalists.

(c) The State Governments have been advised to take necessary steps to secure implementation. The matter has also been discussed at a meeting held with representatives of the employers and workers on the 17th February, 1968, at New Delhi.

**Pension Scheme for Workers**

\*240. SHRI YASHPAL SINGH:  
SHRI DEVEN SEN:  
SHRI D. C. SHARMA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme for the conversion of Provident Fund in part into old age and survivorship pension and retirement gratuity benefits for workers under the Employees Provident Fund Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when it will be given effect to?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI HATHI): (a) A proposal to convert a part of the Employees' Provident Fund and the Coal Mines Provident Fund into Retirement-cum-Family Pension is under consideration.

(b) The details have yet to be worked out.

(c) Does not arise.

**Death of Fish due to Pollution of Najafgarh Nullah (Delhi)**

1516. SHRI BABURAO PATEL:  
Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that every day, 15 to 20 maunds of fish die of poisoning due to pollution of the Najafgarh nullah in Delhi which is saturated with toxic waste thrown out by the industrial factories; and

(b) if so, the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) It is a fact that fish die in the Najafgarh nullah in Delhi due to industrial and municipal pollution, although the extent of such mortality has not been accurately estimated.

(b) Two agencies viz. the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute, Barrackpore and the Central Public Health Research Institute, Nagpur, have investigated into the problem. The Delhi Administration have requested the Delhi Municipal Corporation and Hindustan Insecticides Ltd., to ensure that municipal sewage and industrial wastes are rendered harmless before discharge. The Ministry of Health are dealing with the question of introducing suitable