

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: I refer the hon. Member to the provisions of the Air Corporations Act.

#### REDESIGNING OF PASHABHAI PATEL IMPLEMENTS

\*289. SHRI PRASADARAO: Will the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the programme of redesigning the Pashabhai Patel implements has been completed; and

(b) what is the total cost of these implements and what will be the estimated cost of redesigning?

THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE (DR. P. S. DESHMUKH): (a) The recommendations of the F.A.O. expert about rehabilitation of these implements have been received and are under examination.

(b) The purchase price of the Pashabhai implements is about Rs. 43 lakhs while total cost including freight and other charges comes to about Rs. 47.6 lakhs.

On a rough estimate the cost of redesigning would be about Rs. 3.5 lakhs.

SHRI PRASADARAO: Were they purchased on the recommendation of any experts?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: Sir, I believe that there was some consultation. It is a very old story.

DR. P. C. MITRA: What are these Pashabhai Patel implements?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: There are various kinds of implements which we had purchased through a firm which was called Pashabhai Patel Company. The implements are disc plows, mould board plows, disc harrows, pan breakers and one way disc tillers.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Is it not possible to give us the long story in short?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: A long story can be given only at length.

#### STRIKE IN THE TITAGHUR PAPER MILLS

\*290. SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Will the Minister for LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the labourers employed in the Titaghur Paper Mills, West Bengal, or from their unions in connection with the strike continuing in those Mills since the middle of October 1953;

(b) if so, what are the points raised in the said representation; and

(c) whether any action has been taken by Government in this connection?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR LABOUR (SHRI ABID ALI): (a) to (c). A printed copy of an appeal addressed to the Prime Minister purported to have been made by the workers and employees of the Titaghur Paper Mills Company Ltd. was received in January 1954. Its copy is laid on the Table of the Council. The responsibility for taking action in the dispute was that of the State Government.

#### Copy of the Appeal

We, the workers and employees of Messrs. Titaghur Paper Mills, take the opportunity of your presence in this province to place before you the very serious problem with which we are faced.

We are about 7,000 in number living with our families here and our very existence is at stake as a result of unabating and increasing exploitation by the Company. The majority of us are working at Rs. 67 per month in a Company which is making enormous profit at a rate which is probably the highest in India.

In response to your call for more production we gave our best and production was brought up to the record