

COUNCIL OF STATES

Tuesday, 2nd December 1952

The Council met at a quarter to eleven of the clock, MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

SOCIAL SECURITY OFFICERS

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

(a) whether Government have appointed two Social Security Officers from the United Kingdom ;

(b) what are the terms of their employment ;

(c) for what work these officers are being brought to India ;

(d) whether there are no Labour Officers or Trade Union functionaries in India capable of doing the work for which these officers are being brought to India ;

(e) whether any attempts were made to get or train Indians for this particular type of work ; and

(f) whether these officers know of the conditions of the Indian industry and the working class life here ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR LABOUR (SHRI ABID ALI) : (a) The services of three officers of the United Kingdom Ministry of National Insurance and Health have been secured by the Government of India for six months on the basis of an agreement between the International Labour Organisation and the Government of India.

(b) The Government of India is liable to pay only expenses on travel within the country, daily allowance for days of travel, living and office accommodation, medical care and hospitalization and other necessary secretarial assistance. Their salaries and travel costs outside India, are being met by the International Labour Organisation.

(c) The Employers' State Insurance Scheme was launched in Delhi and

Kanpur on the 24th February 1952 and is to be extended to the rest of India. To ensure its economical and efficient working, it was considered necessary to seek expert advice on the organisation of staff, method of administration, training of the personnel and the development of the panel system of medical care at this formative stage.

(d) It is unlikely that there are persons with previous experience of the subject in this country, as the scheme itself is a new one here.

(e) Since the scheme is the first of its kind in India, it was not possible to get Indians with the requisite qualifications and it would not have been satisfactory to get the work done by newly trained persons.

(f) They have been and are being given information regarding the conditions of Indian industry and of working class life and experience.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR : May I know, Sir, whether the Government tried to ascertain whether the services of Indians with necessary qualifications were not available ?

SHRI ABID ALI : Sir, I have already stated that this scheme being a new one in this country, there was no possibility of getting persons of requisite qualifications here.

DR. D. H. VARIAVA : May I know if any Indians are put under these officers for training ?

SHRI ABID ALI : Yes, Sir.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR : May I know, Sir, whether any Indians have been trained by this time ?

SHRI ABID ALI : They are being trained up.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR : May I know the total amount of expenditure incurred by this time ?

SHRI ABID ALI : Sir, the total estimated expenditure will be about Rs. 26,000 during these six months.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR : May I know, Sir, whether these officers are also entitled to diplomatic amenities ?

SHRI ABID ALI : No, Sir.

PROF. G. RANGA : Is it not a fact that the Director was supposed to have the assistance of three experts according to the constitution of the Corporation and so far only one has been provided for him and, for want of adequate staff and trained assistance, not sufficient progress has been made ?

SHRI ABID ALI : No, Sir. That is not correct. So far as the two officers to be appointed are concerned, the needful is being done.

PROF. G. RANGA : How much longer do Government propose to take to appoint them, Sir, in view of the fact that it is more than a year since these people should have been appointed ?

SHRI ABID ALI : Efforts are being made to secure the services of officers with requisite qualifications. These have not been successful so far. But it is hoped that we will be able to get proper persons very soon.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : What is the daily allowance that is being paid to these officers ?

SHRI ABID ALI : Rs. 20.

SHRI K. C. GEORGE : May I know how long it will take to train our people ?

SHRI ABID ALI : The whole period is six months.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : What is the actual amount of salary being paid in India to these officers ?

SHRI ABID ALI : We do not pay any salary here.

SHRI K. C. GEORGE : Are any Indian officers being trained ?

SHRI ABID ALI : Yes, the Indian officers are being trained.

TRADE UNIONS

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

(a) whether in the course of his tour in the country, the Minister has been pleading for unity among the various trade unions ; and

(b) whether he has also been advising the various trade unions in the country to exclude the All-India Trade Union Congress from any move for unity ?

THE MINISTER FOR LABOUR (SHRI V. V. GIRI) : (a) Yes.

(b) No.

DR. R. B. GOUR : Does the hon. Minister know that in the press this impression has gained ground that the hon. Minister's speeches are meant only to unite the two organisations, i.e. the I.N.T.U.C. and the H.M.S. and has the hon. Minister contradicted that impression ?

SHRI V. V. GIRI : That is not my impression, Sir. And I do not believe in contradicting every press report that appears in this country.

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL : Is it the hon. Minister's part of duty to become a propagandist ?

(No reply.)

DR. R. B. GOUR : May I know from the hon. Minister what concrete steps does he propose to take in order to implement the wishes that he has been expressing in his speeches ?

SHRI V. V. GIRI : It is for the organisations to take concrete steps, not for myself.

SHRI J. R. KAPOOR : May I know Sir, what is the total membership of the I.N.T.U.C. as also the total membership of the A.I.T.U.C. ?

SHRI V. V. GIRI : That question does not arise. But if the hon. Member gives a notice for that, I shall certainly give the information.