

The second aspect is that while that has been taken into account—I do not wish to comment at all on the content of that—the one great lacuna in the entire pronouncement of the petroleum policy is that not even a word has been said about savings. All the changes that have been made here relate to what fiscal changes will be made, what exploration changes etc. will be made, which is an area of discussion by itself. But inculcating a sense of savings on energy which, I think, is a part of the total energy concept, too is absent. They remain the main areas of our concern.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly) : Sir, the announcement of such a policy declaration has serious implications on the economy of the nation. We do hardly have any time before the recess of the Budget Session which starts from the 21st of this month. So, my plea is that this House should be allowed a full-fledged discussion on the oil exploration policy.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA (Pudrauna) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have been trying to raise the problems of sugarcane growers for the last one week... [Interruptions]

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You will get a chance. We have suspended the Lunch Hour. We have not suspended the Zero Hour. Do not worry. You will get your turn.

[Translation]

SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI (Siddipet) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to speak on electricity crisis in Andhra Pradesh ... [Interruptions]

MR. SPEAKER : All of you will get a chance to speak please sit down.

[English]

We will give you a chance. Let him speak first.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha) : I have been called to speak. Please permit me ... (Interruptions)

Sir, a very serious incident had taken place in NOIDA in Uttar Pradesh where, in a factory called 'Motherson Systems Limited,' the police have entered the factory. There are about thousand workers working in the factory including 700 women labourers. They have beaten these labourers with the connivance of the management ... (Interruptions) I may be allowed to submit.

12.13 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are leaving the House, sugarcane growers are in great difficulty. They are not getting supporting prices for sugarcane.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : All of you will get a chance to speak.

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Sir, I have not completed my submission. This is a very serious issue. Please allow me to speak ... (Interruptions)

On 13th of this month, a very serious incident took place. About several hundred women workers and other workers work in a factory called 'Motherson Systems Limited' which is situated in NOIDA in Uttar Pradesh. These workers were trying to form a union. They wanted to register it. But the influential management succeeded in not even giving a registration for the last one year. Now, there were some issues. The labourers were asking for some benefits.

Now, to see that the Union is cut to size, the management suspended about 40 leaders. They were suspended and they were not allowed to do the work. Then all the other workers, who are united, stood with them and sat on *dharna* on 14th of this month.

The work at the factory starts from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. So, they sat on *dharna* from 9 a.m. onwards. By at about 9 p.m., i.e., in the night, some policemen—only male policemen and not even a female policeman—rushed into the factory and with the help of some goonda elements started beating those people, poor labourers who were sitting in the premises of the factory peacefully. Many of the women had been looted, their hand bags were taken away. They had misbehaved with the women labourers. The lights were put off by the policemen saying that 'let us see, who is going to identify us'. But even then, those workers were able to identify the SHO, some policemen and others. They have given the correct names of some of the policemen and others who have assaulted them.

Sir, these working women are helpless. Many of them are from our State, Kerala; some of them are from Tamil Nadu and Andhra also. There are women coming from all over India. Yesterday, I came to know about it when one of their parents called on me and said that a very brutal incident had occurred. Three teeth of a child of a woman worker had been broken and she has also been injured very seriously but no action is being taken.

Sir, in this regard, on complaint had been lodged because the policemen were involved in the incident. Even the local police refused to lodge the complaint. Not even taking the cognizance of the complaint, even to receive the

complaint, they refused. Then those workers went to the SP in Noida. Even that SP also had not lodged their complaint.

Sir, yesterday when I found that the situation was very miserable, I rushed to the Home Minister. Since, Shri Indrajit Gupta was not available, I met with Shri Dar, the Minister of State of Home Affairs.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please conclude now.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Yes, Sir.

Today, I am giving this complaint, signed by almost all the workers, to Shri Indrajit Gupta.

Sir, this can be treated as an FIR because no FIR has been registered by the policemen there. It is a cruel act; it is an act against women; it is a dastardly act. I am very sorry to submit that even those workers had specifically stated in their complaint that the Chairman of the Company posed that he was the relative of a very high stature official. They say, it is the Governor; he is related to the Governor. That is what they say.

Sir, it is true that there is a complete anarchy and chaos. So, something has to be done immediately because about 700 women are sitting there and their lives are not safe. So, once again, I request that their complaint should be registered and some immediate and stern action should be taken ... (Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : Sir, on 8th of March we have observed the Women' Day and on 14th of March this assault on women has taken place. It is the working class women against whom this attack has taken place.

If such an incident happens elsewhere in some country, the people will be dismissed. Here the Managing Director of the company and the police with connivance of some goondas have done this.

Sir, the Home Minister is also a trade union leader. He also supports the cause of women. He is present here. I request that he should respond to it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Okay. Now, please sit down.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : Sir, the Home Minister must make a statement on this ... (Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Yes, the Home Minister must make a statement because it is a very serious matter.

[English]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : The Home Minister should tell the House, what are the actions he proposes to take ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, such incidents are taking place repeatedly in Delhi and Noida. The workers are beaten but FIRs are not registered. The local Administration provides security to the management. It is a serious matter. The hon. Home Minister is present here, so he should say something about it ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : All sections of the House are very much concerned over this issue. So, I would like that the Government should make its position clear.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : Yes, Sir, we will do it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He has agreed to give a statement. He will have his own time.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : The Chairman fired a round from his gun in the air and said that he can do like this, nobody is going to ask him because he has every support with him. That is what he was saying.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : The statement must come in due course of time. Today the statement must come.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : If it is possible we can say, today.

... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please listen to him. Please listen to the Home Minister, he is on his legs. At least listen to him.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : The incident to which the hon. Member has drawn the attention of the House is naturally very very shocking. Am I expected to make a statement just now, immediately?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Not necessarily.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Without any enquiry, without finding out anything?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I said you will have your own time.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : My own time means, I will certainly immediately try to find out the position and whatever steps are to be taken against that management.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You can ascertain the facts.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Today or at least tomorrow.

[Translation]

SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : Sir, I have not been given a chance to speak. ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Your name is there in the list.

SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : There is electricity crisis in Andhra Pradesh. We resorted to gherao there for three hours ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will give you a chance to speak.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY (Nizamabad) : This is the first time that the farmers of a negligent State Government have committed suicide and this trend will continue.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will allow you, please take your seat.

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH (Bulandshahar) : Sir, Gur factories are not purchasing sugarcane because of the restriction imposed on them for not storing more than 250 quintal of gur. The Government is conniving with the sugar mill owners to purchase sugarcane at cheap rates from the farmers. Sugarcane growers are being exploited. I would request the Government, through you, that the ban on storing not more than 250 quintals of gur should be lifted and there should be no ban on the export of gur. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Hon. Member, please take your seat.

... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : No side talks, please. Please maintain decorum in the House.

[Translation]

SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH : Sir, the entire sugarcane should either be purchased by the mills or these mills should be allowed to prepare gur and the Government should ensure remunerative prices of gur in the market. It is necessary for the welfare of farmers. The restriction imposed on storing gur should be removed. The outstanding payments of farmers have not been paid by the sugar mills. Besides this year's payment, last year's payment is also outstanding. Therefore, the Government should make necessary arrangement to make payment to the farmers. The sugarcane growers in all over Uttar Pradesh are being exploited. Since there is President's rule in Uttar Pradesh,

the Central Government is directly responsible for the State Administration. Therefore, the Central Government should take immediate steps to check the exploitation of farmers in Uttar Pradesh.

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR (Faizabad) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, in this regard I also would like to say that the sugarcane growers in Uttar Pradesh are in great trouble. There is no one to listen to their problems.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : This matter has already been raised.

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : There is ban on gur. After some time agricultural labourers would not be available and under that circumstances, the sugarcane growers would be left with no other alternative except to burn their sugarcane in their fields. There is President's rule in the state, therefore, the Central Government should make proper arrangement so that arrears of farmers could be paid ... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SHIVANAND H. KOUJALGI (Belgaum) : I want to draw the attention of the House to the situation arising at Belgaum in Karnataka. The Army commandoes belonging to the Maratha Light Infantry Regimental Centre have beaten the Police and the Railway Staff. The situation is still tense. The time has now come for giving protection to the police from the *goonda* activities of the Army commandoes.

Though the army commandoes have beaten up the police and the Railway staff, it is unfortunate that no action has been taken against the army commandoes and nobody had been arrested.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : In Zero hour, you cannot read a written statement.

[English]

SHRI SHIVANAND H. KOUJALGI : Hence, I request, through you, that action shall be taken against the culprit Army commandoes and protection shall be given to the police as well as the Railway staff and a Senior Officer may be sent there immediately to inquire into the matter. I also request that a statement be made regarding this by the hon. Minister of Home Affairs.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will call from that side later on.

[English]

You will get your chance just now. Please sit down.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it is for the first time in the history of 50 years of independence that the sugar mills of Private sector have