

may be constituted. May I know whether Government is considering such a proposal ?

**SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE :** The Coconut Development Council has been constituted only recently and it would not be right for me to pass a judgment that it should be dissolved and a new body should be set up. I think the council is doing a fine job in advising the Government.

#### Uniform Approach to Labour Problems

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\*635. **SHRI MAYAVAN :**

**SHRI DHANDAPANI :**

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

(a) whether the Union Labour Minister had urged the need for a uniform approach to labour laws and growing labour problems in industries ; and

(b) whether Union Government are preparing any scheme in this regard ?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BISHWANATH ROY) :** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The more important recommendations of the National Commission on Labour which provide a basis for such an approach, have already been discussed at the tripartite Standing Labour Committee. Action is being considered in the light of the Committee's conclusions.

**SHRI MAYAVAN :** May I know whether the labour laws are different for different categories of labour ? May I also know whether the disparity in the laws between highly paid workers and low-paid workers is the cause of all the trouble and heart-burning in industries ? If so, how is the Government going to solve the problem ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD) :** As it is known to the House, it is in the Concurrent List. There are certain laws which are in the Central sphere and some State Governments have got their own laws. Though we are striving for uniformity in the laws, as recommended by the National Labour Com-

mission, because of the nature of the industry and type of work there is bound to be some differences in the labour laws of different States. So far as wages are concerned, there is some difference between agriculture and industry. Our attempt is always to rationalise it as far as possible.

**श्री रामावतार शास्त्री :** यह प्रश्न लेबर-लाज यूनियन फार्म करने के सम्बन्ध में है। हर आदमी जानता है कि हमारे देश में बीड़ी मजदूर लाखों की तादाद में हैं और उनकी तनख्वाहों में 1 रु० से 4 रु० तक का फर्क है मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि उनकी आर्थिक स्थिति को देखते हुए क्या सरकार एक समान मजदूर कानून पूरे हिन्दुस्तान के पैमाने पर लागू करने का विचार रखती है ? अगर नहीं रखती है तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** इसमें बीड़ी मजदूरों का सवाल नहीं उठता है।

**श्री रामावतार शास्त्री :** बीड़ी वाले भी मजदूर हैं, जब लेबर-लाज का सवाल आता है तो उनका सवाल भी पैदा होता है।

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** यह एक जैनरल क्वेश्चन है, जिसका जवाब उन्होंने दे दिया है।

#### Expenditure on Arbitration Cases by Food Department

\*636. **SHRIMATI SUCHETA KRIPALANI :** Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Food even after transferring the work of Procurement and Distribution of Food grains to the Food Corporation of India is still incurring expenditure on maintaining staff/officers on account of a considerable number of arbitration cases still going on for the fear that in case of their early finalisation, some posts of officers might be abolished ;

(b) whether in a number of Arbitration cases, where the Department of Food is the claimant, the delay in finalisation of those Arbitration cases is unnecessarily causing loss to Government ; and