

SHRI C. SAMBU : Sir, the Union Government collected crores of rupees from the beedi workers in the name of cess. But the Central Government did not do anything to the poor beedi workers. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what are the facilities extended by the Centre for the welfare of a large number of unorganised sector of beedi workers in general and in Andhra Pradesh in particular, and were they efforts made by the Centre to bring the unorganised beedi workers into the organised sector.

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY) : Sir, the schemes and facilities given to the beedi workers are reservation of beds in T.B. Hospitals scheme for purchase of spectacles, scheme for Leprosy relief, maternity benefits, setting up of hospitals and dispensaries, Group Insurance scheme for beedi workers, Build your Own House Scheme, Housing Scheme for economically weaker sections of beedi workers, construction of worksheds and godowns, scheme for award of scholarships to sons and daughters of the beedi workers, supply of one set of school dress, Scheme for supply of colour Television set to cooperative Societies.

MR. SPEAKER : You can lay it on the Table of the House.

SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY : There are various schemes for them.

SHRI C. SAMBU : Sir, though the schemes are there, they are not implemented in proper manner.

My second supplementary is, is there any proposal to issue identity cards to beedi workers and whether minimum wages scheme is implemented for the beedi workers in our country ?

SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY : The question specially relates to the welfare measures taken from the beedi workers cess fund. It does not relate to the minimum wages of the beedi workers.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Sir, the answer given by the hon. Minister itself clearly shows that a lot of amount is being collected as cess, which is expected to be spent specially for

the schemes and programmes mentioned by the hon. Minister just now in the detail. But the expenditure details show that the amount is not spent. I would like to know, in view of the shortages on the expenditure side, whether the Government will take all necessary steps to see that more funds are utilised for various schemes like housing. You have given only Rs. 3 lakhs as loans for housing though there are several crores of rupees lying unspent. Will the Government take necessary steps for providing loans, for housing as well as water supply in those areas where the beedi workers are residing in abundance. There are health hazards due to the beedi making and if you provide drinking water supply, it would be quite essential for them. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether concrete measures will be taken to fully utilise this amount intended for the welfare of the beedi workers.

SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY : It is for the concerned State Governments to send these schemes. There are advisory committees in the concerned States. It is they who prepare the scheme and prepare the budget. These schemes are known to the State Governments. It is their responsibility under the Act. They prepare the scheme and send the budget and when we received this, we always approve the scheme and provide the funds. The responsibility lies with the State Government, not with us.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : The hon. Minister has mentioned a number of schemes for the beedi workers. May I remind him that request for a small 10 bedded hospital for beedi workers in Ghosaiganj in my constituency is pending since 1983. The hon. Minister himself has assured that he would sanction it. But unfortunately it is not even now finalised and not sanctioned so far.

SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY : The proposal for setting up of a hospital at Ghosaiganj has been approved recently.

[Translation]

Flyover at Shamli

*399. **SHRI AKHTAR HASAN :** Will

the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a demand for the constructions of a flyover at the railway crossing on Shamli-Muzzafar Nagar road or Shamli-Budhana road in Shamli (Muzzafar Nagar district);

(b) if so, the reasons for not constructing the flyover so far; and

(c) the time by which Government propose to construct the flyover keeping in view the serious problem being faced by the public ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) A few representations have been received in this regard.

(b) and (c). The Railways have not so far received any proposal for the construction of road-over bridge near Shamli, from the State Government.

SHRI AKHTAR HASSAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has been stated in Part (a) of the written reply of the hon. Minister that a few representations have been received in this regard. I have been reminding the Government about this matter since 1985-86 and I had raised it during the Budget Session as well but it has not been implemented so far. Shamli is the biggest town in my constituency. The traffic coming from Muzzafarpur, Roorki, Dehradun, Hardwar and Saharanpur and Delhi and Harayana bound traffic passes through this town. The sugar mills are situated here and due to buggies considerable traffic congestion is created and the railway crossing further adds to this problem because the traffic has to wait for hours for the trains to pass and the barriers to be removed. Therefore, it is very necessary to construct the flyover and I request you to do so at the earliest.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has informed me that he has been reminding me about this matter from time to time through his speeches in the House and through letters addressed to me. I would also like to remind the hon. Member that whenever

this matter has been raised in the House, I replied to it and whenever he had written a letter to me in this regard I replied him and the Government is prepared to consider this proposal but it must come to us through the State Government and I thank the hon. Member that he has provided me an opportunity to reiterate our earlier stand that we are prepared to consider the matter provided a proposal to this effect is submitted to us by the State Government (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Why are discussions being held in separate groups in this House ?

SHRI AKHTAR HASAN : The hon. Minister has stated that the railway crossing is situated near shamli but I want to inform him that it is not situated in the outskirts of Shamli but it is situated in the heart of the town which is a thickly populated area as a result of which the vehicles and the Pedestrains have to wait for the railway crossing to be opened. That is why I have been requesting you since 1985-86 for the construction of this bridge. This railway crossing is not situated in the outskirts of the town but right at the centre of it. As construction of Railway Bridges comes under the purview of the Central Government so the Government should take the necessary initiative and direct the State Government to send a proposal in this regard. Action should be taken as early as possible and I submit that the hon. Minister may assure us as to when action is to be taken in this regard.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has reiterated that he has been reminding us since 1986 about this matter and I also like to remind the hon. Members in this connection that whenever this matter was brought to my notice, I wrote the hon. Member that the proposal should be routed through the State Government, only then it will be considered by us.

SHRI YASHPAL SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to submit that the hon. Member is keeping on reminding from here and the same is being done by the hon. Minister from there.

MR. SPEAKER : They are doing wrong. I want to submit that if he invites the hon. Minister and all of us during the mango season, his work will be accomplished.

SHRI YASHPAL SINGH : I was about to make this proposal. Will the hon. Minister accept our invitation and pay a visit to that place along with the hon. Chief Minister and in case he finds it necessary to accept the proposal of the hon. Member, is he prepared to issue immediate instructions in this regard ?

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, according to our criteria, we consider the construction of a flyover only when one lakh train vehicle units pass through the level crossing. Still we are prepared to consider this proposal if it comes to us through the concerned State Government. I want to inform the hon. Member that two meetings were held on 4th May and 3rd August respectively under the Chairmanship of the Minister of Public Works, Uttar Pradesh and in these meetings the proposal for the construction of 3 or 4 bridges was approved but this bridge did not figure in the meeting at all.

[English]

Airlink to Port Blair

*400. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to start air service from Delhi to Port Blair via Bhubaneswar;

(b) whether Government propose to extend air service from Madras to Port Blair via Car Nicobar at least once in a year; and

(c) if so, when the flight is likely to commence ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no such proposal.

(c) Does not arise.

MR. SPEAKER : The question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Airport Management

*387. SHRI D. P. JADEJA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Airports Authority is responsible for proper management of domestic airports;

(b) if so, the arrangements made at the airports and on the planes for complaints/suggestions by the passengers in regard to problems faced by them at the airports; and

(c) the action taken by the National Airports Authority on these complaints ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Complaint registers are available with Caretakers on duty at airports. Suggestion cards are placed on board all Indian Airlines' flights. To encourage passengers to make constructive suggestions, in flight announcements are made soliciting their views.

(c) As soon as a complaint is received, the Aerodrome Officer incharge or the Controller of Aerodrome incharge takes immediate suitable remedial action.

Prosecution of Newspaper Establishments for Violation of Working Journalists (Fixation of Rates of Wages) Act

*389. SHRI SATENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether some newspaper establishments have been prosecuted for violation of