

है उसमें 48 प्रतिशत आयरन होता है और जो हमारी इस्पात इंडस्ट्री इस्तेमाल करती है उसमें 62 परसेंट आयरन होता है तो इतना बड़ा भेद होते हुए भी मैं जानना चाहूँगा मंत्री महोदय से कि जो जापान का इस्पात आता है उस की कीमत कम क्यों होती है और आप के इस्पात की कीमत अधिक क्यों होती है, क्या इस के संबंध में आप ने कोई छानबीन की है ?

श्री ब० रा० मगत : यह कहना तो सही नहीं होगा जो कि बाहर से आयात हो कर इस्पात आता है उसकी सब की कीमत कम है और हमारे यहां के इस्पात की कीमत ज्यादा है। ऐसी बात नहीं है। उदाहरण के लिए बिलेट के आयात की बात हम ने की तो उसकी कीमत यहां बहुत ज्यादा पड़ जाती है, इसलिए कोई बिलेट मंगवाना नहीं चाहता है। मेरा अपना ख्याल है और ख्याल नहीं है बल्कि यह बात आंकड़ों से साबित हो जायेगी कि हमारे स्टील प्लान फुल रेटेड कैपेसिटी तक प्रोडक्शन करने लग जायें तो उन के दाम भी बाहर के इस्पात के मुकाबिले में बिल्कुल ठीक जचेंगे।

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

Strike by Madras Harbour Workers engaged by Food Corporation of India

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S.N.Q. 2. SHRI E. K. NAYANAR :
SHRI SHRI CHAND
GOYAL :

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

(a) whether Government are aware that about three thousand workers in Madras Harbour, engaged by the Food Corporation of India, are continuing the strike ; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to settle the Labour dispute ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BISHWANATH ROY) : (a) and (b). The strike by the Food Corporation of India workers of Madras Port num-

bering about 2800 which began on 30-10-1970 was called off on 17-11-1970 as a result of an agreement reached between the Food Corporation of India and the workers' representatives.

SHRI E. K. NAYANAR : Port workers' strike took place not only in Madras but also in Calcutta and Visakhapatnam. Some labour issues have arisen after the strike. The Madras Port workers started the strike on 30-10-1970. But only on November 17, after 16 days, did Government take the initiative in showing a conciliatory attitude. After 5 days of strike, the Labour Commissioner initiated conciliation proceedings. At the rate of Rs. 1 lakh a day, Rs. 16 lakhs of rupees were lost as a result of the strike.

There are two Unions working there. They had submitted their demands ..

MR. SPEAKER : No introduction necessary ; straight question.

SHRI E. K. NAYANAR : Parliament has already passed legislation about casual labour, but Government has not implemented it. It has not brought it to the notice of the Madras Government for implementation. Here the Food Corporation is the employer. They have to give decasualisation and medical benefits to casual labour. Why has not the Ministry intimated this to the Madras Government ? Will Government constitute a machinery to avert such strikes, or if a strike does not take place, bring about a settlement as early as possible ? As I said, after four days, the conciliation machinery started moving. By then Rs. 4 lakhs had been already lost. Why has this happened ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD) : It is true that the All India Port and Dock Workers' Federation gave a list of demands, 13 in number, on 26 August, 1970. Immediately the Food Corporation of India suggested to the zonal managers after consulting the President of the Federation that the demands should be discussed at the local level and those not settled will thereafter be taken up at the General level. When this initiative was taken immediately after receiving the notice of demands, the workers went on strike from

the first shift on 30-10-1970. Therefore, in this case it would be appreciated that the Corporation immediately consulted the Federation and wanted to settle the dispute. But the strike took place. Immediately thereafter, the conciliation officer moved in. But the parties did not want conciliation and said they would like to settle it on a bipartite basis. Therefore, they went into the question and have settled it among themselves. The moment, an agreement was reached, the strike was called off.

SHRI E. K. NAYANAR : The Calcutta Port workers' strike was settled previously. Why was this not done in the case of the Madras strike also.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : I can speak about Madras, not about Calcutta.

SHRI SHRI CHAND GOYAL : I learn from the press reports that because of the callousness, negligence and inefficiency of the Food Corporation officials the strike came about. Their main demands were about regularisation of the temporary employees, increase in attendance allowance, introduction of the gratuity scheme and liberalisation of the piece-rate scheme.

May I know what has been decided in regard to these demands, and also whether, in view of the recommendations of the Labour Commission, the Government is contemplating to create a machinery on the pattern of the Industrial Relations Commission, so that the procedure of reference of cases to Tribunals by the Government can be done away with, and these matters can be settled more easily and more quickly?

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : I can lay a copy of the agreement arrived at between the workers and the employers, on the Table of the House. I need not read the whole thing. About the second part of the question regarding IRC, it has been discussed at different levels, and after a consensus is arrived at, we propose to come to Parliament along with the matter of recognition of unions, and that will be the proper time for us to speak about that aspect of the matter.

SHRI S. KUNDU : The Minister knows very well that nobody goes on a strike for pleasure. There are certain compelling

reasons which drive the workers, and being frustrated in all their efforts, they resort to strike. When the charter of demands was given on the 26th August, may I know why nothing was done till 30th October and the workers had to resort to strike? This agreement could have been arrived at earlier and the strike averted if the Food Corporation and other authorities had been prompt. Why did they not immediately discuss the matter and arrive at a decision?

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : As I said in reply to an earlier question, it is true that a list of 10 demands was received on 26th August, 1970 from the All India Port and Dock Workers' Federation controlled by HMS. After the strike started, a list of five demands came from the Progressive Union, Madras. The moment this list was received the Food Corporation of India instructed the Zonal Manager after consultation with the President of the All India Port and Dock Workers' Federation, and they themselves agreed that these demands should be settled locally, and what could not be settled at the local level could be taken up at the Central level. So, it will be appreciated that the moment the demands were received, the Food Corporation moved into the matter and consulted the President of the Federation and wanted to discuss and settle the charter of demands, but in the meantime on 30th they went on strike.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछराय : अध्यक्ष महोदय, जिन यूनियनों ने इस हड़ताल में भाग लिया, वे कौन कौन सी यूनियन्ज थीं, उनके किन राजनीतिक दलों से सम्बन्ध थे? कैजुअल लेबर की बात यहां पिछले कई दिनों से चली आ रही है, यह कोई नई समस्या नहीं खड़ी हुई है, मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या आपने उन को स्थायी कर दिया है? जिस चार्टर आफ डिमाण्ड्स की बात कही गई है, मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि कौन कौन सी 13 मांगें आप ने मान ली हैं, क्या आप को ऐसा विश्वास है कि भविष्य में हड़ताल नहीं होगी, क्योंकि आप ने उन की मांगें मान ली हैं?

श्री सागरबत भ्ता आजाद : जिन्होंने हड़ताल की सूचना दी थी और साथ में 13 मांगें दी थीं

उनका सम्बन्ध एच० एम० एस० से है। दूसरी इण्डिपेन्डन्ट यूनिट है, जिस ने स्ट्राइक में हिस्सा लेने के बाद पांच मांगें दी थीं। जहाँ तक दूसरे प्रश्न का सम्बन्ध है, जो एग्रीमेंट हुआ है, उसकी कापी मैं सदन के पटल पर रख दूंगा ताकि आप देख सकें कि किस किस के सम्बन्ध में फैसला हो गया है।

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Expert Committee to go into Problems of Key Industries

*304. SHRI R. BARUA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNAL TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is proposed to set up an Expert Committee to go into the problems of the key industries and to improve their performance ; and

(b) if so, the details of the steps proposed or already taken ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNAL TRADE (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : (a) and (b). Under the revised licensing policy which came into effect from 19th February, 1970, certain industries have been defined as being in the core sector. A list of such industries is enclosed. It is presumed that the question relates to this group of industries. It is envisaged that fairly detailed plans in respect of each of these industries will be prepared with a view to ensure that the development of these industries is in accordance with the overall needs of the economy in so far as these industrial sectors are concerned. It is also proposed that necessary inputs would also be provided to these industries to the extent practicable. It will be necessary to keep a close watch on the implementation of the development plans for these industries, as soon as these are finalised, and to ensure necessary coordination for effecting this purpose. While there is no proposal to set up an Expert Committee as such to go into the problems of the core industries, it is under consideration as to the arrangements as may be necessary to bring about necessary coordination and effective implementation of

various programmes and projects in the industrial sector. The precise arrangements in this regard are still under consideration.

Statement

CORE INDUSTRIES

1. Agricultural Inputs
 - (a) Fertilisers
 - (i) Nitrogenous
 - (ii) Phosphatic
 - (b) Pesticides (basic chemicals only)
 - (c) Tractors and power tillers.
 - (d) Rock-phosphate and pyrites
2. Iron and steel.
 - (a) Iron ore
 - (b) Pig iron and steel
 - (c) Alloy and special steels
3. Non-ferrous Metals.
4. Petroleum
 - (a) Oil exploration and production
 - (b) Petroleum refining
 - (c) selected petro-chemicals
 - (i) Integrated petro-chemicals complexes
 - (ii) DMT
 - (iii) Caprolactum
 - (iv) Acrylonitrile
 - (v) Synthetic rubber
5. Coking Coal
6. Heavy Industrial machinery
 - (i) Paper Machinery
 - (ii) Chemical machinery
 - (iii) Specialised machine tools
 - (iv) Rubber machinery
 - (v) Printing machinery
7. Ship building and Dredgers.
8. Newsprint.
9. Electronics

(Selected electronic components which will be deemed to be in the core sector will be :)

 - (i) Resistances, fixed and variable
 - (ii) Condensers or capacitors, fixed and variable
 - (iii) Semi-conductors, including diodes-