

vey, based on a random sample basis in about 100 villages in 10 States estimated the incidence of bonded labour at 22.4 lakhs. It has also been estimated that about 66 per cent of bonded labourers belong to the Scheduled Castes while about 18.3 per cent are from the Scheduled Tribes. On the basis of the preliminary findings, the concerned State Governments have been requested to take effective steps, including undertaking intensive local surveys, to ensure the speedy release and rehabilitation of bonded labourers, wherever detected in a time-bound programme to be completed by March, 1982.]

### **Termination notices to Correspondents**

392. SHRI S. W. DHABE:

SHRI JAHARLAL BANERJEE:

SHRI ARVIND GANESH  
KULKARNI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of part-time Correspondents working in Lok-Satta (Marathi Newspaper) and the Indian Express published from Bombay have been served with termination notices in the month of August 1980; if so, the details in this regard indicating the emoluments and length of service of the correspondents concerned;

(b) whether any representation have been received by Government from unions of journalists from Maharashtra in this regard; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) It has been reported that services of 35 part-time correspondents and 43 casual Correspondents were terminated by the Lok-Satta and one part-time Correspondent and 26 casual correspondents by the Indian Express from 31-7-80. However at the intervention

of State Labour Commissioner, all of them were re-employed as stringers to be paid on the basis of published matter with effect from 1-8-80.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

### **Loss in Public Sector Undertakings**

393. SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:

SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA:

SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in Business Standard of September 21, 1980 about the press conference addressed by him in Bangalore wherein he had told that "Public Undertakings had incurred a total loss of Rs. 1,600 crores this year";

(b) if so, whether Government are aware that according to the Bureau of Public Enterprises (BPE) all public sector companies taken together showed a net profit of Rs. 203.34 crore this year which was 225 per cent higher than the previous year; and

(c) the reasons for the variations in the two statements and which one is correct?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): (a) The report appearing in the Business Standard, Calcutta of September 21, 1980 under the caption "Public Unit loss Rs. 1,600 Cr" is not correct in so far as it mentions that the public sector undertakings incurred the loss of Rs. 1,600 crores during 1979-80.

(b) The provisional figure, as compiled by Bureau of Public Enterprises (BPE), of the Net Profit/Loss of all the Central Public sector undertakings taken together for the year 1979-80 is a net loss of Rs. 149 crores.

(c) Does not arise.

394. [Transferred to the 26th November, 1980].