

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: I have just now answered that. As the hon. Member is aware there is less shaking in air-conditioned coaches and this medical van will be air-conditioned; so there will be less of shaking and vibration.

*344. [Postponed to 31st May 1956]

COCHIN PORT EMPLOYEES' UNION

*345. SHRI GOVINDAN NAIR: Will the Minister for TRANSPORT be pleased to state the reasons for which the Cochin Port Employees' Union has not been granted recognition by Government?

THE MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI LAL BAHADUR) : The office-bearers of this Union also claim to have been elected as the office-bearers of another existing recognised Union, viz., the Cochin Port Workers Union. The validity of their election as office-bearers of the latter Union is at present *sub judice* and the question of recognition of the Cochin Port Employees Union cannot properly be considered until after the issue has been decided by the Court.

SHRI GOVINDAN NAIR: Is the Government aware that this Cochin Port Employees' Union has the support of seventy-five per cent, of the workers there?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: Well, Sir, it is difficult for me to express any opinion on that. But anyhow if they have got a majority, that matter will be taken into consideration when recognition will have to be given to this Union.

CONSTITUTION OF WORKS COMMITTEE AT COCHIN PORT

*346. SHRI GOVINDAN NAIR: Will the Minister for TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Works Committee has been constituted and is functioning at present in Cochin Port, as pro-

vided for under Section 3 of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI LAL BAHADUR): (a) and (b). A Works Committee was constituted in March 1953 and functioned satisfactorily till December, 1953. It ceased to function thereafter due to the resignation of the labour representatives from the Committee.

SHRI GOVINDAN NAIR: Now, I would like to know whether the workers themselves have made a demand to organise Works Committees there?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: They have made a demand, but the matter, as I said in answer to the previous question, being *sub judice* it is not possible to negotiate with either party to select the labour representatives for the Works Committee.

SHRI GOVINDAN NAIR: The Works Committees are elected not on the basis of Unions, but on the basis of the representation of the workers employed there. So, I do not understand the difficulty in organising the Works Committee there.

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: The representatives of the Works Committee are selected from amongst the members of the Unions. The Unions are informally consulted by the Administrator. Because there is a dispute between the two Unions, both of them claim that they are the Legal Union. So, we have to wait till the matter has been decided by the court.

SHRI GOVINDAN NAIR: Since when this dispute has arisen?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: I think since March 1955.

SHRI N. C. SEKHAR: May I ask whether the Minister is aware that Works Committees are elected not on