

revision became necessary, mainly to provide for increase in the cost of indigenous equipment, increase in the price of steel and escalation in wages of labour.

CAMPING OF PAK ARMY IN NANKANA SAHIB

401. SARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS/विदेश मन्त्री be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pak Army has been camping in the attached land of the holy Sikh Shrine of Nankana Sahib in West Pakistan thus violating the spirit of Nehru-Liaquat Pact; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS/विदेश मन्त्रालय में उपमन्त्री (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) Government have seen newspaper to this reports effect.

(b) The matter is being enquired into.

AKALI DAL GENERAL SECRETARY ADVERTISEMENT IN A NEW YORK DAILY

405. SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS/विदेश मन्त्री be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government are aware that the General Secretary of Akali Dal during his recent visit to New York had published half page advertisement in a daily New York Times criticising the injustice done to the Sikhs; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS/विदेश मन्त्रालय में उपमन्त्री (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is gratifying to note that this mischievous plan, which is believed to have been inspired by a foreign country has met with no success at all. In response to a call for demonstration in front of the UN building on October

13, hardly half a dozen people turned up. The Sikh community in India and abroad completely ignored this mischievous advertisement. The non-official reaction to the activities of Dr. Jagjit Singh is vindication of the soundness of our people who refuse to be misled by such activities. Government is examining what further action is required.

BONUS FORMULA FOR TEXTILE INDUSTRY

406. SHRI VENIGALLA SATYANARAYANA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION/श्रम और पुनर्वास मन्त्री be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken by Government regarding bonus formula for a textile industry with the employers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION/श्रम और पुनर्वास मन्त्री (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR): (a) and (b) Demands have been made for payment of a higher bonus in textile as well as other industries. The Labour Minister held discussions on this subject with the representatives of employers and workers, at Bombay, on the 20th September, 1971. After this meeting an *ad hoc* formula was evolved by two representatives of employers and one representative of a Central organisation of workers for payment of advances ranging from 1 to 4½% as an interim arrangement pending review of the Bonus scheme by a Committee to be set up for this purpose. The Union Labour Minister has commended adoption of the formula by all employers covered by the Act.

COKING COAL MINES

407. SHRI VENIGALLA SATYANARAYANA:

DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN:

SHRI BALACHANDRA MENON:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES/इस्पात और खान मन्त्री be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a statement made by the Union Minister of Steel and Mines appearing in the Statesman on September 19, 1971 to the effect

that many of the coking coal mine owners have started indiscriminate disposal of machinery, equipment and vehicles and refrained deliberately from dewatering their mines and depriving workers of their wages; if so, the names of the mine owners who have removed machinery etc. and indulged in other malpractices;

(b) whether it is a fact that decision to take over Coking Coal Mines had leaked out and if so, whether the Government have made any thorough investigation into the matter, and if so, the results thereof and if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES/इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. The other questions in this part do not, therefore, arise.

RE-ORGANISATION OF HINDUSTAN STEEL LTD.

408. SHRI VENIGALLA SATYANARAYANA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES/इस्पात और खान मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hindustan Steel Limited has been recently re-organised for better performance; and

(b) if so, what changes have been made in its different Units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES/इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b) There has been no reorganisation of Hindustan Steel Limited. A number of top posts which fell vacant have been and are being filled up.

OFFER OF U.N. SECRETARY GENERAL

409. SHRI U.K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS/विदेश मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Secretary-General of UNO has sent offers to mediate between India and Pakistan and also to post UN observers; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS/विदेश मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. The Secretary-General suggested the location of UN observers on both sides of the Indo-East Bengal border in an *Aide Memoire* dated the 19th of July 1971 addressed to the Governments of Pakistan and India. He has offered his good offices to deal with the situation in his communication dated the 20th of October, 1971, addressed to the Prime Minister of India and the President of Pakistan.

(b) The Government are of the view that the mere posting of UN observers and the Secretary-General's undertaking good offices, equating India and Pakistan, would only create a facade of action which will not meet the root cause of the situation in East Bengal, namely, the denial of the verdict of the people, and of their fundamental freedoms and human rights by the military regime of West Pakistan in that region. The Government's reply dated the 2nd August to the Secretary-General's proposal for posting UN observers was placed on the Table of the House on 3rd. August, 1971. A copy of the Prime Minister's reply to the Secretary-General's proposal, offering his good offices, is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix LXXVIII, Annexure No. 2].

INDO-SOVIET TREATY

410. SHRI VENIGALLA SATYANARAYANA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS/विदेश मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) whether any consultations were held with the Soviet Government after the signing of the Indo-Soviet Treaty on August 9, 1971; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS/विदेश मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The consultations have contributed to establishing an identity of views on the situation in Bangla Desh and on the Indian sub-continent and to the further promotion of Indo-Soviet cooperation in all fields.