

considered in this Ministry and it is felt that it does not contain any new points which would justify the reopening of the decisions already taken by Government after mature consideration on the recommendations of the Plantation Enquiry Commission.

TRIPARTITE COMMITTEE ON BONUS TO TEA GARDEN LABOUR

*86. SHRI M. BASAVAPUNNAIAH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have appointed a Tripartite Committee to decide the question of payment of bonus to tea garden labour in Eastern India; and

(b) if so, who are the members of the Committee and what are the terms of its reference?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI ABID ALI) : (a) A bipartite sub-committee consisting of employers and workers' representatives has since been set up.

(b) The sub-committee consists of four representatives each of workers and employers. The Regional Labour Commissioner, Calcutta, is its convenor. The sub-committee will determine the quantum of bonus to be paid by the tea gardens of Assam, West Bengal and Tripura for the year 1957 onwards.

CLOSURE OF TEXTILE MILLS IN GWALIOR

*87. SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state whether it is a fact that two textile mills of Gwalior are to close down and if so, whether Government are aware that thousands of labourers will be rendered unemployed as a result of such closure?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI N. KANUNGO) : Two cloth mills, namely Jayajirao Cotton Mills, Gwalior and Motilal Aggarwal (Private) Ltd., Gwalior, have given notices of

closure. However, M/s. Motilal Aggarwal (Private) Ltd., Gwalior, have withdrawn their notice of closure. The management of M/s. Jayajirao Cotton Mills, Gwalior, has assured that every effort will be made to keep the mill working.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I know the total strength of the workers in these two mills?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: Jayajirao Mills—10,000; Motilal Aggarwal—520.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I know if the Government has got any idea of the profit these two concerns have been earning in the years 1952-53, 1953-54, 1954-55 and 1955-56?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: I have not got that information with me now.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Is the Government aware that this closure move is one of the steps of the organised threat of textile industry in order to get more concessions and exemptions from excise duty from the Government?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: I do not think so.

SHRI RATANLAL KISHORILAL MALVIYA: What is the total number of mills which have been closed in the country and what is the number of workers affected?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: I suppose at the moment 32 mills are closed; about the number of workers involved I am sorry I cannot give that.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: May I know if it is a fact that the managements of textile mills are trying to secure reduction in the dearness allowances of workers under threat of closure?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: We have no information on that.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: May I know if there are some mills