

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI D. SANJIVAYYA): (a) to (f) Information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House after it is received.

LOCK-OUT IN ACC-VICKERS BABCOCK LTD.

1169. SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE:
SHRI NIREN GHOSH:
SHRI MONORANJAN ROY:

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

(a) the steps taken by Government against the management of ACC-Vickers Babcock Limited for declaring lock-out on the 13th August, 1970;

(b) whether it is a fact that the management victimised some of the workers during the period of lock-out;

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken or propose to take to check such unfair labour practice; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI D. SANJIVAYYA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House after it is received.

SUPPLY OF RICE TO KERALA

1170. DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN:
SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIAMENON:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister has received a parcel consisting of uneatable rice, from owners of Tellicherry Taluk Fair Price Shop;

(b) whether any memorandum has also been received along with this parcel;

(c) whether Government have taken any serious view on the supply of this kind of rice and have given any instructions to withdraw the supply;

(d) if not, what are the reasons thereof; and

(e) whether it is proposed to supply good quality rice to Kerala in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHESHINDE): (a) and (b) A parcel containing

a sample of rice reported to have been issued from fair price shops in Tellicherry during the past few weeks was received by the Prime Minister from Tellicherry Taluk Fair Price Shop Agents' Association with their letter dated 29-10-1970. The letter complained that the said rice was of a very inferior quality unfit for human consumption and was not worth the price at which it was sold.

(c) and (d) The complaint is being looked into. A report has been called for from the Food Corporation of India. Further action will be taken on its receipt.

(e) Instructions are already there for the issue of only fair average quality rice. Food Corporation of India is being advised again that these instructions should be strictly followed.

1171. [Transferred to the 10th December, 1970.]

EMPLOYEES PROVIDENT FUND

1172. SHRI T. V. ANANDAN:
SHRI N. R. MUNISWAMY:

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

(a) the amount set apart in the Reserve Fund to make payment of P.F. dues to workers where the employers fail to deposit their contribution;

(b) how much amount out of the fund disbursed during the year 1969; and

(c) the names of the defaulting employers and what action had been taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI D. SANJIVAYYA): The administration of the Employees' Provident Fund is the concern of the Central Board of Trustees set up under the Employees' Provident Funds Act and not the direct concern of the Government of India. The Provident Fund authorities have intimated as under:—

(a) A sum of Rs. 75 lakhs has been transferred from the Reserve and Forfeiture Account of the Fund to the Special Reserve Fund to make payment to the outgoing members or their nominees/heirs in respect of whom the defaulting unexempted establishments had failed to remit to the Fund the workers' share of contribution deducted from their wages.

(b) A sum of Rs. 4.88 lakhs was paid out of the Special Reserve Fund during the year 1969.

(c) A list of the unexempted establishments which were in default of payment of

provident fund dues amounting to Rs. one lakh and above as on 30. 6. 1970 is attached. [See Appendix LXXIV, Annexure No. 67.]

Legal action by way of prosecution/recovery proceedings has been initiated in consultation with the concerned State Governments against most of the defaulting establishments. Criminal cases for breach of trust have also been initiated in the Courts of Law against certain defaulting employers. As regards the Public Sector undertakings, the matter has been taken up with the concerned State Governments and the Authorities at Centre. In respect of establishments which have gone into liquidation, the claims are pending before the Liquidators. Certain establishments have entered into agreements for paying arrears alongwith current dues according to the Schemes of payment settled with the State Governments/Employees' Provident Fund Organisation.

LOCK-OUT IN H.M.T.

1173. DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Hindustan Machine Tools Ltd., declared a lock-out in two of its units at Bangalore on November 10, following alleged acts of violence by striking workers;

(b) if so, the details of the incidents; and

(c) the steps taken to re-open the plants?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI D. SANJIVAYYA): (a) to (c) The matter falls in the State sphere. However, according to available information, the management declared lockout from 11.30 p.m. on November, 9, 1970, following alleged illegal strike by the workers and several incidents of violence, including assaults on some of the senior officers of the company, within the factory

Persons in receipt of pay below Rs. 275 p.m. 12½ of pay.

Persons in receipt of pay between Rs. 275 and Rs. 599 p.m. 10% of pay subject to minimum of Rs. 35 p.m.

Persons in receipt of pay from Rs. 600 to Rs. 1,299 p.m. Rs. 62.50 p.m.

(c) The allowance was paid to Telegraph and Telephone employees at Ranchi. The Postal staff at Ranchi was, however, not paid the allowance as the P.M.G. Bihar Circle was advised not to operate on the sanction granting the project allowance at Ranchi.

(d) Since Ranchi is a classified city for the purpose of grant of HRA to the Govt. servants and is also an established city not

premises that day. On failure of conciliation proceedings, the State Government, it is reported, referred the disputed issues to adjudication on November 17, 1970 and simultaneously prohibited the continuance of the strike and the lockout. The management lifted the lockout on November 21, 1970 but the workers did not report for duty. However, the parties held mutual discussions and a settlement is reported to have since been reached between them on November 29, 1970.

PROJECT ALLOWANCE TO P. & T. EMPLOYEES

1174. SHRI NIREN GHOSH:

DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the employees of Posts and Telegraph at Ranchi were sanctioned Project Allowance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that project allowance was paid only to a section of the employees in the year 1969 and the next day it was stopped;

(d) if so, the reason for the same;

(e) whether Government propose to take immediate steps to sanction the project to the P&T employees posted in Ranchi;

(f) if so, by when; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (PROF. SHER SINGH): (a) Yes.

(b) Project allowance at Ranchi was sanctioned w.e.f. 1-10-66 on 24-9-69 and 16-10-69 at the following rates.

wanting in amenities like housing, schools, markets and dispensaries etc. a doubt arose whether the grant of project allowance to the P&T staff at Ranchi would be in keeping with the orders regulating the grant of Project allowances. Pending a decision on this question the P.M.G. Bihar was advised not to operate on the sanction granting the project allowance at Ranchi.

(c) to (g) The matter is under consideration.