

Khetri Copper Project

1159. SHRI GANESH LAL MALT : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no detailed project report of the Khetri Copper Complex;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD) : (a) and (b) Khetri Copper Complex comprises two main sections viz Copper Circuit and Acid-cum Fertilizer Plant. The work of mine development on the copper circuit was started initially on the basis of the recommendations made in the Reports on the preliminary engineering and technical & economic evaluation for the Khetri Copper Project prepared by M/s. Western Knapp Engineering Co., U. S. A. in 1962 and 1963. Subsequently, the project was sanctioned by the Government on the basis of a Detailed Cost Estimates submitted by Hindustan Copper Ltd. in 1968.

A detailed project report was, however, prepared for the second unit, namely, Acid-cum-Fertilizer Plant.

Provident Fund of Bata Shoe Company

• 1160. SHRI KALYAN ROY :
SHRI N. H. KUMBHARE :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 292 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 4th May,, 1973 and state :

(a) whether gross irregularities like violations of certain conditions of exemption and loss to the workers on the Provident Fund contributions noticed in the working of the Bata Shoe Company ,has been referred to the Central Provident Fund Commissioner for decision;

(b) if so, when was it referred;

(c) whether a decision has been taken thereon and the action taken against the management for these irregularities;

(d) if not, what are the reasons for delay; and

(e) by when a decision is likely to be taken by the Central Provident Commissioner?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA) : (a) and (b) The allegations received in this regard were referred to the Central Provident Fund Commissioner on the 7th March, 1973.

(c) to (e) The Provident Fund authorities have furnished a report after completing necessary investigations. The report of the inspection of the Company, carried out under Section 209(4) of the Companies Act, has recently become available. The matter is under further examination and will be finalised as soon as possible.

Bailadila Iron Ore Project

1161. SHRI KALYAN ROY : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received representations regarding serious grievances of the workers of the Bailadila Iron Ore Project;

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

(c) what steps have been taken to remove the grievances of the workers and restore normal industries relation and with what results; and

(d) whether Government propose to institute a thorough probe into the affairs and working of the Bailadila Iron Ore Project?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD) : (a) Some representations have been received from the workers Unions at Bailadila.

(b) The main grievances raised in these representations are :

(i) impounding of a part of the increased wages by one of the contractors under the Additional Emoluments (Compulsory Deposit) Act, 1974;

(ii) Violation of Mines Act.

(iii) Revision of Wage structure and fringe benefits.

(iv) Grant of Interim Relief for daily rated workers.

(v) 100% exemption from compulsory deposit scheme.

(c) The position in regard to these is indicated below :

(1) Impounding of a part of the wages had been discussed by the Union with the contractors and a mutual agreement was arrived at;

(2) The grievances about the violations of Mines Act relate mostly to provision of facilities like safety boots, drinking water, etc. These are being looked into.

(3) Revision of wage structure of workers of NMDC is under examination.

(4) The question of grant of interim relief is under arbitration.

(5) It is not possible to grant exemption from the Additional Emoluments (Compulsory Deposit) Act, 1974.

(d) No, Sir. The Working of the NMDC including the Bailadila Iron Ore Project, has been gone into thoroughly by the Committee on Public Undertakings.

Recognition of Trades Unions

1162. SHRIMATI SARASWATI-PRADHAN : SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHANKAR ADIVAREKAR : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have taken a decision on the recommendation of the National Labour Commission with regard to compulsory recognition to trade unions which fulfil specified conditions ;

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

(c) whether Government propose to bring forward a legislation to amend the existing law on trade unions in the light of such decision?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA) : (a) to (c) The recommendations of the National Commission on Labour regarding recognition of unions

are still being considered by Government in the context of the proposed Industrial Relations Bill. Efforts are being made to introduce the Bill in the Parliament as early as possible.

Recruitment in the Army

1163. SHRI G. LAKSHMAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Commissioned and non-Commissioned officers recruited from each State; and

(b) what are the reasons for disproportionate representations of State, if any, in the Armed Forces?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH) : (a) and (b) A Statement is attached.

Statement

Officers

1. Statistics of State-wise recruitment to the Officer's Cadre of the Army, is not maintained: nor is it in the public interest to divulge this information.

2. Recruitment to Officer cadre of the Army is made purely on the basis of merit without distinction of Caste, Creed, region or State, subject to the suitability being assessed by the duly appointed Service Selection Board and fulfilment of other prescribed conditions, including the UPSC test. Hence, question of proportionate representation does not arise.

Personnel Below officer rank

3. Number of personnel recruited in the Army (including the Navy and Air Force as well), during the years 1971-72, 1972-73 and 1973-74, was laid on the table of the Rajya Sabha on the 2nd August 1974. in reply to Starred Question Number 293.

4. Although the policy of Government is to broad-base recruitment so that every-class and every area has equal opportunity to serve the Motherland, due to historical reasons and on grounds of tradition, certain class compositions are still continuing. However, recruitment to the major part of the Army is on the basis of the recruitable male population of States, between the age group of 17-25 years.