

† **STRIKE BY JUTE WORKERS IN WEST BENGAL**

168. SHRI S. KUMARAN :
SHRI KALYAN ROY :
SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether jute workers in West Bengal had gone on a 22 days strike in December 1970;

(b) if so, what were the issues raised in the strike;

(c) how the strike was settled; and

(d) whether the agreement reached between the workers and the Indian Jute Mills Association has since been implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR):
(a) Yes.

(b) The main issues related to payment of bonus and gratuity and grant of maintenance allowance to Badli workers.

(c) The strike was settled as a result of discussions between the parties with the good offices of the Central and State Governments. A Statement showing the terms of the settlement are attached.

(d) Government have had no report of non-implementation.

STATEMENT

(1) *Bonus*—Workers will get a minimum bonus in accordance with the provisions of the Payment of Bonus Act 1965 for the years 1969, 1970 and 1971 at the rate of 6 per cent, 6½ per cent and 7 per cent of the wages respectively.

(2) *Gratuity*—It was agreed in principle to evolve a scheme of gratuity

for the workers and ask the Wage Committee to work out the details. Pending finalisation of the scheme, it was decided to pay, on an *ad hoc* basis and with effect from 1.12.1970 gratuity at the rate of 12 days basic wages per year of completed service. On finalisation of the gratuity scheme, excess, if any, payable to the workers concerned, will be paid to them or their nominees.

(3) *Allowance for Badli Workers*—It was agreed, without prejudice to the contention of the parties, to refer to the Wage Committee, the issue of what relief the Badli workers would be entitled to in case of non-employment. In case there is no agreement between the parties, the committee will submit its report to the Government. The decision given by Government will be effective from December, 1st 1970.

12 NOON

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

INCONVENIENCE CAUSED TO PASSENGERS TO AND FROM KERALA DUE TO VIRTUAL SKIPPING OVER OF TRIVANDRUM AND COCHIN IN RESUMED SCHEDULE OF INDIAN AIRLINES SERVICES

SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MENON (Kerala) : I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation to the inconvenience caused to passengers to and from Kerala due to virtual skipping over of Trivandrum and Cochin in the resumed schedule of the Indian Airlines services.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION DR. (SHRIMATI SAROJINI MAHISHI) : Sir, As hon'ble Members are aware, a considerable backlog of engineering work in Indian Airlines was built-up

† Transferred from the 1st April, 1971