

†[THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS/ विदेश मंत्रालय में उपसत्री (SHRI SURLINDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b) Government have seen reports to that effect. Government had taken up the matter with the D. P. R. K. Consulate-General in New Delhi who has officially denied the supply of any arms to Pakistan.]

MEMORANDUM BY THE NATIONAL COAL
ORGANISATION EMPLOYEES
ASSOCIATION

402. SHRI G. GOPINATHAN NAIR : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES/ इस्पात और खान मन्त्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Coal Organisation Employees Association, Ranchi has submitted recently any memorandum of demands and grievances of the employees to the National Coal Development Corporation;

(b) if so, what are the demands and grievances of the Association; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to settle the demands and redress the grievances?

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

(b) The demands are as follows :

(1) Withdrawal of disciplinary cases against certain workers ;

(2) Promotion of certain categories of staff ;

(3) Liberalisation of gratuity scheme provision;

(4) Liberalisation of existing medical facilities including reimbursement of medical expenses without any limit;

(5) Liberalisation of leave travel concession ;

(6) Free educational facilities or full reimbursement of tuition fees conveyance/ hostel charges up to college level to children of employees;

†[] English translation.

(7) Grant of twelve days Casual Leave with wages to daily-rated and piece-rated workers;

(8) Uniformity of service conditions between post Wage Board and pre-wage Board Employees ;

(9) Paid weekly off to all daily-rated and piece-rated ; workers

(10) Certain issues relating to promotion;

(11) Inclusion of workers' representatives in all Selection Committees, Departmental Promotion Committees, Departmental Enquiry Committees etc.

(12) Provision of rent-free accommodation to all employees;

(13) Certain matters connected with Wage Board recommendations;

(14) Restatement of all retrenched workers ; and

(15) Settlement of all demands contained in Resolution passed in their Annual Conferences in 1969 and 1970 etc.

(c) All these matters were taken up in conciliation by the Regional Labour Commissioner (Central Dhanbad). These issues had also been discussed from time to time by the Management directly with the Union representatives.

COST ESTIMATE OF BOKARO STEEL PLANT

403. SHRI ABDUL QAYUM ANSARI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES/ इस्पात और खान मन्त्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether the estimates of Bokaro Steel Plant cost were revised a number of times ; and

(b) if so, what were the reasons for such repeated revision of cost of the Plant ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES/ इस्पात और खान मन्त्रालय में राज्य मन्त्री (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. There has been only one revision of the cost estimates of the First Stage of Bokaro 1.7 million ingot tonnes) since these were sanctioned by Government in 1966. The

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