

Strike in P. & T. Dept., West Bengal

*1314. **SHRI DEVEN SEN:** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING, AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that two or three Inspectors of Post Offices have recently been dismissed or suspended and fourteen other employees of the Post Office Krishnagar (West Bengal) have been recently charge-sheeted; and

(b) if so, the reasons of such actions which are against the recent policy announced in Parliament towards the Central Government employees and the strikers ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING, AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SATYA NARAYAN SINHA) (a): Three Inspectors of Post Offices in Nadia Dn. of West Bengal Circle were suspended in September, 1968, one of whom has since been released from suspension on conclusion of disciplinary proceedings. Disciplinary proceedings were initiate against 14 clerks of that Dn. None of the employees has been dismissed.

(b) The proceedings against all the employees were started during the period Oct. to Jan. 1969 i.e. before the announcement of the liberalised Government policy in the Lok Sabha on 13-3-69. The cases are being reviewed further.

Employees' State Insurance Scheme

*1315. **SHRIMATI SUDHA V. REDDY:** Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any reports have been received by Government about the unsatisfactory working of the Employees' State Insurance Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have any plan of evaluating the scheme so as to review its working; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT & REHABILITATION (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD) : (a) to (d). A high level tripartite Committee was set up in 1963 to review the working of the Employees' State Insurance Scheme and to make recommendations so as to ensure more satisfactory functioning of the Scheme. The Committee submitted its report in 1966. Most of the recommendations of the Committee have been accepted either fully or with modifications or in principle. At a recent meeting, the employees' State Insurance Corporation reviewed its financial position and found that its income was not adequate to meet the expenditure. As decided by the Corporation, a new Committee with Union Minister of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation as Chairman has been set up to examine the matter and to suggest ways and means to meet the situation. This Committee has been asked to submit its report before the end of September, 1969.

Retrenchment of Workers In Bokaro Steel Plant

* 1316. **SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA :** Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the workers under the contractors engaged in the construction of Bokaro Steel Plant, have been dismissed in the year 1968-69 ;

(b) if so, how many and on what grounds ;

(c) whether there is no recognised union of the workers in Bokaro Steel Ltd. or Hindustan Steel Works Construction Ltd. ;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(e) whether there are no certified standing orders in the Bokaro Steel Plant ; and