

(No answer.)

SHRI D. NARAYAN : Are there not tea stalls, Muslim and Hindu, both on the same platform at Bhusaval ?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : These communal considerations do not enter when giving contracts : they are given on merits.

SHRI B. K. MUKERJEE : What is the policy of the Government in giving out these contracts to run catering shops on platforms ?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : The policy is simply to maintain as high a standard of catering as possible.

SHRI D. NARAYAN : Is it not a fact that they are on the same platform side by side ?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : They may be.

MR. CHAIRMAN : As we are here side by side.

BUDHIST CELEBRATIONS AT SANCHI

*259. SHRI S. MAHANTY : Will the Minister for COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Government aeroplanes were deployed to Bhopal in the last week of November for carrying guests and delegates to the Buddhist celebrations at Sanchi ; and

(b) if so, whether the cost of such air travels is going to be met by Government ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ-BAHADUR) : (a) Only one Indian Air Force aircraft was used, at the instance of the Ministry of External Affairs, for carrying the Burmese Prime Minister's party from Delhi to Bhopal on November 29th, 1952. The Burmese Prime Minister himself travelled with our Prime Minister.

(b) Yes. The Burmese Prime Minister and his party were treated as distinguished guests of the State.

DIRECTORATE OF MARKETING AND INSPECTION

*260. SHRI THAKUR DAS : Will the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Directorate of Marketing and Inspection is still continuing on a temporary basis since 1935 ; and

(b) whether the Estimates Committee has made its recommendations in the matter ; if so, when and what are its recommendations ?

THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE (DR. P. S. DESHMUKH) : (a) Yes.

(b) Not yet.

SHRI THAKUR DAS : When does the Government expect the Committee's report ?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH : The matter is now of more serious consideration and I do not think it will be long before this Directorate is made permanent.

ALL COORG ESTATE WORKERS' UNION

*261. SHRI K. C. GEORGE : Will the Minister for LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the District Magistrate and Chief Inspector of Factories, Coorg, have asked the Coorg Planters' Association to warn all the estate workers not to become members of the All Coorg Estate Workers' Union ; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) be in the affirmative, what action, if any, has been taken by Government in this matter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR LABOUR (SHRI ABID ALI) : (a) The District Magistrate and Chief

Inspector of Factories, Coorg, received a complaint that the Union was collecting money from workers on the pretext that it was required for performing a pooja but actually for enrolling them as members of the Union. He wrote a letter to the Secretaries of the Planters' Associations in the State asking them to caution workers against being misled by such deceptive practices.

(b) Government will examine whether any action is necessary.

SHRI K. C. GEORGE : May I know from whom this complaint was received ?

SHRI ABID ALI : It was received by the District Magistrate and the Chief Inspector of Factories. As regards the question from whom, we have no information.

SHRI B. V. KAKKILAYA : Has the District Magistrate or Chief Inspector of factories conducted any inquiry ? Has he inquired from the Union whether such practices are followed there ?

SHRI ABID ALI : As I have said, we have no further details.

SHRI M. MANJURAN : Is the Minister aware that there are different varieties of Trade Union activities, and that it might have been due to some instigation on the part of one of them that this letter came into the District Magistrate's possession ?

SHRI ABID ALI : We do not believe it to be so.

SHRI M. MANJURAN : Why was not an inquiry made into the matter ?

SHRI ABID ALI : It must have been made by the District Magistrate and the Chief Inspector of Factories before the instructions were issued.

SHRI M. MANJURAN : Has the Minister any information regarding the inquiry itself ?

SHRI ABID ALI : As I have already said, we have no information here.

SHRI B. V. KAKKILAYA : Will the Minister please inquire whether it is a fact or not, and take necessary steps to prevent such interference with trade union activities ?

SHRI ABID ALI : We do not think there was any interference with Trade Union activities. With regard to making further inquiries, we will consider it.

SHRI K. C. GEORGE : Did not the issue of instructions in this instance amount to interference with trade union activities ?

SHRI ABID ALI : The instructions were not to that effect.

SHRI M. MANJURAN : What is the distinction between persuasion to subscribe to Pooja ceremony and persuasion to subscribe to Trade Union activities ?

SHRI ABID ALI : There is no objection to subscription to pooja fund, but the objection was that there was misrepresentation and therefore the workers were cautioned. That was all.

SHRI B. V. KAKKILAYA : Is it not a fact that taking advantage of this letter of the District Magistrate the planters as well as the police officials go to the estates and harass the workers ? Is the Government aware of this ?

SHRI ABID ALI : There was no harassment, so far as our information goes.

SHRI M. MANJURAN : What legal right has the District Magistrate to interfere in this matter ?

SHRI ABID ALI : He should tell the workers if there is misrepresentation.

SHRI M. MANJURAN : Did the District Magistrate take this action under the Trade Union Act ?

SHRI ABID ALI : Not under that Act, but under his powers as a District Magistrate.

SHRI M. MANJURAN : Are Trade Union activities governed by the Trade Union Act or by any other Act under which the District Magistrate can issue circulars about Trade Union activities ?

SHRI ABID ALI : Trade Union activities certainly should be conducted according to law. These instructions did not violate the provisions of the Trade Union Act. This particular instance is not concerned with Trade Union activities.

SHRI M. MANJURAN : Is it not interference with lawful Trade Union activities ?

SHRI V. V. GIRI : This matter has nothing to do with Trade Union activities. There has been a sort of misrepresentation on the part of the Union to these people by saying that they would like to have some pooja collections while actually the collections have been made for trade union activities. That is the differentiation.

SHRI K. C. GEORGE : Is the hon. Minister aware that the planters are taking advantage of this order.

SHRI V. V. GIRI : I hope not, and I shall see that they do not.

SHRI B. GUPTA : May I know what steps were taken to consult the representatives of the Trade Union ?

SHRI ABID ALI : There was no question of consultation.

HYDERABAD GOLD MINES

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

(a) the total number of employees in the Hyderabad Gold Mines, Hutti, in Raichur District (Hyderabad State) ;

(b) the total number of quarters provided for the employees and the floor space of each type of quarters ;

(c) the minimum and the maximum numbers of individual families sharing one quarter ;

(d) the number of those living without any housing facilities ;

(e) whether Government have prepared any scheme for providing proper facilities for housing the Hutti Mine employees ; and

(f) if the answer to part (e) be in the affirmative, what steps Government have taken to implement this scheme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR LABOUR (SHRI ABID ALI) : (a) 1162.

(b), (c) and (d). Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

(e) No.

(f) Does not arise.

SHRI V. V. GIRI : Sir, I suggest all the three questions Nos. 262, 263 and 264 can be answered together. All these are connected questions.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes.

HYDERABAD GOLD MINE LABOUR UNION

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

(a) whether the Hyderabad Gold Mine Labour Union, Hutti, Raichur District, Hyderabad State, was accorded recognition by the employers ;

(b) whether the said recognition has recently been withdrawn ;

(c) if the answer to part (b) be in the affirmative, what were the grounds for withdrawing the said recognition ;

(d) what steps Government propose to take to secure the restoration of the recognition to this Union ;

(e) whether the said Union submitted to Government a memorandum of employees' demands in August, 1952 ?