

SHRI D. SANJIVAYYA: I have already answered that question, Sir. I do not know whether any officer interfered or intervened in this question but anyway I will look into it again.

SHRI T. V. ANANDAN: Is it not a fact, Sir, that before launching a prosecution they have to obtain the sanction of the Government? If so, for the withdrawal of it did they obtain such sanction, Sir?

SHRI D. SANJIVAYYA: Well, in some cases Government will have to sanction, and in some other cases the Chief Commissioner of Labour can sanction.

SHRI B. K. GAIKWAD: May I know, Sir—the hon. Member said that the loss of labourers came to something like four lakhs of rupees. If that is not correct—may I know, Sir, what is the information of the hon. Minister? How much loss was incurred by the workers in this connection?

SHRI D. SANJIVAYYA: I have no information except the information given by the hon. Members here.

SHRI KOTA PUNNAIAH: May I know, Sir, whether there are any other cases where such procedure was adopted by the conciliation machinery?

SHRI D. SANJIVAYYA: Not to my knowledge.

SHRI T. V. ANANDAN: After hearing the replies of the hon. Minister, may I not request him, since this is a very very strange case, that has happened in our country, can he not please undertake to probe into the matter and reply to the House?

SHRI D. SANJIVAYYA: I have already stated, Sir, that I will look into the matter further.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: May I know, Sir, if the Minister is satisfied that the majority of the labour affected entered into the agreement consciously and knowing the loss that they were suffering, and if it was not a majority, may I ask whether the Government will take steps to undo the wrong committed by the minority on the majority?

SHRI D. SANJIVAYYA: Well, I do not know whether they agreed to this consciously or otherwise, but so far as the number of workers is concerned, the majority of them have agreed.

MANNING OF AIR-CRAFT FACTORIES

*737. { SHRIMATI C. AMMANNA
RAJA:†
SHRI KOTA PUNNAIAH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the newly formed aircraft manufacturing plants, for example, M/G factories are manned by qualified persons;

(b) whether the technical officers of the Air Force who have had training in foreign countries on advanced aeronautical subjects are being utilised for such projects of national importance; and

(c) if so, how many such officers are employed on such projects and how many of them are employed in maintenance work in the Air Force?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. M. THOMAS):

(a) Yes, Sir. The nucleus staff is made up of qualified persons. Training programmes have been initiated to meet the further requirements.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shrimati C. Ammanna Raja.

(b) Yes, Sir, to the extent considered necessary and to the extent to which such officers can be spared from the Air Force.

(c) At present 30 technical officers of the I.A.F. with foreign training are on deputation with Aircraft Manufacturing Projects.

SHRIMATI C. AMMANNA RAJA: May I know, Sir, whether the technical people, who are highly qualified, who have had training abroad, who are merely being wasted on defence aircraft maintenance work, are being at all utilised in these factories?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: In the first place, these are comparatively new projects. We are only going ahead with civil works and the other things are in the beginning stages, and the staff that is at present necessary is in position. I may also state that all the important posts are even now manned by Air Force officers. For example, the Managing Director himself is an Air Force officer. All the General Managers of the factories are also Air Force officers. So, to the extent possible and necessary we are taking Air Force officers.

SHRI KOTA PUNNAIAH: Cannot the maintenance work of the Air Force be looked after by the already qualified technical officers, that is, the B. E. Degree-holders who are in the service of the Air Force?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: The maintenance work is even now being taken care of by the Air Force officers.

SHRIMATI C. AMMANNA RAJA: Can the Minister assure us that the work in these factories is not suffering due to lack of qualified officers?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: Yes, Sir, it is not suffering, and for the future

requirements we are also undertaking a training programme in all these three concerns,

SHRI KOTA PUNNAIAH: May I know, Sir, how many officers were sent abroad and what amount was spent on them?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: I have indicated it in the written answer, Sir; thirty persons are now on deputation from the Air Force, and of these, thirty are foreign-qualified technical officers of the I.A.F. and twelve out of them have undergone specific aeronautical post-graduate studies.

SHRIMATI C. AMMANNA RAJA: I wish to know whether it is possible for the defence personnel to be employed on civilian jobs in the nature of factories?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: It is possible.

SHRIMATI C. AMMANNA RAJA: On a contract basis.

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: Not on contract basis; they are generally on deputation; there are permanent ciation. After all, the total number that there is some inadequate appreciation. After all the total number of persons employed in the Nasik factory is now only 108. In Koraput it is only 50 and in Hyderabad it is only 20. Many of the technical officers we are taking from the I.A.F.

SHRI BIREN ROY: The skilled technical personnel who have already been trained by the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, will a lot of them be given preference in these factories when they are being started?

SHRI A. M. THOMAS: Yes, Sir. As far as Koraput factory requirements are concerned, 92 persons are being trained in H.A.L.