

(c) A BE employee was detailed for outstation duty on 13-8-89. He was carrying material worth approx. Rs. 1.5 lakhs in a locable briefcase supplied by the Company. The briefcase was stolen, and a regular enquiry established negligence on the part of the employee. He was penalised by reduction of pay by 3 stages of increments.

(d) Since negligence on the part of the employee was established, the question of withdrawing the penalty imposed does not arise.

(e) The BE Workers' Union had sought insurance of costly materials carried by train and provision of escort. The Company is now obtaining insurance cover for equipment being transported; it has not been found necessary to detail an escort particularly when items are being carried in briefcases or small packages.

साहित्य अकादमी द्वारा प्रकाशित पुस्तकें

1356. श्री गंकर दयाल सिंह : क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान साहित्य अकादमी, दिल्ली द्वारा प्रकाशित की गयी पुस्तकों और पत्रिकाओं पर किये गये व्यय और उनसे हुई आय का ब्यौरा क्या है और

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि वहां पर पुस्तकों की बिक्री से अधिक उनके प्रकाशन पर ध्यान दिया जाता है ?

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री विमल भाई मेहता) : (क) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान साहित्य अकादमी, नई दिल्ली द्वारा प्रकाशित पुस्तकों और पत्रिकाओं पर

हुए तथा उनकी बिक्री से हुई आय के ब्यौरे इस प्रकार हैं :—

(लाख रुपयों में)

वर्ष	आय	व्यय
1987-88	12.03	18.09
1988-89	13.89	29.76
1989-90	19.41	32.86

(ख) जी, नहीं, व्यय के उपरोक्त आंकड़ों में स्टाफ पर हुए व्यय का भाग भी शामिल है। अकादमी द्वारा प्रकाशनों की बिक्री पर पर्याप्त ध्यान दिया जा रहा है। अकादमी के अपने बिक्री केन्द्रों से होने वाली सीधी बिक्री के अलावा, देश के विभिन्न भागों में वितरकों के माध्यम से भी प्रचार और आकर्षक छूट पद्धति के आधार पर प्रोत्साहन द्वारा बिक्री को बढ़ावा दिया जाता है।

Demands of Border Road Workers Union, Jammu and Kashmir State

1357. SHRI A. NALLASIVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a memorandum dated 12th April, 1990 from the Border Road Workers Union, Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details of the problems and demands contained therein; and

(c) the action taken by Government to solve the said problems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A statement is attached.

Statement

The problems listed in the said Memorandum are as follows:—

(i) In spite of continuously working for years together, service of majority of workers is still not permanent. The service conditions are also like those of 'bonded labour'.

(ii) Termination of services of about 2000 workers without any reason and on fabricated grounds.

(iii) Termination of workers and their fresh appointment have become a racket and an integral part of corruption in the Border Roads Organisation.

(iv) Existing workers are being utilised for maintenance and repair jobs but bills are being drawn showing fresh appointment of workers.

(v) Workers associated with the Border Roads Workers' Union are being harassed by the management.

(vi) There has been irregular deduction of wages for 2 days from workers who went to vote in the last Parliamentary election held in November, 1989.

Besides the above problems, the following demands have also been made:—

(a) Permanency of all workers in Border Road Organisation.

(b) Reinstatement of terminated employees.

(c) Implementation of all labour laws in BRO.

(d) Refund of two days' wages deducted from workers' salary for the day of election, and immediate action against the officers who instructed for such deduction.

(e) Payment of Height/funnel allowance as per scales of M/s NHPC.

(f) Two sets of Uniforms every year.

(g) Payment of compensation as per Workers Compensation Act.

(h) Recognition of the Border Road Workers' Union.

(i) Probe by an outside Agency into the financial scandals and financial management in BRO.

(j) Implementation of all labour laws in BRO and formulation of service rules in consultation with the union.

(k) Reinstatement of all terminated workmen including 10 Union activists, in consultation with the Union.

In so far as the period of employment of casual workers is concerned, it is clarified that they are employed on "as required basis".

Apart from daily wages, the casual workers engaged by the B.R.O. are entitled to basic items of ration, clothing, medical treatment upto three weeks at a time, out of pocket allowance @ Rs. 6/- per head per day from the place of recruitment to place of works site and warming aids at high altitudes. These workers are also entitled to compensation as per Workmen's Compensation Act.

The engagement of casual worker is based upon the work-load. Due to inadequate work-load, some casual workers were discharged during the year 1989-90.

As regards utilisation of workers for maintenance and repair jobs and intimidation of some workers, the allegations are without any substance.

The casual workers were allowed to observe an unpaid holiday for polling on 24th November 1989 with the proviso that this shall be treated as working day for computation of 6 working days immediate preceding the day of rest. The Audit has, however, not admitted the claim and have deducted two days wages. Steps have been initiated to correct this irregularity.

It is not possible to give permanency to the casual workers in the organisation since they are employed purely on "as required basis".

As the engagement or disengagement takes place on "as required basis" as per the workload, it is not possible to re-engage all these workers. However, as a matter of practice, in case of require-

ment for Casual Paid Labourers (CPLs) preference is given to the retrenched CPLs in re-engagement, subject to their conforming to the prescribed guidelines.

रक्षा कार्मिकों के आश्रितों को पेंशन

1358. कुमारी सरोज खापड़े : क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या यह सच है कि रक्षा कार्मिकों की आकस्मिक मृत्यु हो जाने पर उनके आश्रितों को पेंशन दी जाती है ;

(ख) क्या यह सच भी है कि ऐसे मामलों का हर चार वर्ष के बाद पुनरीक्षण किया जाता है ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या यह भी सच है कि हाल ही में कुछ संसद सदस्यों ने पत्र लिखकर यह अनुरोध किया है कि ऐसे आश्रितों को चार वर्षों के बाद भी पेंशन मिलती रहे ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो ऐम पत्रों के आधार पर कितने आश्रितों को पेंशन मंजूर की गयी ?

रक्षा मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा० राजा रमन्ना) : (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) जी, नहीं । केवल उन अफसरों के आश्रितों के पेंशन संबंधी मामलों की हर तीन वर्ष बाद पुनरीक्षा की जाती है, जिनकी मृत्यु 1.1.1986 से पूर्व हो गयी थी ।

(ग) जी, हां ।

(घ) शुन्य ।

Environmental Pollution in Europe and India

1359. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government attention has been drawn to a news report which appeared in the "Time International" of the 9th April, 1990 regarding environmental pollution in Europe; if so, whether some industrial areas in India are also in the grip of similar situation;

(b) whether Government are aware that similar situation exists in VAPI in Gujarat and also in parts of Delhi, Faridabad, Jamshedpur, etc; if so, the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken; and

(c) whether a standing monitoring cell would be created with a strong NGO representation therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government along with the State Pollution Control Boards (PCB) have prepared an action plan for controlling pollution in critically polluted industrial areas. The PCBs have directed the industries to comply with the prescribed standards within a stipulated period.

(c) There is no proposal to create a standing monitoring cell with a strong NGO representation as the Central and State Pollution Control Boards are taking necessary steps to monitor and control pollution. However, for environmental clearance of projects, there is representation for non-officials in the committees set up for examining the proposals submitted to the Government.

Competence of EAROS to sign Enrolment Forms

1360. SHRIMATI MANORAMA PANDEY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Extra Assistant Recruiting Officers are competent to sign the enrolment forms of the recruits in such capacity as EARO;