

FAMILY PENSION FOR THE RETIRED PERSONNEL OF P. AND T.

425. SHRIMATI TARA RAMCHANDRA SATHE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the All India Post and Telegraph Pensioners' Association requesting for the introduction of Family Pension Scheme, 1964 for those persons who retired under the Liberalised Pension Rules of 1950;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) whether Government propose to make any other arrangement to provide some means of maintenance of a widow of such a pensioner?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) It is not clear which particular Association is meant as there are a number of Associations—none of them recognised—calling themselves "All India Pensioners' Association" or the like. No communication of the kind referred to has been received from any Pensioners' Association.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) According to existing rules, widows of officers retiring under the Liberalised Pension Rules are entitled to receive pension for life as provided for under the New Family Pension Scheme, 1964 if they were in receipt of family pension on 31st December 1963. It is not proposed to liberalise this further.

**खाद्य क्षेत्रों को समाप्त करने के संबंध में
अमरीकी सुझाव**

426. श्री राम सहाय :

श्री बी० सी० पट्टनायक :

क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि : क्या अमरीका की सरकार ने भारत को गेहूं भेजने के संबंध में यह शर्त

लगाई है कि भारत को खाद्य क्षेत्र समाप्त कर देने चाहिए ?

†[U. S. SUGGESTIONS ON ABOLITION OF FOOD ZONES

426. SHRI RAM SAHAI :

SHRI B. C. PATTANAYAK :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state whether the Government of the United States of America has laid down a condition for supplying wheat to India that India should abolish food zones ?]

खाद्य, कृषि, सामुदायिक विकास और सहकारिता मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अण्णासाहेब शिंदे) : जी, नहीं ।

†[THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE): No, Sir.]

427. [Transferred to the 6th December, 1967.]

STRIKE IN SINGARENI COLLIERIES

428. SHRI SURJIT SINGH ATWAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for the recent strike of coal mines in Singareni Collieries;

(b) the steps taken by the management to avert the strike and settle the dispute; and

(c) the number of man-hours lost and the production affected as a result of the strike?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI): (a) The unions operating in Singareni Collieries demand modifications in the recommendations of the Central Wage Board for Coal

Mining Industry in respect of categorisation and wage structure of workers.

(b) Bilateral discussions were held between the management and the unions and the management agreed to implement the Wage Board's recommendations and to refer the differences, if any, to Regional Labour Commissioner (C), Hyderabad, for conciliation. During the conciliation proceedings, the management agreed to refer all the issues to arbitration of the Chief Labour Commissioner and agreed to the suggestion of the Regional Labour Commissioner for forming an implementation Committee. The management also requested the unions not to precipitate matters.

(c) As a result of the strike, 19,59,422 man-hours were lost and there was a loss of production of 1,50,000 tonnes of coal. The value of production lost is Rs. 56,74,500.

WAGE BOARD FOR COAL INDUSTRY

429. SHRI SURJIT SINGH ATWAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the representatives of the Ministries of Steel, Mines and Metals, Railways, Irrigation and Power and Finance were associated with the examination of the report of the Wage Board for coal industry, before final decision of Government was announced ; and

(b) if so, what is the outline of the discussions held ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI JAISUKHLAL HATHI) : (a) Departmental discussions were held with the concerned Ministries/Departments, as usual.

(b) It is not usual to disclose internal discussions between Departments of the Government. Government's decisions on the Wage Board's report were announced in July, 1967 and copies of the Resolution were placed on the Table of the Sabha on the 24th July, 1967.

DEVELOPMENT LEVY AND BONUS TO STATES

430. SHRI S. D. UPADHYAYA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Central assistance in the form of development levy or development bonus has been paid by the Central Government to any State Government at the time of procurement of rice and wheat from the State Governments ; and

(b) if so, what are the details of such payment ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE) : (a) A scheme for payment of incentive bonus for despatch of rice and wheat from surplus to deficit States were formulated for 1966-67 crop. A similar scheme for making rice available to Central Pool has been introduced against 1967-68 crop.

(b) An amount of Rs. 30 lacs has been paid to Andhra Pradesh Government against 1966-67 crop under the scheme so far.

M. P. GOVERNMENT PROPOSAL FOR DEVELOPMENT OF TEAK FORESTS, ETC.

431 SHRI S. D. UPADHYAYA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any request has been received by Government from the Government of Madhya Pradesh in regard to Central assistance for development of Teak forests, Palm forestry and afforestation programme for quick growing species ; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal and the decision of the Central Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE) : (a) Yes, Sir.