

Title:

Strikes in India

Precis:

Every day, a section of the newspaper is full of news of strike. A strike in India is a common means of achieving insignificant profits. Everybody likes to strike if the Police asked to set meters. Students go on strike because the examiner has some difficult questions. At least they realized that strikes are a bad thing. If it works hard in its field and increase its output, profits will increase. Strike action is not a solution to these problems.

EXERCISE 6

In India, no one section of the community seems to miss an opportunity to go on strike. Almost everyday we read in the newspapers of some one or the other going on strike, quite often for the flimsiest reason one can imagine.

Strike is a legitimate weapon of the worker to get better pay, shorter hours of work and better working conditions when all the other methods have failed. But to resort to strike because some action has been taken

on an erring colleague or because some headstrong subordinate was not treated with respect, is meaningless. Unfortunately in India the tendency to go on strike seems to be fairly wide-spread not only among workers but also among others. The taxi-drivers go on strike if the police asks them to fix meters. Students go on strike because they feel the question is too stiff for them to answer. Slum-dwellers go on strike because they have been asked to move into new tenements built for them.

Strikers are the last to realise that they are the ultimate losers in most cases. Their gains are only apparent. Increased wages may not benefit them unless they are related to increased productivity. When an employer is forced to increase his workers' wages, without a corresponding increase in production, as is most often the case, his cost of production goes up and this in turn increases the price of his product. So, though the worker may get more, he will have to spend more to get his minimum requirements and this is what is happening today.

(About 240 words)