

SHRI ABID ALI: Nothing is wrong. Sir, the award was given in February 1952 and the reference with regard to 192 employers was on the 8th November 1952.

SHRI M. MANJURAN: How can it be? When was the matter originally referred for adjudication?

MR. CHAIRMAN: When was the matter originally referred for adjudication?

SHRI ABID ALI: In July 1951.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is all right.

SHRI M. MANJURAN: What is the cause of delay for this? Has any evidence been taken so far in the matter of adjudication from the time it was referred for adjudication till today?

SHRI ABID ALI: Sir, as I have said, there were two items that were adjudicated upon: with regard to the third item it was found that a large number of employers were left out. Originally, 63 employers were included and now 192 have been included. Afterwards, Sir, the Judge to whom the reference was made was transferred and, therefore, a fresh order had to be issued. This transfer of the Judge and the necessity of including some more employers delayed the proceedings.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: The question is: After that, was there any evidence taken before he finally decided?

SHRI ABID ALI: Some evidence was taken. Sir.

SHRI M. MANJURAN: When was that?

MR. CHAIRMAN: 21st April, 1952?

SHRI ABID ALI: We have not got the proceedings of the Adjudicator.

*(Shri M. Manjuran stood up.)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: We have got only ten minutes more and I have a lot of questions still. 27 CSD

#### WORKS TO BE UNDERTAKEN IN THE COCHIN PORT IN 1953

•469. SHRI M. MANJURAN: Will the Minister for TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) What works have been sanctioned for being taken up during the year 1953 in the port of Cochin;

(b) what are their respective allocations in money;

(c) which of these works are to be executed departmentally and which are to be entrusted to contractors;

(d) who are the contractors to be entrusted with such works; and

(e) what are the rates of wages paid by the department and the contractors for the skilled, semi-skilled and -unskilled workers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a), (b) and (c). A statement giving the information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, Annexure No. 115.]

(c) Items, 1, 2 and 3 of the statement of works are likely to be carried out on contract, if after inviting tenders, it is found to be cheaper than departmental execution.

(d) No contracts have yet been concluded and it is not therefore possible to specify the names of the contractors.

SHRI M. MANJURAN: From the statement given here, it is said that unskilled labour is paid (departmentally) Rs. 2-13-0, Rs. 2-11-0 and Rs. 2-8-0 whereas the contractors pay them Rs. 2-2-0. So, is the policy of the Government to make the contractors exploit labour by paying them less?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: We do not pay actually less but the contractors' rates are given and it is being urged upon the contractors to pay them properly.

SHRI M. MANJURAN: Is it proper payment when the Department pays

them Rs. 2-13-0, Rs. 2-12-0 and Rs. 2-8-0 and the same category of labour is paid only Rs. 2-2-0 by the contractors? Does it amount to proper payment?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Sir, there are, of course, differences in the payment by the Department and by the contractors.

SHRI M. MANJURAN: Why not these works be taken up by the Department itself?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: We cannot say one way or the other whether the work could be done by the Department or not. If it is found cheaper, certainly it would be done departmentally.

SHRI M. MANJURAN: What is the criterion of cheapness or dearness? Is it the payment to the worker?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: No.

SHRI V. G. GOPAL: Is it not a fact that the contractors who get the commission do not pay the workers same wages which Government pay to their workers when departmentally managed?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: It is obvious, Sir.

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: Do the Government insist upon the 'fair wages' clause in respect of contract labour in such matters?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do the Government insist on fair wages even with regard to the labour employed by a contractor?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Yes, Sir, but the wages have not been fixed.

SHRI M. MANJURAN: Is it a fact that a large number of labourers have been retrenched from the Cochin Port?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Retrenchment will depend upon the volume of the work that is being carried out at a particular moment.

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: Is it not the object of the 'fair wages' clause to fix the rates of wages?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I would like to have notice for detailed answers to this question.

SHRI T. V. KAMALASWAMY: If it is cheaper to have the work done by contractors, why not Government do everything on a contract basis?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: It is not a straight rule.

SHRI M. MANJURAN: Is there any particular reason for giving the items referred to in the reply to the contractors and for not giving other items? Why are two kinds of systems being followed, one departmental and one by contractors?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: If it is easier for the work to be executed by the Department without even calling for tenders, it is done so. In case where the tenders are found to be higher than what it would cost, if it is done departmentally, then also it would be done departmentally.

#### **I.L.O. PRODUCTIVE MISSION**

\*470. SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Will the Minister for LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the period for which the International Labour Organisation Productive Mission has been in India;

(b) the nationality of the members of the said Mission;

(c) the total amount of expenditure so far incurred by Government on this Mission; and

(d) the results achieved by the work studies carried out so far by the Mission?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR LABOUR (SHRI ABID ALI) : (a) The Mission is in India since 5th December.