

mended the levy of a cess to which the State Governments are not agreeable.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: May I know whether the results of these researches have been demonstrated?

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: Sir, this question relates to the establishment of a research utilisation fund.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Sir, the hon. Minister should be knowing the results of the various researches that have been carried on and I would like to know whether they have been demonstrated?

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: Sir, I can only say that the question deals with the creation of a research utilisation fund and not with other matters

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMA-NAND: Sir, as a result of research on synthetic rice, may I know how many tons of rice they have produced so far?

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: It has nothing to do with the question.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMA-NAND: Sir, they should know

MR. CHAIRMAN: But this question refers to the setting up of a research utilisation fund.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMA-NAND: But they should have information ready on the results of these researches.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is a different story.

A1.1. INDIA TRIBUNAL FOR INSURANCE INDUSTRY

*463. SHRI V. VENKATARAMANA {on-behalf of SHRI K. SURYANARA-YANA} : Will the Minister for LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received through the Chief Labour Commissioner any representation from the President and Secretary of the South India Insurance Employees' Association for the constitution of an All India Tribunal for the insurance industry;

(b) if so, what are the contents of the said representation; and

(c) what action Government have so far taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER FOR LABOUR (SHRI V. V. GIRI): (a) and (b). No representation has been received from the Association, through the Chief Labour Commissioner, but a copy of a resolution on the subject passed by the Association on the 10th December 1953 has been received direct. A copy is laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The matter is under consideration.

I may add that during my recent visit to Bombay, the representatives of the workers' association met me and explained various matters in connection with this subject. All these are being taken into consideration before a final view is taken of the matter.

Proceedings of the meeting of the General Body of the South India Insurance Employees' Association on 10th December 1953 at Y.M.C.A., Esplanade, Madras.

This meeting of the General Body of the South India Insurance Employees' Association, Madras having considered the condition prevalent in the Insurance Industry, is of the following opinion:

1. That the condition of the employees in the units wherein adjudications have taken place previously has considerably deteriorated since those adjudications were over, inasmuch as cost of living has gone up

considerably and the Managements are making attempts at tightening up the service conditions.

2. That in the units in the Insurance Industry wherein there have been no adjudications there are generally no salary scales or service conditions and consequently constant attacks are being made on the wage level and the service conditions of the employees.

3. That in the name of depression, interests of policy-holders, compliance with the provisions of Insurance Act, etc., attempts are being made by the Managements of Insurance Companies to effect wage-cuts, increase the work-load and in some cases to effect dismissals and resort to retrenchment.

4. That the meetings of the Tripartite Conference and the sub-Committee convened by the Chief Labour Commissioner, have failed to achieve any useful purpose in spite of efforts on the part of the Representatives of the All-India Insurance Employees' Association to go to the farthest limit with a view to reaching a reasonable settlement. In view of all this, this Meeting, wholeheartedly supports the demand for setting up an All-India Tribunal for Insurance Disputes, made by the All-India Insurance Employees' Association, for it will lead to the examination of the Industry as a whole and help to remove the anomalies and chaotic condition prevailing in the Industry so far as service conditions and wage level are concerned.

5. This meeting authorises the General Secretary to forward the Resolution to the Labour Minister, Government of India, the Secretary, Ministry of Labour and the Chief Labour Commissioner, New Delhi.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Is it not a fact that the question of setting up an All-India Tribunal for insurance employees is pending for a long time?

SHRI V. V. GIRI: Yes, Sir.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: May I know whether the Government are going to take a decision on this matter very soon?

SHRI V. V. GIRI: I have already stated my view of the matter just now.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: May I know the nature of the decision of Government in this matter—whether it is thinking of setting up an all-India tribunal in the place of the individual tribunals in the various States?

SHRI V. V. GIRI: I do not wish to make a statement on this subject.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Is it a fact that the Chief Labour Commissioner has expressed himself before the representatives of the employees on some such lines?

SHRI V. V. GIRI: I am not sure.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: The hon. the Labour Minister in his reply stated that a copy of the resolution passed by the Association was received direct; may I know when that resolution was passed?

SHRI V. V. GIRI: That is given there in the answer: it was on the 10th of December 1953.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Are Government taking any steps to see that in the time they take to make up their mind, the insurance employees are not retrenched or they do not suffer any cut in their emoluments or in their wages?

SHRI V. V. GIRI: I cannot give any definite answer.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Is the hon. Member aware that in the meetings of the Tripartite Conference, the employers' representatives expressed

themselves, in those terms, that retrenchment and wage-cuts, or cuts in the emoluments would be necessary?

SHRI V. V. GIRI: If they had expressed themselves on those lines, there will be no difficulty.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Sir, in view of the said attitude of the employers, what steps have Government taken to see, pending the decision to set up an All-India Tribunal, that no change in the emoluments or service conditions of the employees is made by the employers?

SHRI V. V. GIRI: I can assure the hon. Member that all possible steps will be taken to see that no change in the present conditions of the employees is effected.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

TRAINING IN AGRICULTURE

380. DR. R. P. DUBE: Will the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons sent abroad for technical training in various subjects connected with agriculture during each of the years 1951-52, 1952-53 and 1953-54; and

(b) the number of persons proposed to be sent abroad for such training during the years 1954-55 and 1955-56?

THE MINISTER FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAFI AHMAD KJADWAI):

(a) 14 in 1951-52;
43 in 1952-53; and 77 in
1953-54.

(b) The training programme for 1954-55 is under consideration. That for 1955-56 will be considered in due course.

PROMOTION OF TOURISM

381. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mr. Mogens Lichtenberg, President of the International Union of Official Travel Organisations, visited important cities in India;

(b) whether the Ministry of Transport had discussions with him on the development of tourism in India and the Far East; and

(c) the names of the cities which he visited in India and the points made out or the views expressed by him in this connection?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a) and (b). Yes.

(c) He visited Calcutta, Banaras, Delhi, Agra, Jaipur, Ajanta and Bombay. While emphasising the view that India has a great tourist potential, Mr. Lichtenberg suggested that the necessary facilities for tourists, viz., easy accessibility and decent accommodation should be provided. He also stressed the desirability of simplification and uniformity of frontier formalities as an effective means of promotion of international tourism.

9 A.M.

CONCESSION JOURNEY ON THE RAILWAY*

382. SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many persons of different categories were given concessions of railway travel at the rate of one single fare for return journey in the year 1953; and

(b) how many out of those persons belonged to registered associations or recognised institutions?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a) A statement showing the number of concessional return tickets issued at the rate of