

Shri B. R. jBhagat. agreed with Dr. Lokanathan and Shri H. V. R. Iengar, at a Seminar of the A. C. A. E. R., on the need for the "Government having a firm policy for maintaining industrial discipline"; and

(b) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNAL TRADE (SHRI M. R. KRISHNA) : (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) Addressing a seminar of the National Council of Applied Economic Research on 26 September, 1970, the Minister of Steel and Heavy Engineering had referred to the serious loss of man-days in Durgapur and Rourkela. He expressed the view that the question was not of putting the blame on labour or on disturbed conditions but one of the challenges of good management was to take stock of particular situation and evolve proper equations and relationships. As far as Government was concerned, it would have to be firm on deliberate indiscipline, particularly if issues were raised which had nothing to do with trade unionism. A firm policy on behalf of the Government for maintaining discipline and an enlightened approach on behalf of the management in dealing with labour problems including their wages and other requirements, should be combined to tackle this situation.

(b) Government's policy in respect of labour management relationships and prevention and settlement of industrial disputes is pragmatic and broad-based. Every effort is made to develop harmonious labour-management relationships in different industries and in various regions.

B.\N ON BEGGARY

*427- SHRI SASANKASEKHAR SANYAL : Will the Minister of LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state whether some States have by law banned beggary and that some other States are contemplating to take similar measures ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : Yes, Sir.

RATE OF INDUSTRIAL GROWTH

*4a8. SHRI ARJUN ARORA :
SHRI M. H. SAMUEL :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNAL TRADE be pleased to state the rate of industrial growth in the country during the years 1968, 1969 and the first half of 1970 ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNAL TRADE (SHRI DINESH SINGH) * : A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

The rate of industrial growth in the country during 1968, 1969 and the first half of 1970, as evidenced by the available index of industrial production has been as follows :

1968 . . . +6.4 per cent

1969 . . . +7.1 per cent

January-June 1970 . . . -+5.8 per cent
(as compared to
January-June 1969)

It may be noted that the above figures of growth do not reflect the growth of small scale industries. It is well-known that there has been rapid and sizeable growth of small industries in recent year. (The Reserve Bank, in its annual review , for 1969-70 has estimated the growth of production in the small scale sector as n-2 per cent over the previous year). Further, all the figures given above are all related to the index of production which is based on the production pattern in 1960 wherein the traditional industries have a considerable weight. The question of the revision of the base is under consideration.

HINDUSTAN STEEL LTD., ROURKELA

♦429. SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS* : Will the Minister of STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Hindustan Steel Limited, Rourkela has received any intimation from the Orissa Labour Directorate regarding representative character of various unions after verification of membership;