

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: May I know, Sir, whether any compensation has been paid to the labourers for this involuntary unemployment?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: The right for lay off compensation has been given to them recently by a legislation and they are bound to get that.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: But my question is whether they have got that compensation and whether the hon. Minister has any information about it.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I have no information about it. My hon. friend may address the question to the Labour Minister.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Sir, is there a duty cast on the Ministry concerned, to enquire in the case of a mill closing down the reasons therefor, in order to find out whether it cannot be restarted either under the auspices of the Government or by handing over management to somebody else under Government control?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: In the old days we used to give assistance to the uneconomic units, as they were called then, by giving them export licences for the yarn and things like that. And in the case of a closure of a mill, we get all the reasons for it, and we seek to help them by way of the import of machinery and things like that, and through the Industrial Finance Corporation in the case of capital aid etc. We are always interested in seeing that the mills are kept working if it is possible, and they are not closed.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: My question was primarily directed to this point that when a mill should close down on account of inefficiency or incompetence of the management, is there anything that the Government can do or does in such cases?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I think my hon. friend is aware of the law

and the recent Supreme Court ruling on that point.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Under the Industries Development and Regulation Act, is there a duty cast upon the Ministry to take them up?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I think, Sir, the Act is understood by both of us. We can study that and I should not tease the House with the various provisions.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: The House is aware of that but ostensibly none of the mills have been taken up under those rules. My question is, was there not a single case in which the Ministry considered that it would have been economically possible to work any of the mills by taking them over?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: Sir, the reason for the closure of the mills, except the one that was burnt, is financial loss and uneconomic working and we have not been called upon to do anything in particular. If my hon. friend has any particular mill in view where we could usefully do anything, well, we are prepared to go into that matter.

†UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

*438. SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Will the Minister for PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) what efforts have so far been made to collect statistics of unemployment and under-employment in the country; and

(b) what success have these efforts yielded so far?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR PLANNING (SHRI S. N. MISHRA): (a) At the instance of the Planning

†Postponed from the 22nd December 1954.

Commission the following surveys were initiated:

- (1) A survey of persons on the live register of the Delhi Employment Exchange;
- (2) A sample survey for 4,000 households of Calcutta City;
- (3) Survey of unemployment in Kolhapur and Batala areas;
- (4) A survey of unemployment in Travancore-Cochin; and
- (5) A preliminary survey in 23 towns covered by the National Sample Survey.

The question of undertaking countrywide surveys regarding unemployment and under-employment periodically on a uniform basis is being studied by the Central Statistical Organisation and the Indian Statistical Institute, Calcutta.

(b) Much more information than is at present available is needed before satisfactory statistics of unemployment and under-employment can be made available.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: The schemes which the hon. Minister has referred to are in the nature of *ad hoc* and specific schemes. I should like to ask the hon. Minister if he is aware of the observations made in the Planning Commission's Report, which was submitted to us in 1952, that no statistics of unemployment ~~of~~ under-employment exist and that measures should be initiated to secure these statistics. Do I then understand that up till now no measures had been devised to collect all-India statistics of unemployment?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He has said that the Central Statistical Organisation and the Indian Statistical Institute, Calcutta, are studying the problem.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Since 1952, up to now, all that has been done is to have the matter referred to the Central Statistical Organisation to be examined.

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: No, Sir, the present position is not like that. In fact, as you have been pleased to point out, we are going to undertake a comprehensive survey of the entire country but, so far, also Government have taken steps; they have instituted all these five schemes since July 1953.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: I am afraid the hon. Minister is either not appreciating the import of the question or.....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: A sample survey is there now and the all-India survey will be taken up after the reports are received.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: I wish to submit, Sir, that a sample survey of six or seven places, in a country like India, will not give us any idea of the entire problem of unemployment in the country as a whole. I wanted to know and the Minister can give a specific answer, "nothing has been done so far and the whole matter has been referred to the Central Statistical Organisation".

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: Although I am ready to admit that the entire picture would not be available to us, on the basis of the enquiries instituted, a slice of the mirror would, of course, be available.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Is the hon. Minister aware that a slice of the mirror was also available from the figures supplied by the Employment Exchanges? (*Interruption*). That is what the Planning Commission said, it is not satisfactory.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This is a better and a bigger slice.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: So far as the all-India collection of statistics is concerned, I presume nothing has been done so far excepting referring it to the Central Statistical Organisation.

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: I think, Sir, that is the justification for undertaking the comprehensive survey and as the hon. Member would realise, this is a

vast problem of assessing the quantum of unemployment in the entire country. And one who knows about the facets of the problem would certainly realise that these things could not have been done during the course of the last year.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Do I take it...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You will certainly consider the question again after the report is received; is it not?

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: In 1952 we appreciated the vastness of the problem; in 1954, we are again appreciating the vastness of the problem. How long shall we continue to appreciate the vastness of the problem and not initiate certain measures?

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: A deadline has been set, to the disappointment of the hon. Member. A comprehensive survey is going to be undertaken.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Next question.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Sir, he says, a deadline has been set. What is the deadline?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: They are awaiting the report of the Central Statistical Organisation after which they will take action.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: I have a question to ask in that connection, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have called the next question.

PROF. N. R. MALKANI: I have been standing, Sir.

HIRAKUD DAM PROJECT

*453. SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN (ON BEHALF OF SHRI J. K. VALLABHARAO): Will the Minister for IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the present position in the progress of work in Hirakud Dam Project; and

(b) whether Government have recognised the Trade Unions functioning there?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI J. S. L. HATHI): (a) A statement showing the progress of main works on the Hirakud Dam Project up to the end of November 1954, is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, Annexure No. 120.]

(b) The Project authorities had recognised the *Hirakud Dam Workers Welfare Union*. This union has now become defunct. The question of granting recognition to another Union is under consideration.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: May I know whether there is any other Union of the workers working there now and whether that Union has been recognised or is its recognition under consideration?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: Apart from the Union which I mentioned as defunct, there are two others functioning and the question of recognising one of them is under consideration.

SHRI B. GUPTA: Sir, since Socialism has come to the Central Hall, may I know why there is delay in recognising the Unions which are very primary things?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: I could not see Socialism in the Central Hall. I have not seen it.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: May I know whether the demands of the workers which were under consideration by the management and which were discussed here some time earlier have been settled to their satisfaction?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: I think some of the demands have been satisfied; there are not many outstanding things now which require to be done.