

From the increased interest shown by schools of Delhi, it can be stated that they have served a useful purpose. Details of the scheme of Mock Parliament Competitions have been circulated to the States and Union Territories with a request to introduce a scheme on similar lines in their schools.

ENFORCEMENT OF ESSENTIAL SERVICES MAINTENANCE ACT AT CALCUTTA PORT

113. SHRI N. G. GOREY: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the provisions of the Essential Services Maintenance Act were made applicable to the Calcutta port workers during the first week of June, 1970;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the provisions of the said law have been withdrawn in their application to the Calcutta port; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SARDAR IQBAL SINGH): (a) Yes*

(b) The general labour situation at the Port of Calcutta had been causing serious concern for some time past because of frequent 'wild-cat' strikes and stoppages of work, gherao of officials, demonstrations etc. This continuing state of affairs had caused great damage to the trade and economy of the Port of Calcutta. It was, therefore, felt that the application of the Essential Services Maintenance Act to the port and dock services at Calcutta was necessary.

(c) No.

(d) The labour situation at Calcutta Port continues to be unsatisfactory.

STOPPAGE OF DEVELOPMENT WORK IN FAZILKA VILLAGES BY PUNJAB GOVERNMENT

114. SHRI SULTAN SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have received complaints,

from the residents of villages in Fazilka area, to the effect that developmental work has been completely stopped by the Government of Punjab in these areas which are to be transferred to Haryana as per Centre's decision;

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Central Government in the matter; and

(c) whether the Central Government have collected the figures from Punjab Government as to the total mileage of roads constructed, the number of villages electrified, the number of primary and middle schools upgraded in the Fazilka area since the announcement by the Central Government of the decision to transfer these villages to Haryana?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. C. PANT):

(a) to (c) The details of the developmental activities undertaken by the Punjab Government in the Fazilka area after the announcement of the decision to transfer it to Haryana are not available. However, some time ago complaints about slowing down of developmental activities in this area were brought to the notice of the Central Government and the matter was taken up with the Government of Punjab. The State Government has reported that there is no truth in these complaints.

ARREST OF TWO M.L.As OF WEST BENGAL

115. SHRI NIREN GHOSH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Shri Binoy Konar and Shri Gokulananda Roy, two M.L.As. of West Bengal have been arrested and kept in jail as Class III under-trial prisoners;

(b) whether it is also a fact that they have been denied normal facilities available to political prisoners; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) to (c) The required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House on receipt.