

bringing new refugees only to win the elections and they are issuing new ration cards also. So what is the Government reaction regarding this ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI ARUN NEHRU : We were talking about Jamshedpur and Bihar and suddenly we have gone to Bengal and the relief problems. This is not relevant to the main question. But I do not mind replying at all. The Hon. Member has made very valid points. We will take it up with the Chief Minister of West Bengal.

Problems of Central Government employees due to five day week schedule

*187. **SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI :** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the Central Government employees are facing too many problems including of transport and increase in expenditure after the introduction of five-day week; and

(b) if so, the remedial measures taken or contemplated by Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No such instances of problems regarding transport or increase in expenditure have come to the notice of Government.

(b) In view of (a) above, does not arise.

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : I would like to know from the Government whether the introduction of the five day week has led to any reduction in the expenditure by way of less expenses on transportation and increased efficiency of the employees as a result of the two days' rest. If so what are the facts ?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : The five day week came into effect from 3rd June 1985 and I think we should give it a little more time before we make an assessment of its success or otherwise.

As far as efficiency is concerned, we do not see that there has been any drop in output or anything like of that. I think by and large the employees are happy with the five day week.

The five day week does not reduce the total number of working hours. The total number of working hours is 37 1/2 hours.

As far as the expenditure of the employees is concerned, I think there is a saving on transport and incidental expenses because they do not have to work on Saturdays which they had to do earlier. I think the employees do save on transport and incidental expenses.

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : I want to know whether the Government has received any representation from the public that a lot of inconvenience is caused after the introduction of the five day week, especially to those who come from far off places. If so, whether the Government is seriously thinking of revising the present proposal ? I would also like to know as to how many States have introduced this system of 5-day week ?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : We have not received any complaints from the public that the 5-day week has affected efficiency. There is no proposal at present to revert to 6-day week, I do not have any information as to how many States have introduced this system or not.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Allocation of rice and wheat to State/Union Territories

*188. **KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI :** Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :