

Industrial Committees—one for coalmines and the other for non-coal mines.

(b) The Committees consisted of three representatives of the Central Government, five of the State Governments, four of employers and four of workers.

(c) The Committees are intended to advise Government on subjects connected with Industrial relations and the like matters relating to the industry concerned.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know how far labour participation in these committees have been able to advance the productivity programme?

SHRI ABID ALI: Generally, the decisions of these committees are unanimous.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know what are the results so far achieved in those where labour participation has already been practised?

SHRI ABID ALI: That is entirely a separate question. As the House is aware, this particular programme has been taken up only very recently and it would be too early to assess the progress.

MAINTENANCE OF POET TAGORE'S PROPERTY "KUTHIBARI" IN SHILADAH, EAST PAKISTAN

*165. SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any communication from the Government of Pakistan regarding preservation and proper utilisation of Poet Rabindranath Tagore's property 'Kuthibari' in Shiladah in East Pakistan; and

(b) whether the proceedings for recovery of arrears of tax dues against this property have since been withdrawn?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON) : (a) According to a handout issued by the Government of East Pakistan in November, 1957, "Shiladah Kuthibari" the (residence of the Poet in Kushtia District has been declared as a protected monument since July, 1957, and the Archaeological Department has taken it over for maintaining it as a memorial to the Poet. This has been confirmed, in a communication addressed to the Government of West Bengal by the Government of East Pakistan.

(b) The sale proceedings for recovery of arrears in respect of the property have been suspended.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know whether any properties were sold before the proceedings were suspended?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: The property was taken over from the last owner, the Bhagyakul family. The property was not sold but some pieces of furniture were sold but they have been brought back and put in there.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: What is the amount of arrears of tax outstanding against the property?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: I have no information.

LEGISLATION FOR MOTOR TRANSPORT WORKERS

DR. R. B. GOUR: *166. ^ SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: f _ SHRI P. N. RAJABHOJ:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tripartite Committee appointed to examine draft legislation to regulate the working conditions of motor transport workers has submitted its report; and

fThe question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri M.P. Bhargava.

(b) if so, whether Government will place a copy of the same on the Table of the House?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LABOUR
(SHRI ABID ALI): (a) Yes.

(b) A summary is placed on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

SUMMARY OF THE CONCLUSIONS REACHED BY THE TRIPARTITE COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO EXAMINE DRAFT LEGISLATION TO REGULATE WORKING CONDITIONS OF MOTOR TRANSPORT WORKERS.

1. Coverage.— (i) The legislation should be made applicable to motor transport undertakings engaged in the carriage of passengers and goods and also to private carriers, and should bring within its scope all motor transport workers.

(ii) In the first instance only transport undertakings and private carriers employing 5 or more workers should be covered. There should be power to apply the legislation in the case of undertakings employing less than 5 persons.

(hi) Private vehicles for personal services including those used for transport of sick and injured persons etc. should be exempted from the scope of the legislation.

2. Working Hours.— (i) There was no agreement regarding the number of hours of work per day and per week.

(ii) The term 'hours of work' should include:—

(a) time spent in work done during the running time of the vehicle;

(b) time spent in subsidiary work; and

(c) periods of mere attendance at terminals of less than 15 minutes.

(iii) In order to allow for flexibility in operation the daily limit regarding hours of work may be exceeded by one hour.

Split duty should be permitted in special circumstances.

(iv) Prescribed hours of work should be permitted to be exceeded only in case of accidents, breakdown, dislocation of services, and interruption of traffic etc.

3. Rest Interval.— (i) A rest interval of at least half an hour after continuous work for five hours should be allowed.

(ii) There should be provision for reducing the duration of the rest interval and for increasing the hours of continuous work in exceptional circumstances,

(iii) The rest interval can be dispensed with where the working hours on any day do not exceed six.

(iv) There should be a period of rest of at least 9 consecutive hours between 'signing off' on one day and 'signing on' on the following day.

4. Spreadover.—There was no agreed conclusion regarding spreadover.

5. Overtime.—There was no agreement on this also.

6. Weekly Rest.—Provision should be made for:—

(i) the grant of a weekly rest period of one calendar day;

(ii) substituting the day of weekly rest provided that it does not result in any worker working for more than 10 days consecutively; and

(iii) the grant of compensatory rest in lieu of the weekly rest within one month.

7. *Welfare facilities.*—There should be provision for canteens, rest rooms and supply of uniforms.

8. *Leave with wages, holidays etc.*—Provision should be made for:—

- (i) 30 days' leave with wages; and
- (ii) 6 days' festival and national holidays.

9. *Medical facilities.*—Medical arrangements should be provided at all operating centres and regular bus stations. First aid boxes should be provided on the vehicles.

10. *Night work and wages for Night work.*—No provision need be made for any payment over the ordinary rates of wages in respect of work after 10 P.M. or before 6 A.M.

11. *Retirement Benefits.*—(i) The benefits of provident fund should be extended to all motor transport workers.

(ii) Gratuity where it is allowed in any form should continue.

12. *Compensation of Employment Injuries.*—No special provision need be made as the workers would be covered by Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923.

13. *Special provisions for young persons.*—(i) *Minimum age of employment.*—15 years.

(ii) *Hours of work.*—Above 15 years and below 18 years—6 hours per day inclusive of 1 hour rest.

(iii) *Medical Examination.*—A pre-employment examination for persons below the age of 18 years.

14. *Payment of Wages.*—The Payment of Wages Act should be made applicable to all transport workers.

15. *Administration.*—(i) The State Government should administer the legislation and they should have rule making powers.

(ii) The Central Government should have power to give directions where-ever necessary.

16. *General.*—In view of the growing importance of the motor transport industry, Government should consider the appointment of a Commission to enquire into the working conditions, pay scales, health and work load of transport workers.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know if any decision has been taken about the recommendations made by this Committee?

SHRI ABID ALI: Not yet, Sir.

श्री पी० न० राजगोपाल अखरी : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि मोटर ट्रांसपोर्ट का कौन कौन से स्टेट्स में राष्ट्रीयकरण हुआ है और कितना हुआ है ?

श्री आबिद अली : उसका इस सवाल से सम्बन्ध नहीं है, लेकिन फिर भी मैं बताये देता हूँ। बम्बई, यू० पी० का कुछ हिस्सा, पंजाब, देहली, बंगाल और कई स्टेट्स में हुआ है।

SHOPS BUILT BY GOVERNMENT FOR DIS-PLACED PERSONS

•167. SHRI N. R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of REHABILITATION AND MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state the steps being taken by Government to convert the temporary stalls of displaced persons in Bombay, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan into pwcca shops?

THE MINISTER OF REHABILITATION AND MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA): No specific proposals for the conversion of temporary stalls into *pucca* ones in the States of Bombay, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan are pending examination. Moreover this Ministry is not undertaking any fresh construction of houses and shops in the Western Region.