

MR. CHAIRMAN: Put the question in English.

DR. R. B. GOUR: But the Original question is in Hindi. Sir, and the Deputy Minister also answered in...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, I know, but with great effort.

PROF. G. RANGA: The hon. Member is from Hyderabad.

DR. R. B. GOUR: May I know, Sir, whether the number of employees originally employed on this tramway, will all be employed in this new scheme of having buses, and if so, what will be their emoluments? Will there be any difference in their emoluments?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: We shall try to absorb them in the bus service.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Has any scheme been drawn up or is it still under consideration, in a nebulous state?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is, "Is it still under consideration or has a scheme been drawn up?"

(No reply.)

AMENDMENT OF THE PUNJAB MUNICIPAL ACT, 1911

*397. SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: Will the Minister for HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government or the Municipal bodies of Delhi have expressed a desire for the amendment of the Punjab Municipal Act, 1911 as applied to the Delhi State;

(b) if so, what are the changes desired; and

(c) whether a committee has been appointed to review the working of the Act?

THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH (RAJ-KUMARI AMRIT KAUR): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) It is understood that a Committee has been appointed by the State Government to review the working of the Punjab Municipal Act as applied to the Delhi State.

INFLUX OF LABOUR IN ROURKELA

*398. SHRI S. N. DWIVEDY: Will the Minister for LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a large scale influx of labour in Rourkela and many of them are failing to find any employment; and

(b) whether Government propose to establish an Employment Exchange at Rourkela in order to register the names of persons who come there in search of employment?

THE MINISTER FOR LABOUR (SHRI KHANDUBHAI DESAI): (a) It is true that employment seekers are coming to Rourkela and returning without getting any appointment but the influx of labour is not yet on a very large scale.

(b) Yes.

SHRI S. N. DWIVEDY: May I know whether Government is taking any steps to see that the peasants in the surrounding villages who will be displaced are given employment in this factory?

SHRI KHANDUBHAI DESAI: I cannot say at this juncture as to what the position will be but the general policy of the plant is to engage indigenous labour, as far as possible, provided they are found suitable for the jobs in view.

SHRI S. N. DWIVEDY: Have they any plans to train labourers—since this is a State undertaking—so that the persons can be utilised both for construction and production in the factory?

SHRI KHANDUBHAI DESAI: I understand that the Hindustan Steel

Ltd is thinking of organising a training school for the training of workers. The Labour Ministry also, in consultation with the Orissa Government, is starting a training institute near about Rourkela not only to train people for the big steel work but also for training people for the subsidiary engineering industries that will crop up.

SHRI S MAHANTY: May I know if there is a modicum of labour amenities available in Rourkela?

MR. CHAIRMAN: He wants to know whether minimum amenities are available in Rourkela.

SHRI KHANDUBHAI DESAI: Of course.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: Sir, is it a fact that in a place where more than a thousand labourers are employed, there is not even a single well for drinking water purposes?

PROF. G. RANGA: Where?

SHRI S MAHANTY: In Rourkela.

SHRI KHANDUBHAI DESAI: If notice is given, I shall look into the question and make the necessary enquiries.

SHRI S MAHANTY: Is it not a fact that the Labour Ministry received an urgent telegram from the questioner himself drawing the attention of Government to this fact?

SHRI KHANDUBHAI DESAI: Then we must be getting it examined as to whether the complaint is true or, to what extent it is true and what steps should be taken to remedy the situation.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: Sir, It is not a question of complaint; that should be cleared first. The question is whether the Labour Ministry received a telegram two months back from myself drawing attention of Government to the fact that a Welfare State should have better standards of labour

amenities and employment. Is this a fact? If so, what steps have been taken?

SHRI KHANDUBHAI DESAI: It is being enquired into and all the primary necessities of life will be given to them.

SHRI S MAHANTY: Is it a fact that the labourers employed in Rourkela are being exploited by the contractors appointed by the Hindustan Steel Ltd.?

SHRI KHANDUBHAI DESAI: It is a very general term, Sir.

MR CHAIRMAN: It is a matter of opinion.

SHRI KHANDUBHAI DESAI: "Exploitation" is a very wide term, Sir, but if there is real exploitation, I will look into it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your question was whether they are being exploited. That is much too wide and general.

SHRI S MAHANTY: I will put it specifically Sir:

Is it a fact that the labourers who are being employed by the contractors appointed by the Hindustan Steel Ltd. are being under-paid for the work which they are asked to do? If so, whether Government have received any complaint on this count? If such a complaint has been received, have Government taken any steps?

SHRI KHANDUBHAI DESAI: If the complaint is being addressed to us, I will have the complaint sent to my colleague the Production Minister and it will be enquired into.

SHRI H. P. SAKSENA: May I know the answer with regard to (b)? It was not explicit to me

MR CHAIRMAN: 'Yes' is the answer.

SHRI KHANDUBHAI DESAI: I said, 'Yes'.

PROF. G. RANGA: May I know, whether steps are being taken to see that the Employment Exchanges which Government are going to establish do not also play the role of a *kangani* and charge fees from the workers who go and register their names?

SHRI KHANDUBHAI DESAI: I do not think it is the intention to charge fees.

PROF. G. RANGA: Not fees and that is why I said *kangani* which means taking of private fees. They take bribes from the labourers.

SHRI KHANDUBHAI DESAI: Does the hon. Member mean the Employment Exchange officials?

PROF. G. RANGA: Yes.

SHRI KHANDUBHAI DESAI: I will get the whole question examined. If this proves to be correct, we will take steps to see that this sort of thing does not happen again.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: In view of the reply to Mr. Mahanty's question, am I to take it that the Labour Ministry was completely unaware about the question of whether there is one well or not? The hon. Minister said that if notice was given, he will look into the matter. Are we to understand that Government does not even know whether there are drinking water facilities provided or not?

SHRI KHANDUBHAI DESAI: Drinking water facilities should be provided but if the facilities are defective, I assure the hon. Member that this will be taken into consideration by the Production Ministry.

ACCIDENTS IN THE GOLD MINES AT HUTTI IN HYDERABAD

*399. DR. R. B. GOUR: Will the Minister for LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of accidents in gold mines at Hutti in Hyderabad State in each year since 1950;

(b) whether there has been any increase in the accidents during this period; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER FOR LABOUR (SHRI KHANDUBHAI DESAI): (a) A statement in regard to fatal accidents is placed on the Table of the Rajya Sabha. Information regarding non-fatal accidents is not readily available.

(b) No. There has however been an increase in the number of non-fatal accidents.

(c) The increase in the case of non-fatal accidents may be due partly to better reporting by the mines management as a result of closer vigilance by the Mines Department.

(This tendency could not have developed all of a sudden).

STATEMENT

Number of fatal accidents and the number of persons killed in Hutti Gold Mines from 1st April 1951 upto the end of 1954.

Year	No. of fatal accidents	No. of Persons killed
1951 (April-December)	2	3
1952	2	2
1953	—	—
1954	—	—

N.B.—Prior to 1st April 1951, the mines were not under the purview of the Mines Act and hence no information is available for the year 1950.

DR. R. B. GOUR: The information given is about the number of fatal accidents and the number of persons killed in these accidents. What about the number of injured, partially disabled and such other types?

MR. CHAIRMAN: He said that information regarding them is not readily available.