

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI:

We are charging interest on these amounts. But a higher rate of interest is not permissible and cannot be levied. We are charging interest at the rate of 17 per cent, the bank rate.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE:

There were and there are many cases of whether or not post-manufacturing expenses should be included as part of the value. Now the Supreme Court has given a verdict in relation to a particular firm. But there are many firms which have also gone to the court trying to avoid taxes on the post-manufacturing expenses. What is the total amount of dues (due to non-disposal of these post-manufacturing expenses cases in different courts and what steps is the Government contemplating in view of the Supreme court judgement to expedite collection from them?

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI : As I said earlier, there are 185 PME cases pending in the Supreme Court involving approximately Rs. 283.73 crores, and 274 PME cases pending in High Courts amounting to approximately Rs. 2511.65 crores. Arguments have been over in 185 cases and they are awaiting judgement. Even though there is a judgement in a particular case, so far as these cases are concerned, each case has been argued, and will be decided on merits.

SHRI A. KADHARSHA: May I

know whether it is a fact that lack of uniformity in assessment of the same goods is mainly responsible for these disputes? If so, I like to know whether Government will instruct (the)...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Question

Demands of Newspapers Employees

"104. SHRI N.E. BALARAM :
SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have examined the demands of the Newspaper Employees Federation, the Indian Federation of working journalists and other organisations which organised a day's protest strike on the 2nd April, 1986 to press their demands : and

(b) if so, what action has been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House .

Statement

The All India Newspaper Employees Federation, Indian Federation of working journalists and other organisations had demanded interim relief ranging from Rs. 200/- to Rs. 400/- p.m. for all the newspaper employees irrespective of existing pay-scale. The Newspaper Employees observed one day's strike on 2-4-86 for early announcement of interim relief. The question of interim rates of wages was referred to the Wage Boards for Working Journalists and Non-Journalist Newspapers Employees soon after their constitution under the provisions of Working Journalists and other Newspapers Employees (Conditions of Service) and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1955. Their recommendations are still awaited. The Government have already requested the Chairman, Wage Boards to expedite their recommendations. As soon as the recommendations are received the same will be considered by the Government under Section 13A of the Act.

The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri N.E. Balaram.

SHRI N.E. BALARAM : The hon. Minister in his reply has already stated that the Government are awaiting the recommendations of the Board and when the recommendations are received, the same will be considered. Now, an interim award has already come. The Wage Board has already recommended 7-5 percent of basic pay subject to a minimum of Rs. 45 as the quantum of interim relief. The Wage Board has taken a majority decision disregarding the opinion of two members" representing journalists on the Board. Now there have been widespread protests and yesterday there was a strike by the newspaper employees saying that it was a treachery on the part of the Board—I am using the very same words used by them—"treachery on the part of the Board". The protest is developing. Their demand was that they be given a minimum interim relief of Rs. 400 subject to a minimum of Rs. 60 per month. But this was not accepted by the Board. Hence the protest. Therefore, I ask : Since the Government has got powers will the Government intervene and settle the matter to the satisfaction of the employees ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Before the Minister answers, there is one point [want to mention to him. Mr. Minister, in your answer you have stated that the recommendation are still awaited...

SHRI N.E. BALARAM : The report has already been submitted.

MR. CHAIRMAN : That is what I am pointing out to the Minister. In your statement you say that the recommendations are still awaited. Since this answer is prepared, there has been a change in the circumstance. Actually the recommendations have been given. Therefore, you should have amended the answer before you placed it on the Table of the House.

SHRI SURESH KALMADI : They always give routine answers.

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : विभाग से लिखकर आया होगा महीने पहले, वहाँ दे दिया।

SHRI P. A. SANGMA : Sir, it is not a routine reply and it is not fact that the Board has recommended anything so far. They have not submitted any report. In fact, the last round of the meeting of the Board is taking place. They have started yesterday and they are meeting today. I am told that they are meeting tomorrow also to finalise the report. [Interruptions].

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA : Sir, what is the Government doing ? (Interruptions). They have made some recommendations.

SHRI N. E. BALARAM : No, Sir (Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN : Is that the correct position ?

SHRI N. E. BALARAM : I cannot say whether it is correct or not. This is only according to the newspaper reports.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA : Sir, there was a discussion on this question earlier and they have also admitted that they have recommended something. (Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let us first get the facts correctly. Has there been any recommendation or not, Mr. Minister ?

SHRI P.A. SANGMA : No, Sir. There is no recommendation as yet from the Board. What has happened is that on the 19th and 20th of this month, the Board had met at Madras, and when the Board had met at Madras, there was some discussion. When a suggestion came from some member that the rate of increase should be 7 per cent the representative of the newspaper employees walked out of the meeting and that is how this news came out.

in the newspapers. But I do not know officially what their thinking is and what their recommendation is. I can firmly give a reply that I have no recommendation as yet.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Very good.

SHRI N.E. BALARAM : But there is another thing, Sir. *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH :
But this has appeared only in the newspapers. *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH : Sir, the question is that the Special Mention on this came from the other side the other day. *(Interruption)*. The Special Mention on this came only from the other side Sir. So, that way they cannot have it in this manner. *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE : There is no newspaper today and I think one of the newspapers belong to the Congress (I) Party. *(Interruption)*,

MR. CHAIRMAN : I think we had better skip over this question, because there is a basic difference in the very matter itself. There is the answer by the Minister which must be accepted as correct. He says that there has been no firm recommendation from the wage Board. If that is so, then the other questions on this will become infructuous.

SHRI S.W. DHABE : Sir, we have got other questions to put. *(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will give everybody a chance.

SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM : Sir, please give us time for a Short-Duration Discussion on this issue.

SHRI N.E. BALARAM: Sir,
I want a clarification. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM: Sir, as suggested by Shri Kalyanasundaram, we will have a discussion on this. *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI N.E. BALARAM: Sir, I want a clarification from the Minister.

SHRI S.W. DHABE: Sir, we have got the other aspects of the question and so, you should allow supplementaries,

SHRI N.E. BALARAM : Sir, there are two positions. One is that the recommendations have reached the Minister. *(Interruptions)*. The other? is ...

AN HON. MEMBER: How can you say that? *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI N.E. BALARAM: I am only supposing.

SHRI RAMANAND YADAV :
You should ask the Minister.

SHRI N.E. BALARAM : The point is this: According to the newspaper reports, the recommendations have reached the Minister. But he says that there is no such recommendation. So, I want to know the correct position. *(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. Yes, Mr. Kalyanasundaram.

SHRI N.E. BALARAM: Sir, the Minister has only said that the recommendation has not reached him so far.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Kalyanasundaram.

SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM: Sir, I do not propose to question the integrity of the Minister concerned in a categorical manner in the House that he has not so far received the recommendation. But it does not mean that the recommen-

dations have not yet been made. This answer must have been prepared earlier and he is sticking to it because that statement has already been submitted. So, it is not helpful; the attitude of the Minister is not helpful. However, I want to know what action the Government proposes to take in view of the agitations by the newspaper employees. The purpose of the Wage Board is only to secure industrial peace. But it has not been secured. Will the Government take proper steps to secure industrial peace in the newspaper industry? Today, there is no paper and, so, even the proceedings of Parliament could not find a place in the papers. So, what steps does the Government propose to take to ensure industrial peace in the newspaper industry? This is my question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Sangma.

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: As I have said, we have not received the recommendations as yet. I have also stated that the last round of the Board meeting started yesterday. They are meeting today also and tomorrow also they will meet to finalise their report. Until and unless we receive the report from them, I cannot take any action.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Quite right. Mr. Upendra.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: The Minister may be technically correct but it shows that they already know the thinking of the Wage Board on this. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether these representatives who walked out earlier from that meeting are attending the meeting which is currently taking place.

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: I do not know, Sir.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: I appreciate the expertise of our Labour

Minister in his sophistry under which he takes cover of not replying to the point. It may be a fact... (*Interruptions*) He cannot out-manoeuvre me. He can out-manoeuvre you. Don't try to hoodwink me in all these things. I know my job. Please keep quiet.

AN HON. MEMBER: What is your job?

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: It may be a fact that the Wage Board has not yet submitted its formal recommendation to the Government. But it may also be a fact that the Wage Board has already come to the conclusion that 7.5 per cent would be granted as interim relief which has come into the Press. Yesterday the Delhi Press had gone on strike. Today also there is no Delhi newspaper; you have not got any newspaper. They were in strike to protest against this thing and to demand the replacement of the Chairman of the Wage Board because of this anti-employee and anti-journalist attitude displayed in making such a paltry recommendation. This is the fact. I want to know from the Minister that if the recommendation comes in the shape in which it has already come out in the Press, that means 7.5 per cent increase as interim relief, does the Minister consider it to be a paltry one and is he prepared to review such recommendation?

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: Sir, I cannot anticipate in what manner they are going to submit the report.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: But are you prepared to review it? Do you commit?

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: My position is very clear. I cannot take any action until and unless the report is with me.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: I am not asking that. I am asking whether he considers it a paltry one.

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: Sir, the question of adequacy or inadequacy does not arise in this matter because I do not have the report. (Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN: If all of you speak at the same time, nothing is recorded; it gets recorded as 'interruptions'. Therefore, I am giving you an opportunity one by one to put questions. It is a matter of interest to everybody. The Minister is technically right when he says that he has not received the recommendation and, therefore, he cannot give his reaction until he gets the recommendation. You must please proceed. I will give call one by one. Mr. Dhabe.

SHRI S.W. DHABE: On this question about interim relief and wages to newspaper employees and news agencies' staff strike the Labour Ministry cannot escape the blame for its attitude. Two or three announcements were made by the previous Labour Minister in August and October that interim relief will be given in the month of November. As far as I know, this Labour Minister was also enthusiastic in announcing that it will be announced in March that interim relief will be given to the newspaper employees. I hope the Minister will be careful making announcements. Sir, I only want to say that the Wage Board recommendation has not been unanimous and the Chairman has not taken care to see to it. The fact remains that they have a majority recommendation of 7.5 per cent interim relief. The Government have got their own officials working as Secretary and other officers. They are posing as if they know nothing about it. Under Section 13 (a) of the Working Journalists Act, they have got ample powers to give interim relief directly and to enhance it on an *ad hoc* basis. Why should such a problem be allowed to reach a point of strike when the interim relief is to be adjusted in any further recommendation? May I know whether he will exercise the

powers under Section 13(a) and give the interim relief without waiting for the recommendations of the Wage Board on an *ad hoc* basis so that this question is solved at once?

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: I agree with the hon. Member that there has been a delay in submitting the report for interim relief. In fact... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you go on commenting on every sentence of the Minister's reply, you would not get any answer. You hear him just as he heard you patiently.

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: After taking over the Ministry of Labour, I have written to the Board through the Chairman of the Board on 29-1-86, 28-2-1986 and 11-4-1986 to expedite the report in order to enable the Government to take a decision on the interim relief. As far as Section 13(a) is concerned, the legal position is that the Government will take a decision on interim relief in consultation with the Board. So, I agree that the Government has got the power to decide the issue, but it has to be done in consultation with the Wage Board and for that I require their recommendation.

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Minister has said that the representatives of the working class have already walked out. The present Wage Board seems to be anti-employees and anti-working class. In view of the views expressed by them at the Madras meeting and in view of the fact that the representatives have walked out as a protest, is the Government considering to change the members of the Wage Board and to have a fresh Wage Board so that the employees will get a fair deal? (Interruptions).

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: At this moment, I cannot draw any conclusion on the thinking of the Board or whether they are anti-workers or

not. Unless I have the report with me, I cannot draw any conclusion.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Bhan-dare. I am giving you all opportunities to put questions because I will not allow any Special Mention on this. Come on.

SHRI MURLIDHAR CHAN-
DRACANT BHANDARE: Mr.
Chairman, Sir, when I don't get the
newspaper in the morning, I feel
totally starved.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You get
headache.

SHRI MURLIDHAR CHAN-
DRAKANT BHANDARE: No, Sir, I feel
totally starved. Many other things happen;
but the feeling of starvation is uppermost.
Nobody can doubt the sincerity of the Govern-
ment so far as the legitimate demands of the
workmen are concerned. No body can really
doubt the sincerity, enthusiasm and dynamism
of the hon. Minister. But what I feel is that
when things reach such a stage, the
Government should not look at it in a technical
fashion, the working journalists are a very very
important segment of the labour force and
when they go on strike, I do not think the
Government should only look at it in a
technical fashion that it has not received the
report and that it will wait for the report. What
I want to ask the Minister is whether would
immediately get all the facts without really
technically waiting for the report and other
things and see that this overdue, long-
delayed interim relief in these hard days of
inflation is immediately given to the
working journalists. As has been pointed out,
you have powers under Section 13 (a).

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: Sir, I equally feel
starved when there is no newspaper in the
morning. I agreed with the hon. Member. But
my problem is that I cannot go into the facts
because the fact are not with me. The facts are
with the Board-

There has been a public hearing. There has
been evidence taken. The process has been
gone through. Until and unless I have these
facts with me, how am I expected to go into
the facts? As I mentioned in the beginning, I
am expecting it tomorrow. They are going to
finalise the Report tomorrow. And I am expect-
ing it tomorrow. I am only expecting.
And as soon as I receive the Report I can
assure the House that the Government will
act very quickly.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri J. V. Yadav.

श्री जगन्मो प्रसाद यादव : सभापति
जी, अपने पुराणों में वासन अक्षतार हुए
हैं और उन्होंने तीन कदम पर सारे लोकों
को भाँप लिया और इन्होंने मन्त्रों जो
ने भी एक शब्द में ही कह दिया कि
रिपोर्ट नहीं मिली है। रिपोर्ट नहीं मिली
है, इसलिए सरकार कुछ करने में भी
अपमर्श है। अक्षम मैं नहीं कह सकता
लेकिन सरकार को भी यह पता हो गया
कि पेपर आज किसी को नहीं मिला।
यह इसलिए नहीं मिला कि सरकार को
इस में जो गतिशीलता दिखलानी चाहिये
थी उनकी समस्याओं का निपटारा कर
ने के लिए यह नहीं दिखलाई। सरकार
का श्रम विभाग श्रमिकों के लिए है
और सरकार की ज़ादरता उन श्रमिकों
के साथ है। इसलिए हमारे सदन के
सारे सदस्यों को आशा, आकांक्षा है कि
सरकार इस पर कुछ न कुछ बोलें,
कुछ न कुछ कर के दिखाएँ। मैं एक
छोटा सा सवाल करना चाहता हूँ।
अखबार में जो बातें बोर्ड की तरफ से
निकली हैं आपको नहीं मिला है लेकिन
अखबार में कुछ चीजें प्रकाशित हुई हैं
उनको आपने भी पढ़ा होगा यदि नहीं
पढ़ा तो हम लोगों के द्वारा आपको
बताया गया है उसको देख लें। मैं बहुत
सीमित बात पर आपकी प्रतिक्रिया चाहता
हूँ जिससे लोगों को पता लगे हड़ताल
करने वालों को पता लगे कि आपका
मनसावाचा-कर्मणा क्या है। आप सिर्फ
जो बातें अखबार में निकली हैं उन पर
ही अपनी प्रतिक्रिया बता दें।

MR. CHAIRMAN : He says that you are a Vaman Avatar. Why don't you accept it ? Your size warrants it and, therefore, you will be happy to be a Vaman Avatar. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. A. SANGMA : Sir, I think, I have answered all the queries which have been raised.

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA : Mr. Chairman, Sir. I do not dispute the statement of the Minister that he has not received the Wage Board Report as such. However, it is a fact that the employees' representatives walked out of the meeting in Madras. They also stated that in the said Wage Board meeting a decision was about to be taken to the extent of 7.5 per cent which comes to about a minimum of Rs. 40/- and which will not exceed Rs. 100. That was the decision that was likely to be taken. It has not been contradicted, which means, to that extent, it is a decision which has been or which ought to have been taken in the Board. If that is the case, will the Minister assure us that he will reject such a proposal which has been disputed by...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hypothetical question. *(Interruption)* I will not allow a hypothetical question. The Chair has a discretion to allow the question. If you say, "If the recommendation is received will you...etc", I will not allow that.

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA : Next part of it, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right.

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA : Sir, this interim relief is bound to be less than what was given earlier. Therefore, will the Minister assure us that the interim relief will not be less than what has been earlier given ?

SHRI P.A. SANGMA : I cannot give any assurance at this stage. But I can assure the hon. House that I will certainly take a quick decision on it.

SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASANT : Sir, the wage Board has taken a long time to come to a decision. That is why the journalists are demanding. Now when the Wage Board is sitting today or tomorrow, is the Minister certain that the Wage Board will come to a conclusion and make a recommendation as early as possible ? Or will it delay the matter ? If it delays the matter what will be the decision of the Minister ?

SHRI P.A. SANGMA : Sir I am not certain. I have used the word 'expecting' I have said, "I am expecting it tomorrow ." But I cannot be certain.

SHRI SURESH KALMADI : Sir, nine months are over. Now it should be delivered.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Kalmadi, if you want to ask a question, you send your name and I will allow you a supplementary. But unauthorised supplementaries cannot be allowed.

SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH : Sir, he wants to act as a midwife.

SHRI P.A. SANGMA : Sir have made three written requests on three occasions. That is why I am saying that I am expecting the report tomorrow.

श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय : श्रीमान, बिना संतुष्ट पत्रकारों और गैर पत्रकारों के लोकतंत्र सफलतापूर्वक नहीं चल सकता है। मंत्री जी ने अपने उत्तर में कहा है कि अंतरिम राहत की मांग पत्रकारों और अन्य कर्मचारियों ने 2 मां रुपये प्रति माह की की है। सरकार का जो उपेक्षात्मक रवैया रहा है इसके कारण 2 अप्रैल और 28 अप्रैल को हड़ताल रही इन देश में सभाचार पत्रों की जिसके कारण 3 अप्रैल और 29 अप्रैल को सारा राष्ट्र समाचारों से वंचित रहा। मैं मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहता हूँ क्या यह सत्य है कि नहीं कि गैर पत्रकारों और पत्रकारों

ने एक जनवरी 1984 से 2 सौ रुपये प्रति माह नहीं बल्कि 4 सौ रुपये प्रति मास की अंतरिम राहत की मांग की है इस वक़्तों हुई महंगाई को देखते हुए ?

SHRI P.A. SANGMA : Sir, I agree with the hon. Member that in a democratic country we cannot function without journalists. I agree on this point. But I totally disagree that the Government has been careless in this matter.

श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय . मेरे प्रश्न का उत्तर नहीं आया । मंत्री जी ने अपने उत्तर में यह कहा है कि वे दो सौ रुपये प्रति मास की मांग कर रहे हैं । मेरा प्रश्न है कि पत्रकार लोग मांग कर रहे हैं चार सौ रुपये प्रति माह को . . . (व्यवधान)

MR. CHAIRMAN : How can the Minister say ? He will consider the report.

SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM : Sir, one of the demands of the All-India Newspaper Employees Federation and the Indian Federation of Working Journalists and other organisation is that relief should be from Rs. 200 to Rs. 400. Even if the basic salary of an employee is Rs. 1,000, 20 per cent will come to only Rs. 200. You have said in your statement that as soon as the recommendations are received, the same will be considered. But how long will you take to consider the question of their starvation. Of course, your size and my size will not say that we are starving. I want to know whether you have already held discussions with the Chairman of the Board with regard to the interim relief and that the interim relief should not be less than 20 to 25 per cent of the basic pay

SHRI P.A. SANGMA : No, Sir. I did not have any discussion with him.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : May I know from the hon. minister whether

he has taken note of the following facts, namely, (i) the differences in the recommendations made within the Wage Board of different members particularly the members representing the journalists, (2) whether the working journalists and other sections of journalists have already expressed their lack of confidence in the Chairman of the Wage Board, and (3) whether the Government has taken note of the resentment made generally by the people all over the country, and, if so, (4) whether the Government has got authority to intervene, in accordance with the provisions of the Working Journalists and other Newspaper Employees (Conditions of Service and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1955, and take certain decisions even if the recommendations of the so-called Wage Board are not received by him ?

SHRI P.A. SANGMA : Sir as regards the question of taking over the differences in the recommendations by various members is concerned, well I cannot take note of it because I have not seen it. As far as the question of expressing lack of confidence in the Chairman and the Board is concerned, I have been reading in the newspapers and I have also been receiving a lot of telegrams from all over the country. Yesterday several groups of journalists have met me. In fact, I had five round of meetings with them. This is what I may say.

SHRI M.A. BABY: The hon. Minister has repeatedly stating that he is expecting the report anxiously. I want to know whether the hon. Minister will deliver the goods as soon as he received the report,

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: I have, already answered this question.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: Sir, will the hon. Minister assure the journalists' profession that the wage Board have not come to any conclusion that 7.5 per cent would be given as the interim recommendations. This

is part (a) of my question and part (b) is, in view of the fact that the highest rate of growth in expenditure is on the Central Council of Ministers in the course of last two years, what should be the rate of interim award for the journalists, according to the Minister?

SHRI P.A. SANGMA : At this stage I do not think I am in a position to say anything because we have to go into different factors which have been placed before the Board. So, unless and until all these different factors are gone into, I cannot come to any conclusion. But I have mentioned that demand for interim relief ranges from Rs. 200 to Rs. 400 month which has come from various newspaper organisations.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Next question.

Industrial relations

105. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any improvement in the industrial relations during 1985-86 as compared to the previous three years;

(b) what is the number of mandays lost as a result of industrial disputes during the last three years, yearwise; and

(c) whether there are any proposals to improve the industrial relations; if so, what the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR

(SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

According to the latest available information, there has been a marked improvement in the industrial relations situation during the year 1985 with the number of mandays lost

standing at 29.19 million being the lowest in the last three years. The number of mandays lost which is maintained by Calendar years was 46.86 million (including loss due to the Bombay Textile Strike) in 1983 and 56.03 million in 1984.

A number of steps have been taken to ensure industrial harmony and improve the industrial relations climate in the country. These include continuous monitoring of information on industrial relations, expeditious settlement of disputes by the Industrial Relations Machinery, statutory provision for awards by Labour Courts/Industrial Tribunals within a time-limit not exceeding three months in the case of individual disputes, effective implementation of the scheme of workers' participation management in Central/State Public Sector Undertakings and discussion on important issue concerning industrial relations through tripartite industrial Committees.

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Sir, of course, various industries in the country are earning a lot of profit but the working class is not getting the price for its labour and there is resentment among the working class leading to strikes and many other things, as a result of which there is loss in industrial production—which is a loss not only for the industry but to the country as a whole. Hon. Minister, in his reply has stated that a number of steps have been taken to ensure industrial harmony by improving industrial relations climate in the country. I would like to know whether in the interest of the working class, in the interests of production and for development of industry, the Government is seriously thinking of having proper and adequate representation of work class in the management of the industry. As a matter of fact, the work class have been demanding representation in the management but industrialists are not only evading taxes but are also robbing the labour. I would like to know whether