

RAJYA SABHA

Friday the 15th March, 1974|the 24th
Phalguna, 1895 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,
Mr. Chairman in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

मजुरी-नीति सम्बन्धी अन्तरिम प्रतिवेदन

*468. श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर :†

श्री प्रेम मनोहर :

डा० भाई महावीर :

श्री ना० कृ० शेजवलकर :

श्रीमती रत्नाबाई श्री निवास राव :

श्री एम० एस० अब्दुल खादर :

श्रीमती सुमित्रा जी० कुलकर्णी :

श्रीमती सुशीला शंकर आडिवरेकर :

क्या श्रम मंत्री 23 नवम्बर 1973 को राज्य सभा में अनारकित प्रश्न संख्या 673 के दिये गये उत्तर को देखते और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) योजना आयोग के सदस्य प्रो० एम० चक्रवर्ती की अध्यक्षता वाली समिति ने मजुरी, नीति सम्बन्धी अपने अन्तरिम प्रतिवेदन में क्या-क्या सिफारिशें की हैं; और

(ख) उन पर सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

‡[Interim report on Wage Policy

*468. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD

MATHUR :†

SHRI PREM MANOHAR :

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR :

SHRI N. K. SHEJWALKAR :

SHRIMATI RATHNABAI

SHREENIVASA RAO :

SHRI M. S. ABDUL KHADER :

SHRIMATI SUMITRA G.

KULKARNI :

SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHANKAR

ADIVAREKAR :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 673 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 23rd November, 1973 and to state :

(a) the details of the recommendations made by the Committee headed by Prof. S. Chakravarty, Member of the Planning Commission, in its interim report on wage policy ; and

(b) the action taken by Government thereon ?]

श्रम मंत्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री बालगोविंद वर्मा) : (क) और (ख) समिति की अन्तरिम रिपोर्ट में की गई सिफारिशों में से एक मजदूरी सेल गठित करने में सम्बन्धित है। प्रथम कार्यवाही के रूप में इसे कार्यान्वित किया गया है।

‡[THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA) : (a) and (b) One of the recommendations made in

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Jagdish Prasad Mathur.

‡English translation.

the Committee's interim report relates to the setting up of a Wage Cell. This has been implemented as a first step.

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : आपने जो 23 नवम्बर 1973 को उत्तर दिया था उसमें भी आपने यही उत्तर दिया कि अन्तरिम रिपोर्ट के अन्दर एक सेल स्थापित करने की सिफारिश की है और इसके बाद आज भी यही कह रहे हैं कि अन्तरिम रिपोर्ट में यह है। तो इस दौरान में सेल स्थापित हुआ या नहीं और उनकी पूर्ण रिपोर्ट कब तक आ जायगी। इस दृष्टि से आपने कोई प्रगति की है, कोई डाइरेक्शन दिया है या प्लानिंग कमीशन से कोई बातचीत की है क्योंकि जिस प्रकार से महंगाई बढ़ती जा रही है उसको देखते हुए वेज-पालिमी में परिवर्तन होना चाहिये और आज जो मिनिमम वेज गवर्नमेंट की ओर से मिल रहा है वह इतना कम है कि उसमें बदल होना चाहिये। तो इस दृष्टि से आपका क्या सुझाव है।

श्री बालगोविंद वर्मा : जहां तक वेज सेल के स्थापित करने की बात है मुझे यह बताते हुये हर्ष हो रहा है कि लेबर मिनिस्ट्री में वेज सेल स्थापित हो गया है और उसने कार्य करना शुरू कर दिया है। जहां तक यह बात कि चक्रवर्ती माहब कब तक अपनी रिपोर्ट देगे तो मैं उनको बाध्य नहीं कर सकता वैसे वह जल्दी कर रहे हैं। उनको फरवरी 1973 में यह काम सौंपा गया और मार्च 1973 में ही उन्होंने अपनी एक इंटरिम रिपोर्ट दे दी है, वह खुद जल्दी कर रहे हैं इस सम्बन्ध में।

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : जो बढ़ने हुये मूल्य हैं उसको देखते हुये मूल्य-सूचकांक के आधार पर जिस प्रकार से गवर्नमेंट इम्पलाईज और दूसरो को महंगाई भत्ता बढ़ा कर देते हैं उसी प्रकार से जो बाकी लोगों के मिनिमम वेजेज हैं उनमें वृद्धि करने की दृष्टि से क्या कोई योजना है या इस दृष्टि से कोई योजना लागू करने के ऊपर विचार कर रहे हैं ?

श्री बाल गोविन्द वर्मा : श्रीमन् यह जो वेज कमेटी बनाई गई है वह तमाम बातों पर अच्छी प्रकार से विचार कर रही है। जो उन्होंने सजेसंस दिये हैं, रिक्मेडेशन दिये हैं, वह काफि-डेशियल है, वह मैं यहा नहीं बता पाऊंगा लेकिन मैं आपको आश्वामन देता हूं कि इन सभी बातों का पूर्ण रूप से उन्होंने विचार किया है और उसके ऊपर वह अपने सुझाव दे रहे हैं।

SHRIMATI SUMITRA G. KULKARNI : Sir, just now the honourable Minister said that the Wage Committee was appointed in the month of February, 1973 and in March 1973 the Committee submitted an interim report. The recommendation made in the interim report was that there should be a Wage Cell. Now, Sir, it is one year since the interim report was submitted. I would like to know from the honourable Minister what is happening to the report. After the submission of the interim report the Planning Commission should not go to sleep. It is more than twelve months and nothing seems to have been done by them. The recommendation was that there should be a Wage Cell. What has been done in this connection? In which direction they intend to go? How long can this country wait for a proper wage policy along with a price policy and income policy for the country as a whole? Sir, will the honourable Minister enlighten us on these points?

SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA : Sir, the Wage Committee had made certain recommendations and those recommendations are being studied at various levels. We cannot disclose those recommendations, because they are secret. They are being studied and action is being taken...

SHRIMATI SUMITRA G. KULKARNI : Sir, this has nothing to do with it. He said that a Wage Cell has been created. This is reported here in

an unstarred question. That does not amount to a policy decision. It might be confidential. But you have also to take this House into confidence. . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : Your question is over.

SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA : I have already said that the recommendations of the Committee are under active consideration at various levels. . . (*Interruptions*).

SHRIMATI SUMITRA G. KULKARNI : It has taken 13 months. . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Niren Ghosh.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : How long will you take to finish your consideration at various levels ? Has it also been taken into consideration that for over two decades there has been an erosion of the real earnings of the workers ? On the other hand, the profits of the capitalist class as a whole and larger houses have increased by leaps and bounds. Productivity has also increased. Have these factors been taken into consideration ?

SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA : Sir, no doubt, erosion has taken place in the earnings of the labour class. While formulating this policy, we always keep in view all these considerations which are likely to improve the earnings of the labour class.

SHRI SHYAMLAL GUPTA : Sir, this is a jet age. But Ministers and bureaucrats are still living 25 years behind time. Before it is too late, would it not be advisable to decide about the recommendations of the Wage Committee immediately when the reports are submitted ? We have taken more than a year even to think about it. Will the Minister assure this House as to how much more time they will take to bring this into action ?

SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA : Sir, various things are involved in the recommendations of the Committee, and, therefore, it is not an easy task to take decisions. I said that this is under the consideration of the Government. The Government is looking into it and very soon they will take the decision. . . (*Interruptions*).

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Sir, is it not a fact that the share of the labour in the value of manufacture is progressively declining, whereas that of the employees is increasing ? Is it not a fact that as a result of increased productivity, the quantum that goes proportionately to the employers is increasing as compared to the share of the workers ? May I know, Sir, in view of this trend and also in view of the fact that in real terms wages are either static or stagnated or they are declining, what steps the Government propose to take in the matter, directing that the wage policy should be so framed as to ensure social justice, reduced disparities in income and giving the labour a fair deal, instead of all the time lecturing to the labourers against strikes and other militant actions in defence of their rights and interests ?

SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA : Sir, the Wage Cell, as I said, is seized of the matter. We want that the earnings of the labour class should not be eroded. Sir, all the things which are the hon. Member has mentioned are taken into consideration. I assure him that the labour will not stand to lose. Sir, one thing I may tell. Bipartite negotiations have taken place between the labour and the management. Therefore, it is not proper to say that the workers are not getting their due, because, I think, wages are increasing every now and then as a result of bipartite negotiations and wages have increased considerably now.

SHRI N. H. KUMBHARE : Sir, there are lakhs of workers in the industrial sector who are not protected by any wage

policy. It is true that the Minimum Wages Act is applicable but the wages under that are payable only to those workers who are employed in the scheduled employment. The other workers have no protection whatsoever.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right, put your question now.

SHRI N. H. KUMBHARE : Sir, the wage policy is to secure for the wage earner a reasonable return for his labour. Now, the wage....

MR. CHAIRMAN : Are you going to put your question or not ?

SHRI N. H. KUMBHARE : I am putting my question, Sir. The formulation of the wage policy and giving effect to it will take their own time. The question is that in the present high cost of living, whether the Government is ensuring to a wage earner a reasonable return, a minimum wage for bare existence. Therefore....

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right, you have put your question.

SHRI N. H. KUMBHARE : Therefore, my point is whether the Government is thinking of giving an immediate relief to wage earners who are hard hit by the high cost of living.

SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA : Sir, D. A. continues to be revised every now and then with the rise in the cost index number. And it is not as the hon. Member thinks. Minimum wages differ from place to place according to the cost of living, which is taken into consideration—and the Government is aware of it—and which is continually in the interest of the labour, and the labour does not stand to lose.

SHRI N. H. KUMBHARE : Sir, I seek your protection. My question is this. There are thousands of workers....

MR. CHAIRMAN : The answer has come.

SHRI N. H. KUMBHARE : Is the Government going to do anything about it so that the workers are ensured minimum wages ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : The answer has come. Next Question.

युद्धों के दौरान मारे गये सैनिकों के आश्रितों को कुछ सुविधाएं देने में भेदभाव

* 469. श्री प्रेम मनोहर :

श्री ना० क० शेजवलकर :

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : †

डा० भाई महावीर :

क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या युद्धों के दौरान मारे गये सैनिकों के आश्रितों को सुविधाएं देने के विषय में कोई भेदभाव किया जाता है,

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि 1971 के भारत-पाक युद्ध में मारे गये सैनिकों के आश्रितों को टेलीफोन कनेक्शन दिये जा रहे हैं जब कि 1965 के भारत-पाक युद्ध अथवा 1962 के भारत-चीन युद्ध में मारे गये सैनिकों के आश्रितों को यह सुविधा नहीं दी जा रही है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो ऐसे भेदभाव के आधार पर अन्य क्या सुविधाएँ दी गई हैं ।

‡[Distinction made for extending certain facilities to the dependents of the Military personnel killed during wars

*469. SHRI PREM MANOHAR :

SHRI N. K. SHEJWALKAR :

SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD

MATHUR : †

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Jagdish Prasad Mathur.

‡[] English translation.