

the Ministry. The transferees and deputationists are not treated alike for purposes of promotion in the Food Corporation.

(b)

Year	Class II	Class III
1967 . . .	1	78
1968 . . .	3	493

(c) No, Sir. Attention is invited in this connection to the answer given in this Sabha to part (c) of Starred Question No. 143 on the 3rd May, 1968.

(d) The deputationists are not eligible for promotion along with the transferees. The Corporation is, however, considering the question of permanent absorption of deputationists under their service. Such of them who opt for the service of the Corporation will in that case then become eligible for promotion under the Corporation like the other employees of the Corporation.

SHRI K. P. MALLIKARJUNUDU : I understand that there is a Bill introduced in the Lok Sabha to regulate the conditions of service of the transferees. May I know whether the deputationists are also to be included in the Bill; if not what are the reasons therefor? Secondly, I wish to know whether there is not a scheme for decentralisation by the Home Ministry under which officers up to the rank of Section Officers are dealt with by the Ministry itself without reference to the Home Ministry and if so, what action was taken under that decentralisation scheme, so far as the Food Department is concerned, in respect of these deputationists?

SHRI ANNASAHAB SHINDE : As the hon. Member has rightly said we have introduced a Bill in Lok Sabha in order to provide some protection to the employees whose services have been transferred from the Food Department to the Food Corporation of India but the case of the deputationists stands on a different footing because the deputationists are few and they are from various Departments, not from the Food Department alone. Because some of the activities which were being carried on by the Food Department have been transferred to the Food Corporation of India that is why a different set of criteria have to be applied to those whose services are transferred.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question time is over.

12 Noon

SHORT NOTICE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

NEWSPRINT QUOTA FOR NEWSPAPERS DURING STRIKE AND LOCK-OUT PERIOD

10. SHRI KRISHAN KANT† :
 SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA :
 SHRI RAJNARAIN :
 SHRI M. M. DHARIA :
 SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY :
 SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE :
 SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA :
 SHRI CHITTA BASU :
 SHRI PRITHWI NATH :
 SHRI NIRANJAN VARMA :
 SHRI Z. A. AHMAD :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether newsprint quota for the period of strike and lock-out is being given to the daily newspapers which are closed; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. K. SHAH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Allocation to a newspaper is made on the basis of its entitlement according to newsprint allocation policy of the current licensing period. Deduction on account of irregularity is made while making allocations in the subsequent year only, if the newspaper is less than 75 per cent regular in the previous year.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : The hon. Minister has told us what the principle is in the regular course. This is an abnormal condition when there is a strike in the newspapers and afterwards they have declared a lockout. Probably with the newsprint that they have got they will do black-marketing and they will do all other things. May I know from the hon. Minister what he is going to do in the abnormal situation

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Krishan Kant.

pervailing? Will he allow the newspapers to make use of it?

SHRI GODEY MURAHARI : They are making more money by selling this newsprint.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Get the question correctly. They are not using newsprint. Only when they start, they are entitled to get it.

SHRI GODEY MURAHARI : Stop giving it.

SHRI K. K. SHAH : This is a question of change of policy. So far, we have followed a particular policy. Then the difficulty, again, will be how to allocate it to the papers which have been publishing and taking out more copies.

SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE : You allocate newsprint to papers for doing blackmarketing.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY : You should go by the list. Go by the list.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is all this? There are certain names here. I am going by the list. I am not going by any other thing, but the list. I cannot understand how that question arises or how that doubt can arise. Mr. Krishan Kant.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : May I know from the hon. Minister—the Minister is talking to his leader—if the Government is going to change its policy now in view of the new situation and how long will they take for it? Will the Government and the Minister assure this House that, if not the full quota for the whole year, at least for the strike period and the lockout period, these papers will not be given newsprint? Secondly, there are a number of papers which are coming out in Calcutta and Delhi and we are starved of news. Because of lack of newsprint we cannot get more news. Will such papers be given that quota?

SHRI K. K. SHAH : I am prepared to accept that if newsprint is not released to the papers which are today bringing out their editions or which are in publication, a difficult situation is bound to arise, because their quota will be over. But I do not know what should be the basis, because this is going on for a month and then I have got to examine their circulation for a month. This is a very difficult question.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : He has not replied to my question. I have asked the hon. Minister whether he will assure this House that in respect of newspapers where there is a strike and a lockout, at least their newsprint quota for that period will not be given to them.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS : Cut their quota for the days they have not published it. It is pure arithmetic.

AN HON. MEMBER : Why are you afraid?

(Interruptions)

SHRI K. K. SHAH : It is unfair to say that I am hiding my face. (Interruptions). I assure the House that we will reconsider the whole matter.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Silence.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : There must be some propriety at least. Here is a clear question by the hon. Member that these papers are not under publication, and why should we give them newsprint? What is the justification? The Minister should outright say that their quota for this particular period will be cancelled and these newspapers will not be allowed to indulge in blackmarketing. Why should the Minister always show helplessness before the nation and ridicule the whole parliamentary democracy by showing that they are so ineffective that they cannot do anything?

SHRI K. K. SHAH : I understand the point of view of my hon. friend, Mr. Chandra Shekhar, but there is our policy which has been accepted.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : What is the policy?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : On a point of order . . .

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : What is the policy?

SHRI RAJNARAIN : On a point of order . . .

(Interruptions.)

श्रीमन्, आप कुछ सुरती में पड़ गए हैं ऐसा लगता है हमको। बाकायदा नाम है, आप पुकारिए हम लोगों के नाम, हम लोग पूछें। यह हल्ला क्यों हो रहा है सदन में।

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: It is not 'halla'. I have raised a point of order . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall call the names.

SHRI RAJNARAIN: On a point of order . . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: My point of order first . . .

SHRI RAJNARAIN: My point of order first . . .

(Interruption)

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: My point of order first . . .

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You rose first?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Yes, I rose first. I rose first . . .

SHRI RAJNARAIN: How do you know that he rose first? आप कैसे जानते हैं कि वह पहले उठे ?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I take his word. I shall give you an opportunity.

श्री राजनारायण : देखिये, मैं पहले से खड़ा हूँ ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall avoid both of you.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: No, no. It is very objectionable.

श्री राजनारायण : यह बहुत ही एतराज की बात है कि अल्प सूचना प्रश्न है और उसका आन्तर कायदे से नहीं दिया जा रहा है, बाकायदा नाम दिया हुआ है, भूपेश गुप्त का भी नाम है ।

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: On a point of order, I rose.

श्री राजनारायण : अनावश्यक अगर हम शांति से बैठे रहते हैं . . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Give him. I yield to him. If he does not have that grace, give him.

श्री राजनारायण : हमारा सीधा सा प्रश्न है । मैं इस सरकार को चार्ज कर रहा हूँ कि इस सरकार ने जितने दिनों से अखबार बन्द

हैं उतने दिनों तक का कोटा देकर ब्लैक मार्केटिंग करा कर हड़ताल को बढ़ाने की कोशिश की है । इन्हें मजबूर करना चाहिए था अखबार के मालिकों को कोटा बन्द करके उन्हें मजबूर न करके मजदूरों के साथ अन्याय करने का मौका इस सरकार ने दिया और फिर यह सरकार आज इस बेहयाई के साथ यहां पर खड़ी यह कह रही है . . .

SHRI CHITTA BASU: What is his point of order?

श्री राजनारायण : हमरा सवाल है पालिसी का । हमारी पालिसी क्या है । मैं जानना चाहता हूँ किसी भी सरकार की क्या कभी यह पालिसी हो सकती है कि एक आदमी मर गया और परिवार वाला कहे कि हम उनके नाम पर राशन लेते चले जा रहे हैं । यह ब्लैकमार्केटिंग है । अखबार बन्द है । जिस परपज के लिये, जिस उद्देश्य के लिये अखबार का कागज का कोटा दिया जा रहा है उस उद्देश्य की पूर्ति नहीं हो रही है । फिर सरकार कहती है कि हमारी पालिसी है हम कोटा देते चले जायें । मैं आश्चर्यचकित हूँ इतनी जबर्दस्त और प्रत्यक्ष चोरबाजारी करायी जाय सरकार की तरफ से और फिर भी सरकार सदन में कहे कि हम अपनी पालिसी को सोचेंगे । इसलिये अब यह अल्प सूचना का प्रश्न नहीं है, मिनिस्टर का 'पब्लिक कैरेक्टर शुड बी डिस्कस्ड इन् द हाउस' हम जानते हैं और कहना चाहते हैं कि श्री के० के० शाह और कुछ अन्य मंत्री संबंधित हैं मालिकों से जो कि जान बूझ कर इस मसले को जल्दी से जल्दी खत्म होने देना नहीं चाहते । कारण क्या है ? जब हड़ताल शुरू हुई उसके करीब एक हफ्ते के अंदर मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या श्री के० के० शाह ने खुद इस बात को नहीं कहा कि 85 फीसदी जो वेज बोर्ड का अवार्ड है उसको देने के लिये मालिक को तैयार करने की बात करीब करीब हो गई है मगर चूंकि के० के० शाह जी दिल्ली छोड़ कर बाहर चले गए इसलिए वह सम्भवतः

कार्यान्वित नहीं हुआ। हड़ताल खत्म न होने का एक कारण...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You should not take so much time. You have to put a question straight. No speech. Put the question straight.

श्री राजनारायण: मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ क्या सरकार के सामने इस बात को पेश नहीं किया गया कि ब्लैकमार्केटिंग हो रही है, उनका कोटा रोका जाना चाहिये, उनको कोटा नहीं देना चाहिये: क्या सरकार को यह मालूम नहीं है कि हड़ताल शुरू होने के एक हफ्ते के अंदर मालिक 85 फीसदी वेज बोर्ड के अवार्ड के हिसाब से देने को तैयार हो गए थे मगर वह फिर क्यों नहीं हुए, जिसकी जानकारी श्री के० के० शाह को खुद है और यह जानते हुए फिर सरकार को पालिसी रिवाइज करने की जरूरत क्यों पड़ी। पालिसी थी अखबार छपें उनको न्यूजप्रिन्ट का कोटा तब तक न मिले जब तक अखबार न छपें। दुनिया का हर ज्युरिस्-प्रून्स का विद्यार्थी इस बात का जानकार होगा।

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, I am still on my point of order. I do not wish to inflict any long speech. Only the hon. Minister said that it is a new policy. I think the hon. Minister was not giving the reply correctly. The policy as we understood, it is settled on the basis of the demand by the newspapers as to how much newspaper they required for consumption. Of course, an advance is given so that they can consume. Now that it is quite clear that a large number of newspapers have not consumed for whatever reason the paper for one month or two months, *pro rata* they should claim less for that period. What the consumption would have been but which did not take place, that should be taken into account and that should be written off. This is not in consonance with the policy even as it is. I understand that the Government policy is not that. Once the quota is sanctioned for a year, you give this quota irrespective of whether the paper is consumed or not. Now that the paper has not been consumed, it is a question of fact and he knows it, that part of

the quota should not go and the entitlement to that extent should lapse.

श्री के० के० शाह: यहां पर हमारे दोस्त राजनारायणजी ने जो कहा उसका मैं सख्त विरोध करता हूँ। राजनारायण जी ऐसा इन्फेफेसिबल स्टेटमेंट करेंगे ऐसी मुझे कभी आशा नहीं थी और मुझे बड़ा दुख है...

श्री राजनारायण: किसके आधार पर कह रहे हैं?

श्री के० के० शाह: मैं पेपर वालों के साथ मिला हूँ।

श्री राजनारायण: वैसे नहीं मिले हैं तो सबूत दीजिए।

श्री के० के० शाह: आप इम्प्लायीज से पूछिये। कभी एक इम्प्लायी भी ऐसा कहे तो मैं आपके साथ बैठने के लिये तैयार हूँ।

श्री राजनारायण: श्रीमन्, कन्टेम्प्ट आफ द हाउस है। क्या श्री के० के० शाह ने यह नहीं बताया कि 85 फीसदी वेज बोर्ड अवार्ड का देने को मालिक लोगों को करीब करीब हमने तैयार कर लिया था, और अब यह मामला क्यों बिगड़ गया?

श्री के० के० शाह: आप कपूर से पूछ लीजिए, जब आप पूछना चाहते हैं।

श्री राजनारायण: मैं कपूर के नहीं पूछूंगा। मैं पूछूंगा श्री के० के० शाह से।

श्री के० के० शाह: हां, कपूर ने मंजूर किया और उसके बाद कपूर को 'ना' कहना पड़ा क्योंकि फेडरेशन की सम्मति नहीं पाया। (Interruptions) आप जानना चाहते हैं, मैं उसको पूरा कहना चाहता हूँ। यह 85 परसेन्ट 1st October, 1967 categorisation, if there is no settlement, to be left to adjudication. यह सब तैयारी पक्की हुई, इसके बाद कपूर ने 'ना' कहा क्योंकि वह फेडरेशन को नहीं समझा सका।

श्री सी० डी० पांडे: कपूर को निकालो

श्री के० के० शाह : अभी इस बात को छोड़ दो ।

श्री राजनारायण : फेडरेशन को समझा कर क्या कपूर ने मंत्री जी को या श्रम मंत्री जी को कुछ कहा है...

SHRI M. M. DHARIA : Sir, on a point of order. We are discussing regarding this newsprint. Are we going to discuss regarding the strike? I have given a Calling Attention notice for that. When we are discussing one matter, why should we bring in another matter?

श्री राजनारायण : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि धारिया का बिगड़ता क्या है ?

श्री एम० एम० धारिया : क्या रूल्स के मताबिक काम होना चाहिये या राजनारायण को व्यवस्था के मुताबिक होना चाहिये...

श्री राजनारायण : ब्लैकमार्केटिंग के नाम पर मजदूरों के साथ अन्याय मालिकों द्वारा कराया जा रहा है ।

SHRI K. K. SHAH : So far as newsprint is concerned, I do concede that there is a lot of force in the argument advanced by you. I am prepared to accept it. Therefore, I have said we will reconsider this policy. This was an old policy where yearly quota was given, and if less than 75 per cent, regularity was there, then we cut down the quota. This was an old policy. I do accept that this is an exceptional circumstance. It will require amendment of policy and therefore I say...

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Why amendment of the policy? Kindly understand that these papers have not consumed the paper. Therefore, you should be entitled even under the existing policy—suppose you give for one year; for two months the paper does not come out; to that extent...

SHRI K. K. SHAH : I have accepted. There is a lot of force in your argument and therefore I have agreed to reconsider. What more do you want?

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am sure it will be reconsidered. It is a very reasonable proposition put forward by hon. Members here.

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमन्, आप खुद इस मामले को हमसे ज्यादा जानते हो क्योंकि लेबर के प्रश्न पर, वेज के प्रश्न पर आप इस्तीफा भी दे चुके हैं केन्द्रीय मंत्रिमंडल से । यह इतना जबर्दस्त मसला है जो सारे मुल्क के सामने उठा हुआ है । देखिय हम लोगों की पार्लियामेंट की प्रोसीडिंग कहीं नहीं जा रही है । दो अखबार निकल रहे हैं एक 'नेशनल हेराल्ड', एक है 'पेट्रिअट' । तो जान बूझकर जो यह सरकार अखबार बंद करवा रही है जो इनको निकालने में अब कितना समय लगेगा ।

श्री के० के० शाह : मैंने कहा आपके कहने के मुताबिक हम इसके बारे में दोबारा सोचेंगे ।

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is whether the newsprint quota for the period of strike and lock-out is being given to the daily newspapers which are closed. The Members generally feel, the consensus generally is, that most probably it should not be supplied, as I see it. It is for the Government to consider and it is a very reasonable demand put forward. In fact, it gives an incentive to the owners to continue this strike and they get something out of it, and thus it is for the Government to consider it.

SHRI M. M. DHARIA : Sir, we fail to understand why the hon. Minister should not assure here that he will not give it for the strike period. Why should he not declare it here? I was shocked to know the rule from the hon. Minister that even if 75 per cent, circulation is there, the whole quota will be given. That is giving an incentive for the blackmarketing of the 25 per cent. newsprint quota. It is absolutely an absurd policy. It should be adjusted in the next year; if that quota is not consumed to the tune of 25 per cent., it should be adjusted in the next year. It should be the real rule. The old rule is absurd. Why the hon. Minister should not assure the House, "Yes, I shall not give the quota for the strike or lock-out period"? We want a categorical assurance just now.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let me tell you...

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Mr. Shah, you give an assurance. It will be good.

MR. CHAIRMAN : With the experience that I have as a negotiator for 50 years, I am sure the answer of the Minister is practically conceding what you want.

SHRI K. K. SHAH : My hon. friend knows how much respect I give to the opinion of the House. All through my life I have always tried to carry it, and I can assure him that to the best of my ability I will give the most sincere consideration.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I do not think any more discussion should be there.

(Shri Mulka Govinda Reddy rose)

Do you want to put a question? All right.

SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY : I would ask the Minister of Information and Broadcasting this question. He said that if there is 75 per cent irregularity, the question of the reduction of the newsprint will be there, and it will be reduced. But here the question is not of irregularities. Deliberately the big newspapers stop publication of their newspapers. What right has he to say that it will be considered? He must assure us that for this period the newsprint will not be given to these newspapers. I would also like to know from the Minister whether he has made any extra allotment of newsprint for the 'National Herald', 'Patriot', the 'Amrita Bazar Patrika' and other language papers during this period because the demand for these newspapers has gone up since the larger newspapers are not there.

SHRI K. K. SHAH : They have drawn against their own quota so far.

SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY : Please wait.

The third question that I would like to put to the Minister is this. He has been having negotiations with the employers and the employees. What is the latest position with regard to this newspaper strike?

SHRI K. K. SHAH : So far as the latest position is concerned, I hope

they will ask that Minister. I would not have even made that statement had it not been for the little heat created by my friend, Shri Rajnarain. But I have conceded . . .

SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY : Sir, he has not answered my second question. My second question was this. The demand for the 'National Herald', 'Patriot', the 'Amrita Bazar Patrika' and other language papers has gone up in view of the fact that the larger, bigger newspapers are not publishing their issues. . .

SHRI K. K. SHAH : I can consider it.

SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY : . . . and may I know whether the allotment has been considered.

SHRI K. K. SHAH : I will consider that.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE (Maharashtra) : The hon. Minister has stated, as I understood him, that the Government has released the quota for this period and therefore perhaps it would be difficult for the Government to reconsider this policy. If that is the reply given by the hon. Minister, I would like to know as to what difficulty can there be to adjust this quota against the other quotas that it will have to give them in future? If you have released the quota for the current period, we do not want that you should ask those newspapers to return that newsprint. But at least this quota can be adjusted. . .

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : Why?

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE : You have to give them a quota in the future. The policy of the Government should be adjustable. In these exceptional circumstances, when the newspapers are not using their newsprint for newspapers, why should the Government allow those newspapers to save that newsprint and sell it in black-market? Does the Government want to encourage blackmarketing and profiteering?

SHRI K. K. SHAH : Now, my hon. friend ought to know that we issue the licence for a year. In some cases the licences may have been issued already. But I can go through those difficulties. Since it is the wish of the House, I have to go through all those difficulties.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : May I know from the hon. Minister whether he has taken care to see how the newsprint is being used today. My report is that certain newspapers, which are on strike or under lock-out, are selling that newsprint in the open market. Has the hon. Minister taken care to see that that newsprint is not sold in the blackmarket?

I have got also an apprehension that the newspaper-owners may suggest to hon. Minister, when he is going to reformulate the policy with regard to the allotment of newsprint quota, that they would consume that portion already allotted by way of higher production when the lock-out and the strike might be lifted. May I know, in view of the consensus of opinion revealed here and in deference to your wish Mr. Chairman, whether the Government can assure us that this kind of preposterous suggestion from the owners will be rejected with the contempt that it deserves?

SHRI K. K. SHAH : I have already promised on this question.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Sir, what about my question?

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have been taking part.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I have never asked a question.

SHRI A. D. MANI : Sir, I want to put forth a constructive suggestion.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : My question is . . .

SHRI CHITTA BASU : Sir, he has not given me the answer.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I think he has given the answer.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : I asked whether any preposterous proposal from the newspaper establishments will be rejected with the contempt that it deserves.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He has already said.

SHRI K. K. SHAH : I replied that I will reconsider it.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I would like to know why, for example, the Government is not using the unutilised quota or portion of the newsprint—unutilised on account of the lock-out

or the non-publication of some papers—in order to help those papers which have implemented the Wage Board's award—please note the words 'implemented the Wage Board's award'—and are publishing the papers. Such papers' demands are more. If they have implemented the Wage Board's award, they should be given an additional quota and this can be given out of that newsprint which has been saved, which others are taking. In this connection, I should like to know whether the Government have decided to give them additional quotas out of the saving and whether the Government would take care to see that no one gets a quota simply because he is publishing a paper; unless the Wage Board's award has been implemented, no one should get the quota whether he publishes or not. I have in mind, for example, the 'Amrita Bazar Patrika' and the 'Jugantar'. They are coming out no doubt. But, according to my information, they have not really implemented fully the award of the Wage Board. Therefore, such papers should not get the additional quota.

Finally, Sir, I should like to know why the Government is not making an announcement, in view of the behaviour of the managements of the papers, that in future not only the quota which would have been normally due to them had they published the paper, but also the future quota, will be affected, and that Government would consider reducing their quota. Because these people are putting us to ransom, in view of this, even the future quota which has to be sanctioned for them or has been sanctioned should be adversely affected.

SHRI K. K. SHAH : These are suggestions for action.

श्री निरंजन वर्मा : श्रीमान्, यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि जैसा माननीय सभापति ने कहा कि सदन का ऐसा मत मालूम पड़ता है कि जिन अखबारों ने हड़ताल कर रखी है, उनको न्यूजप्रिन्ट दिये जाने के बारे में आप कोई योजना बनायेंगे और उसका इजहार करेंगे। अब मैं इस संदर्भ में पूछना चाहता हूं कि जिन्होंने हड़ताल नहीं की, जैसे 'नेशनल हेराल्ड', 'पैट्रिअट' और 'वीर अर्जुन', जिनके उपर इस बीच बहुत अधिक भार पड़ा है और यहां तक कि उनके अखबारों

की छः छः प्रतियां पार्लियामेंट की लाइब्ररी में आने लगी हैं, तो क्या उनको न्यूजप्रिंट कोटा और अधिक देने की सम्भावना पर भी विचार किया जायेगा।

श्री के० के० शाह : ज़रूर।

SHRI A. D. MANI: I want to put a constructive suggestion before the Minister. Under the Press Registration Act, a newspaper which does not regularly appear for a period of a fortnight or three weeks—I am talking from my memory—ceases to be a newspaper. Now, under that rule, for the period these papers have not appeared, there will be a justification for the Government to withdraw the quota after the period is over. This suggestion I would like to make to the Minister to consider because I was a member of Small Newspapers Enquiry Committee; we examined it at great length. There are newspapers in Delhi which fitfully appear and they still have a quota. We examined it at great length.

Regarding blackmarket in newsprint, the Press Registrar has got complete control over the use of newsprint by newspapers, as the hon. Minister is aware. I do not think that any of these papers concerned are indulging in blackmarketing.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: No, no.

SHRI A. D. MANI: But if there is a fear. . .

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Some papers are doing it.

SHRI A. D. MANI: If there is a fear. . .

SHRI GODEY MURAHARI: Mr. Goenka is doing it.

SHRI A. D. MANI: . . . that newsprint is being sold in the blackmarket, I would ask the Minister to call the Press Registrar and ask him to freeze the newsprint stock which they have so that no newsprint is taken out of the godown and sold in blackmarket or used for any purpose other than the production of newspapers, when these newspapers resume publication. The third point I would like to suggest is this. I hope one day the strike will end. I would like to make a suggestion to the honourable Minister and the Minister of Labour. The employers' and the employees' representatives have talked to each other through the mediation of the Minister. I would sug-

gest that a committee of Members of Parliament of both the Houses may be set up to help in the mediation efforts and we would all give our cooperation.

DONATIONS BY COMPANIES TO PAKISTAN MUSLIM LEAGUE

8. SHRI JOACHIM ALVA:

SHRI SYED HUSSAIN†:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the list of company donations during 1962-68 in which the name of the Pakistan Muslim League figures with the donation of Rs. 1,79,379 to its credit and state :-

(a) the circumstances in which the name of the Pakistan Muslim League appears in the list and what are the names of the companies or individuals who were the contributors; and

(b) how did such a League exist in India and why it was not banned?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMAD): (a) The names of companies and the amount of contributions made by each are indicated below:

Ganesh Flour Mills Co. Ltd.—Rs. 40,000

Delhi Cloth & General Mills Co. Ltd.—Rs. 1,39,379.

The two companies have their units in West Pakistan at Lyallpur. The contributions indicated above are stated to have been made by their Pakistan units to Muslim League in Pakistan.

(b) Does not arise.

شری سید حسین : میں یہ جاننا

چاہتا ہوں کہ ایسی کتنی اور کمپنیاں ہونگی جو ہماری سرکار کے نوٹس میں آئی ہیں ؟

‡ श्री संयद हुसैन : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि ऐसी कितनी और कम्पनियाँ होंगी जो हमारी सरकार के नोटिस में आई है ?]

श्री फखरुद्दीन अली अहमद : ऐसी कोई और कंपनी नहीं सिवाये इन दो कंपनियों के जो हमारी नोटिस में आयी हैं।

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Syed Hussain.

‡[] Hindi transliteration.