

&ari Shram Samvida Samiti Limited, Tundla. Information regarding the exact hours of work, payment and whether these are in conformity with the law is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Lockouts in Industries run by Multi-National ana Monopoly Houses

872. SHRI G. C. BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI GANPAT HIRALAL
BHAGAT:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether h_e is aware of illegal lock-out in a large number of very important industries run by multinationals and monopoly houses, for months together causing starvation, of Jakhs of workers; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION AND LABOUR (SHRI J. B. PATNAIK): (a) and (b). Information is not readily available. It is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Dole Assistance to Drought Affected States

873. SHRI GANPAT HIRALAL
BHAGAT: SHRI G. C.
BHATTACHARYA: SHRI RAMANAND
YADAV:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have given more than Rs. 6 crores to be distributed as doles in the name of drought relief in Punjab;

(b) whether dole assistance has also been given to other States which are severely affected by drought;

(c) if so, what are the State wise details thereof; and

(d) if the answer to part (b) above be in the negative what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA): (a) No Central assistance was sought by Government of Punjab for financing relief expenditure in connection with drought in the State. Therefore, the question of Central Government giving a sum of more than Rs. 6 crores for distribution as doles does not arise.

(b) to (d) The 7th Finance Commission has fixed amounts of margin, money for each State for each year to take care of the requirements of relief expenditure in calamities of more than moderate severity. Expenditure on gratuitous relief to old, infirm and other persons in drought affected areas who cannot be employed on employment generation works can be met by the State Governments out of the margin money within reasonable limits. Only when the expenditure requirements for financing relief expenditure cannot be met by the State Governments within the margin money, Central assistance is provided to the States on the basis of assessment of Central Teams and the recommendations of the High Level Committee presided over by Member (Agriculture), Planning Commission. Central assistance is intended to assist the States in undertaking productive schemes which have high employment potential. During 1979-80 Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal were given Central assistance in accordance with the existing policies and arrangements recommended by the 7th Finance Commission. The question of giving dole assistance to the States by the Central Government does not, therefore, arise*