

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE)

: (a) Yes Sir, a delegation from Bangladesh visited India in September to resume negotiations on sharing of the Ganga waters.

(b) At the end of the talks, an agreement on sharing of the Ganga waters at Farakka and augmenting its flows was reached between the two Governments and initialed. The agreement was signed at the Ministerial level in Dacca on November, 5, 1977. A copy of the Agreement was laid on the Table of the House on 14th November, 1977.

असंगठित श्रम क्षेत्र में श्रमिकों के लिए सामाजिक सुरक्षा योजना

312. श्री सुन्दर सिंह भंडारी : क्या संसदीय कार्य तथा श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने असंगठित श्रम क्षेत्र में खास तौर से थोक व्यापारियों के साथ और उन दुकानों में कार्य करने वाले कर्मचारियों को जहाँ कि कर्मचारियों की संख्या चार से कम हो, सामाजिक सुरक्षा प्रदान करने के प्रश्न पर विचार किया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो सरकार उन्हें भविष्य निधि, वोनस, उपदान आदि प्रदान करने के लिए क्या उपाय करने का विचार रखती है; और

(ग) क्या सरकार बीमारी तथा बुढ़ापे की स्थिति में उनके नियोजकों द्वारा उन्हें राहत देना अनिवार्य बनाने का विचार रखती है ?

Social Security Scheme for Workers in unorganised labour sector

312. SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHANDARI: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have considered the question of providing social security to the workers in the unorganised labour sector, particularly those working with wholesale traders and shops, where the number of employee is less than four ;

(b) if so, what measures Government propose to take in providing benefits of provident fund, bonus, gratuity etc. to them; and

(c) whether Government propose to make it obligatory on the part of employers to provide relief to such workers during their illness and old age ?]

श्रम तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा० राम कृपाल सिंह) :

(क) अधिकांश वर्तमान सांविधिक समाज सुरक्षा योजनाय इस समय ऐसे कारखानों, दुकानों, वाणिज्यिक प्रतिष्ठानों आदि पर लागू होती हैं, जिनमें 20 या इससे अधिक व्यक्ति नियोजित हों। इस समय ऐसा कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है जिसका आशय इन योजनाओं को ऐसे थोक व्यापारियों और दुकानों पर लागू करना हो जिनके यहाँ कर्मचारियों की संख्या चार से कम है तथापि, समाज सुरक्षा की योजनाओं को ग्रामीण श्रमिकों पर भी लागू करने के प्रश्न पर विचार किया जा रहा है।

(ख) और (ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठते।

[THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. RAM KRIPAL SINHA) : (a) Most of the existing statutory Social Security Schemes are at present applicable to factories, shops,

f [] English translation.

commercial establishments etc. employing 20 or more persons. There is no proposal at present to extend these schemes to wholesale traders and shops, where the number of employees is less than four. However, the question of extending the Social Security Schemes to rural workers is under examination.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.'}

Setting up of an Office of SAIL International Ltd. in USA

313. SHRI DHARAMCHAND JAIN:

"Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up an office of the SAIL International Ltd. in USA; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA) : (a) and (b) SAIL International Limited is considering setting up of an office in U.S.A. The proposal is in a very preliminary stage of consideration.

Control over Iron ore Mining

314. SHRI INDERDEEP SINHA,; SHRI JAGJIT SINGH ANAND?

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 70 per cent of the iron ore mining and its export marketing is controlled by private mine owners;]

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and]

(c) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to bring the entire iron ore mining industry in the public sector ; if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. The figures of production/ exports during 1976 by Public/Private Sector are given below:

(in million tonnes)

	Production (1976)	Exports (1976-77)
All India	4'39	23'20
Public Sector	20'4	11'80
Private Sector	23'5	11'40

(c) No, Sir.

Sponge Iron Plants

315. SHRI PRANAB K. MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India have received any proposal from the Government of Yugoslavia for financing sponge iron plants in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA) : (a) and (b) At a meeting of the Sub Group on Indo-Yugoslav Industrial Co-operation held in New Delhi on 18th/19th May, 1977 the prospects for setting up a sponge iron plant in India with Yugoslav collaboration was noted and it was agreed that the feasibility report prepared by the India side would be further discussed with a team of experts from Yugoslavia. These discussions were accordingly held on 18th October, 1977 and have brought out that taking account the alternative demands for gas from Bombay High for higher priority uses e.g. fertiliser etc. and its relatively high price, production of sponge iron may not be economically feasible. Both sides have therefore, agreed to explore the possibility of collaborating in the set-