

(b) This is a delicate social problem requiring the willing cooperation of all concerned and will take some more time. Earnest efforts in this regard are being continued.

SALARY DRAWN BY GOVERNMENT SERVANTS

*136. SHRI T. V. ANANDAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION/श्रम और पुनर्वास मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to "News item" published in the Hindustan Times, dated April 14, 1971 on page 5 to the effect that majority of Government employees draw less than Rs. 100 per month; and

(b) if so, what is the real position of this matter?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION/श्रम और पुनर्वास मंत्री (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR)

(a) Yes, the news item, in fact, appeared on April 16, 1971.

(b) According to the Census of Central Government employees about 51 per cent of regular employees were drawing a basic pay of less than Rs. 100 per month.

ACCUMULATION OF PIT-HEAD STOCKS IN COALFIELDS OF BIHAR

*137. SHRI SUNDER MANI PATEL : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES/इस्पात और खान मंत्री be pleased to state ;

(a) whether it is a fact that the pit-head stocks of coal in the coal-fields of Bihar have accumulated to the extent of 4.9 million tonnes due to non-availability of railway wagons and that about 125 coalfields are facing closures; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to clear the pit-head stocks and to save the coalfields from closure?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES/इस्पात और खान मंत्री (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM):

(a) Yes, Sir. However no report that any colliery has closed down on account of shortage of railway wagons has been received.

(b) The shortage in the railway wagon supply is mainly due to large scale thefts of overhead wires, wagon parts, signalling and other equipment in the Bengal/Bihar area as a result of the deteriorating law and order conditions there. The Government of India is fully aware of the position and is taking steps in consultation with the State Governments to improve the law and order situation and restore normalcy in the Railway operations.

SET BACK IN STEEL PRODUCTION

*138. SHRI M.K. MOHTA :
SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR:

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

(a) whether the steel production have suffered a set back during 1970-71 so much so that as against the target of 5.48 million tonnes and rated capacity of 6.73 million tons, only 4.5 million tonnes of steel was produced;

(b) whether a high level meeting was held recently with the representatives of the Industry and the various unions to find out the reasons for the set back and to devise ways and means to run the plants at full capacity; and

(c) if so, the out-come thereof and the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES/इस्पात और खान मंत्री (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) The production of saleable steel by the main producers aggregated 4.5 million tonnes in 1970-71, as compared to the rated capacity of 6.73 million tonnes.

(b) and (c). The Minister of Steel & Mines met the Joint Wage Negotiating Committee on 21st April, 1971. On this Committee, the employers, recognised Union in each plant and the Central Trade Union Organisations are represented. On this occasion the Minister discussed various matters such as production, productivity, industrial relations and the future of the Joint Wage Negotiating Committee and also heard the views of the Members of the Committee. This was in the nature of a meeting where views were exchanged and hence no specific decisions were taken. There was, however, favourable response from all sides to the suggestion that attention must be directed to improve production and productivity.

NATIONAL COMMISSION ON AGRICULTURE

*139. SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:
SHRI M. V. BHADRAM:
DR. Z. A. AHMAD:
SHRI N. K. KRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE/कृषि मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the members of National Commission on Agriculture;

(b) the names of and emoluments drawn by the permanent members thereof;

(c) whether there is a proposal to appoint a former Secretary of the Union Cabinet as the Chairman of the Commission; and

(d) whether any person defeated in the last Lok Sabha election has been appointed as a permanent member?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE/कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) The composition of the Commission is as follows:—

1. Chairman Vacant
2. Vice-Chairman Shri B. Sivaraman
3. Member Secretary Shri J.S. Sarma

Full-Time Members

4. Dr. S. K. Mukherjee
5. Dr. H. R. Arakeri
6. Dr. P. Bhattacharya
7. Ch. Randhir Singh