

SPECIAL MENTIONS**PLIGHT OF TEMPORARY WORKERS OF PRAGA TOOLS LIMITED**

SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY (West Bengal): Sir, I wish to draw the attention of the Government to the plight of nearly 200 temporary employees, as recognised by the Deputy Commissioner of Labour, Andhra Pradesh, belonging to both technical as well as non-technical category, working in M/s. Praga Tools Limited, which is a subsidiary of a public sector enterprise, namely, H.M.T. It is situated at Kavadiguda Road, Secunderabad, Andhra Pradesh.

In spite of their putting in nearly 10 to 12 years of service, the Management of the Praga Tools Limited is treating them as casual workers, and, thus, depriving them of VRS.

Due to irregular payment of wages, these employees and their families are almost on the verge of starvation. Besides that, the threat of closure of this company is also weighing heavily on the minds of these Workers. The VRS announced by the Government is applicable only to permanent employees, *Badili* workers, and work-charged and temporary employees. These casual employees, most of whom have crossed 40 years of age, are willing to leave the company by taking VRS. But the management is not considering their request.

Under these circumstances, the Government of India should take immediate steps to treat these casual employees of the Praga Tools Limited, who have put in more than 10 to 12 years of service, as temporary employees and extend the benefits of VRS to them. In the meanwhile, steps should be taken to disburse wages to them, including arrears, for the survival of their families during these hard days.

SHRI SK. KHABIR UDDIN AHMED (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with it.

POOR FACILITIES AT ARIYALUR RAILWAY STATION OF SOUTHERN RAILWAY

SHRI S. SIVASUBRAMANIAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of this august House the plight of a railway station in my State.

Ariyalur railway station, since 1880, is located under the administrative control of Trichy Railway Division, Southern Railway. The