

other time, and it is for the simple reason that whenever the representatives of the unions, whether recognised or unrecognised, approached us, the authorities have been instructed not to give them an impression that we wished to keep all the matters pending. I am very happy to tell the House that in the duration of one month I have been able to dispose of 16,000 pending cases, which are the grievances of the railway workers and, I think, it is for the first time that the railway workers have a feeling that there is approachability with the Railway Ministry. A number of problems can be handled and we always tell them that although their grievances are legitimate the financial situation of the economy has also to be taken into consideration. We will place before their unions the facts and figures and whatever demands are to be tackled will be tackled in co-operation and consultation with the trade unions. This is the phrase which I used in my Budget speech also. In cooperation and consultation with the trade unions, the problems will be solved, and, therefore, as a result of that, I dare say that the discontent is not mounting but the feeling is there among the people that the problems are likely to be solved in the near future.

SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN: But there is a slide-back in the operating efficiency. Of course you will admit that.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Bhandari.

श्री सुन्दर सिंह भंडारी : मैं मंत्री जी का ध्यान इस बात की तरफ आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ कि इस डिब्बे में जो स्केलेटन सर्विस चलाने की बात मंत्री जी ने कही है, तो नोरमली भी कई लाइनों पर स्केलेटन सर्विस चल रही है। पिछले समय से ही कोल ट्राइसिस के कारण आपने बहुत सी गाड़ियाँ बन्द कर दी थीं, तो स्केलेटन सर्विस आपने जहाँ शुरू की है, यह आपके ध्यान में होगा

कि कई लाइनों पर चार-चार पांच-पांच दिन तक एक भी रेलगाड़ी नहीं चली है और जो आपने एक से नौ दिन का स्पैन दिया है इस में कई ऐसी भी सर्विस हैं जहाँ पर एक भी गाड़ी पांच दिन तक नहीं चली। तो ऐसी अवस्था में स्केलेटन सर्विस को ध्यान में रखते समय, और जितनी आसानी से रेलवे एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन छोटे से कारण पर भी गाड़ियाँ रद्द कर दिया करता है, इन चीजों को फिर से न होने देने के बारे में कुछ कठोर कदम उठाने और दूसरे आल्टरनेटिव अरेंजमेंट में गाड़ियाँ चलाई जाने के बारे में विचार किया जायेगा या नहीं?

प्रो० मधु दण्डवते : मान्यवर, यह जो सवाल पूछा गया है, मूल प्रश्न के साथ संबंधित नहीं है। लेकिन कुछ कार्यवाही करने के लिए जो सुझाव रखे गये हैं, उनकी तरफ मैं जरूर ध्यान दूंगा, यह मैं उन्हें आश्वासन दिलाता हूँ।

Formulation of Endosulfan and D.D.T. by the Hindustan Insecticides Limited

*2. **SHRIMATI LEELA DAMO-**

DARA MENON:†

SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHAN-

KAR ADIVAREKAR:

SHR NABIN CHANDRA

BURAGOHAIN:

SHRI NRIPATIRANJAN

CHOUDHURY:

Will the Minister of **PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Insecticides Limited has started making formulations of some pesticides like Endosulfan and D.D.T.;

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

†The questions was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shrimati Leela Damodara Menon.

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, by when the company is likely to start making these formulations?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) and (b) Hindustan Insecticides Limited are already making formulations of D.D.T. 50 per cent w.d.p. and BHC 50 per cent w.d.p. Their present capacity for making these formulations is as under:

D.D.T. 50 per cent wdp 8176 tonnes
B.H.C. 50 per cent wdp 6000 tonnes

At present they are not making formulations of Endosulfan.

(c) HIL's plant for formulating Endosulfan 35 per cent EC from imported Endosulfan Technical is expected to be commissioned by the end of 1977; their formulation capacity for DDT 50 per cent wdp will increase by 10,000 tonnes and they will also start formulating Malathion 25 per cent to the extent of 3200 tonnes per annum at Rasayani by the end of 1978.

SHRIMATI LEELA DAMODARA MENON: Will the hon'ble Minister state whether in view of the fact that these are very essential commodities for the Indian farmers, the Government would consider setting up a new public sector factory to produce these formulations?

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA: Sir, the Government is well aware of the need for these formulations and these particular pesticides. But the Government is not considering the starting of a new company. The basic approach is to expand the existing ones and to add on to them some more capacity and, I think, that should meet the requirements of the country.

SHRIMATI LEELA DAMODARA MENON: May I also know whether it is not possible to consider bringing the pesticides also under the Essential

Commodities Act in order that the prices are fixed and they are made available to the poor farmers?

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA: All these insecticides are regulated and their prices are looked into. Nobody can rob the peasant of any amount of money that he wants to. The basic material is always regulated by the Government. Government is the producer of D.D.T. (Technical). That is the basic material out of which the other formulations are produced. Therefore, it is very easy for the Government to see that no one will be cheated by being charged higher prices and that the prices remain at a level which is correct and proper.

SHRI NABIN CHANDRA BURAGOHAIN: May I know from the hon. Minister whether the formulations produced by Hindustan Insecticides Limited including DDT either due to their sub-standardisation or due to the increased power of resistance of the insects, are losing their efficacy and, as a result, malaria is again rampant in the country? If that be so, what steps are being taken to improve the situation?

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA: Sir, this Ministry, in such matters, is guided solely by the Health Ministry or the Agriculture Ministry. We have no guidance on the point, and it is better if my hon. friend were to direct this question to the Ministry concerned.

SHRI NABIN CHANDRA BURAGOHAIN: What about sub-standardisation of DDT produced at Hindustan Insecticides?

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA: Sir, I refute the allegation that DDT of any sub-standard type is being produced by any public sector undertaking. There are over 40 organised sector undertakings and if any specific charge is brought about against this particular unit or any of them, that can be looked into.

SHRI A. S. CHOWDHRI: I want to know whether the unit at Alwaye in Kerala is not able to supply these commodities to the consumers in proper time and they take more than two or three months to supply them even though they have got the orders for the commodities? May I know why this delay is being done at the Kerala unit?

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA: The production capacity is limited and therefore the supplies are limited.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware that the countries which invented DDT have already discontinued it because of health hazards to the human population? May I know whether there has been any investigation in India as to what extent DDT has health hazards on the human population and the reasons for the country initially inventing DDT discontinuing it?

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA: Sir, I do not agree with my hon. friend that the countries which invented DDT have discontinued its production. There is one country by the name United States of America and that country alone has discontinued the use of DDT. But we have the World Health Organisation which has certified that DDT is not at all dangerous, the American public opinion was getting fussy about it and therefore what the American Government have done was to restrict consumption of DDT as a measure of abundant caution. As I said earlier, the effects of DDT produced here and other things are being looked into both by the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Health. We have no information from them to the effect that it is hazardous.

Reinstatement of railway employees

*3. SHRI DEORAO PATIL:†

SHRI BAPURAOJI MAROT-

RAOJI DESHMUKH:

SHRI S. W. DHABE:

SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA:

SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHA-
PATRO:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the railway employees, including casual employees, suspended for dismissed for their participation in the Railway strike in May, 1974 have been reinstated unconditionally; and

(b) if so, what additional expenditure was incurred by the Railway on account of reinstatement of such employees during 1976-77?

रेल मंत्री (प्रोफेसर मधु दंडवते) :
(क) और (ख). एक विवरण सभा-पटल पर रख दिया गया है।

विवरण

(क) स्थायी और अस्थायी कर्मचारी :

28-2-1977 को 627 कर्मचारी नौकरी में नहीं थे, जिनमें से 611 ने अपना कार्यभार सम्भाल लिया है। शेष 16 कर्मचारियों में से :-

(i) एक कर्मचारी की मृत्यु हो चुकी है,

(ii) तीन कर्मचारी आजीवन कारावास की सजा भुगत रहे हैं,

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Deorao Patil