

demands has also been suspended to enable provision to those in general category waiting for long..

It is generally hoped that all those in the waiting list in General Category upto October, 1969 may be provided connections during 1980, except in case of Shahdara and Ballabgarh. In these areas it may take some more time.]

Wage Boards for Journalists and Non-Journalists

400. SHRI JAGJIT SINGH

ANAND:

PROF. SOURENDRA

BHATTACHARJEE:

SHRI PRAKASH MEHROTRA

SHRI HARKISHAN SINGH

SURJEET:

Will the Minister of PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the work of the wage boards, appointed for the Journalists and Non-journalist, employees of the newspaper, industries, has not made any progress ever since their inception; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a) and (b) The Wage Boards for Non-journalist, newspaper employees and for Working journalists constituted on the 11th June, 1975 and the 6th February, 1976, respectively submitted their recommendations on interim wage rates in June, 1976 and October, 1976 respectively. These were accepted by the Government and interim wages were notified. When the Wage Boards were proceeding to evolve their recommendations for the final wage structure for news

paper employers, a writ was filed in Bombay High Court by some of the employers' organisations and an injunction order was passed by the Court restraining the members (other than those representing employers) from holding or proceeding with any meetings. The Government has moved the Court to get the injunction order vacated.

Report on State of Bonded Labour by Prof. Vasan Despande, Director of the Nehru Institute of Social Studies, Pune

401. SHRI DEVENDRA NATH

DWIVEDI:

SHRI VITHAL GADGIL:

PROF. D. P. CHATTO-

PADHYAYA:

Will the Minister of PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report of Professor Vasan Despande, Director of the Nehru Institute of Social Studies, Pune on the state of bonded labour;

(b) whether it is a fact that bonded labour system still persists in Maharashtra and in some other States;

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken for the abolition of bonded labour system prevalent in these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI LARANG SAI): (a) No. Sir, A copy of the Report is being obtained from the Director, Nehru Institute of Social Studies, Pune.

(b) The attached statement shows the position, State-wise, regarding the number of bonded labour identified, released and rehabilitated as on May