

of the steep price rise grades 'A' and 'B' of mill made paper;

(b) whether prices have escalated several times since 1950, and if so, details of prices at the end of 1950, 1960, 1970, 1980 and 1987;

(c) whether the 3 major paper mills have raised prices four times since 1st October, 1987; and

(d) whether Government are aware that this is adversely affecting publishers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) In line with the general price trend in the country, and on account of increase in the cost of inputs, etc., the prices of paper have also increased from time to time. The index numbers of wholesale prices in India for paper and paper products (base 1970-71-100) for the relevant years is as follows:—

Year	Index
1950	72.0
1960	81.8
1970	99.1
1980	258.9
1987	400.7

Some of the paper mills have reportedly revised their ex-mill prices of different varieties of paper and paper board more than once during the year 1988.

(d) It has been brought to the notice of Government that the book publishing industry is facing some difficulties on account of the rise in prices of paper. Steps have been taken by the Government to increase the production of paper and paper board in the country, as a result of which

the production has gone up substantially, leading to easy availability in the market.

Rules made under Indian Telegraph Act

1268. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rules framed under Section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 have been amended since 1951;

(b) what are the latest rules made under the said Act; and

(c) what are the provisions under which an officer authorised under Section 3 of the Act could be punished for abuse or misuse of his powers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Rules framed under Section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885, called the Indian Telegraph Rules, 1951 have been amended a number of times since 1951. These have been published as part of Posts and Telegraphs Manual Volume I Part II (Legislative Enactment) corrected upto 1.9.84. Since then they have been amended 30 times. The latest amendment has been issued on 2-11-1988. All the amendments are also placed on the Table of the House/as and when carried on.

(c) No provision exists in the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 or Indian Telegraph Rules 1951 against abuse or misuse of powers by an officer authorised under Section 3 of the Act.

विहाड़ी मजदूरों का नियमित किया जाना

1269. श्री ईश दत्त यादव

क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि दूरसंचार

विभाग/डाक-तार विभाग के दिहाड़ी मजदूरों की सेवाओं को नियमित किए जाने संबंधी मामले को लेकर भारतीय डाक-तार मजदूर संघ ने आन्दोलन आरम्भ करने का नोटिस दिया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में उच्चतम न्यायालय के इस आशय के निर्देशों का पालन करने में विलम्ब के क्या कारण हैं कि उन सभी दिहाड़ी मजदूरों को स्थायी कर दिया जाए जो एक साल से ज्यादा की सेवा पूरी कर चुके हैं ;

(ग) इस विभाग के उन दिहाड़ी मजदूरों की राज्यवार संख्या कितनी-कितनी है जो दो साल या इससे अधिक की सेवा पूरी कर चुके हैं लेकिन अभी तक उनकी सेवाओं को नियमित नहीं किया गया है ; और

(घ) उक्त मजदूर संघ और दूर-संचार विभाग के बीच 18 अप्रैल, 1987 को हुए समझौते का ज्वारा क्या है और उसे कब तक कार्यान्वित किया जाएगा ?

संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री निरिधर गामांगे) : (क) भारतीय डाक-तार मजदूर मंच (संघ नहीं) जो एक मान्यता प्राप्त यूनियन नहीं है, दूरसंचार विभाग में नैमित्तिक मजदूरों को नियमित करने संबंधी मामले को लेकर संचार भवन के सामने घरने के रूप में अनिश्चित काल के लिए 20-9-1988 से आन्दोलन पर बैठा हुआ है ।

(ख) उच्चतम न्यायालय के विभाग को यथा संभव एक मीलिंग आधार पर उन नैमित्तिक मजदूरों को खपाने के लिए केवल एक योजना तैयार करने का निर्देश दिया है जो एक वर्ष से अधिक समय से निरंतर काम करते आ रहे हैं । तदनुसार सरकार के नीति संबंधी मार्ग-निर्देश सिद्धांतों के अनुसार उन्हें विभाग में खपाने का कार्य किया जा रहा है ।

(ग) दूरसंचार विभाग में दो या इससे अधिक वर्षों से कार्य कर रहे नैमित्तिक मजदूरों की संख्या लगभग 92,550 है । इसमें महानगर टेलीफोन निगम लि०

शामिल नहीं है । 15-2-1987 को राज्यवार ज्वारा विवरण में दिया गया है (नीचे देखिए) ।

(घ) विभाग ने भारतीय डाक-तार मजदूर मंच के साथ कोई समझौता नहीं किया था ।

8. 15.2.1987 को स्थिति
विवरण

नैमित्तिक मजदूरों के बारे में जानकारी—
15.2.1987 की स्थिति

राज्य/संघ राज्य क्षेत्र का नाम	दो या उससे अधिक वर्षों की सेवाएँवाधि वाले नैमित्तिक मजदूरों की संख्या
1. आन्ध्र प्रदेश	9806
2. अरुणाचल प्रदेश	60
3. असम	1278
4. बिहार	3696
5. गुजरात	7085
6. हरियाणा	1797
7. हिमाचल प्रदेश	297
8. जम्मू एवं कश्मीर	1400
9. कर्नाटक	7733
10. केरल	6921
11. महाराष्ट्र	10855
12. मध्य प्रदेश	6170
13. मणिपुर	160
14. मेघालय	290
15. मिजोरम	45
16. नागालैंड	136
17. उड़ीसा	1588
18. पंजाब	3424
19. राजस्थान	4603
20. तमिलनाडु	10115
21. त्रिपुरा	143

राज्य/संघ राज्य क्षेत्र का नाम	दो या उससे अधिक वर्षों की सेवा प्रवधि वाले नैमित्तिक मजदूरों की संख्या
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22. उत्तर प्रदेश	8733
23. पश्चिम बंगाल	5728
24. दिल्ली	462
25. अंडमान एवं निकोबार	1
26. चंडीगढ़	14
27. पाण्डेचेरी	37

कुल : 92,547

Rise in the Industrial sickness in the country

1270. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Industrial sickness has been rising in the country day by day;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) how far it has increased at present in comparison to the preceding three years; and

(d) what steps are being taken or are proposed to be taken by Government to stop industrial sickness in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) Data on sick industrial units in the country, assisted by banks, are collected by the Reserve Bank of India. The latest available data from RBI in this regard is upto June, 1987. The figures

for the last three years as on the dates mentioned below are as follows:

Total No. of sick large, medium and small scale units

December, 1984	93,282
December, 1985	1,19,600
December, 1986	1,47,740
June, 1987	1,59,283

Generally, a number of causes, both internal and external, often operating in combination, have been responsible for industrial sickness. Some of the principal causes are faulty planning, management deficiencies, inefficient financial control, diversion of resources, inadequate attention to R&D, obsolescence of technology and machinery, poor industrial relations, inadequate demand, shortage of raw material and other inputs and infrastructural constraints.

(d) Some of the major steps taken by the Govt. of India for the revival of sick industrial units are as follows:—

(i) The Government have enacted a comprehensive legislation namely, 'The Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985'. A quasi-judicial body designated as 'The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR)' has been set up under the Act to deal with the problems of sick industrial companies in an effective manner, which has become operational with effect from the 15th May, 1987.

(ii) The Reserve Bank of India have issued guidelines to the banks for strengthening the monitoring systems and for arresting industrial sickness at the incipient stage so that corrective measures are taken in time.

(iii) The banks have also been directed by the Reserve Bank of