

12.38 hrs.

[English]

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*]

I, therefore, urge the hon. Minister for Finance and the hon. Minister for Textiles to issue suitable instructions to the concerned departments to prevent the production of pre-inspection certificate by the Central Silk Board and not to insist on the production of the test certificate for the issuance of Duty Drawback by the Customs Department.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): Sir, the public Distribution System in Mumbai, with a population of one crore ten lakhs, has completely collapsed. Those shopkeepers/consumer societies who have paid money to the Government for supplying the goods, are not receiving the goods. As a result, about nine hundred shopkeepers have sent their resignations to the Government and in that, six hundreds cooperative societies are also included. They have said that hereafter they will not run the ration shops. In all there are 3000 shops. The remaining 2100 shops also are deciding that they also want to run the ration shops. As a result, the common man, the factory workers, the middle class persons, are not getting their daily requirements. So, I would request the Government to rush the foodgrains immediately to Mumbai and also assure the shop-keepers, the consumer cooperative societies and the consumers' organisations that steady flow of the ration shops' goods will be made to them. If this is not done, it will collapse and I am afraid that there would be food riots in the city. So, the Government must make a statement and in addition to that, they should rush the goods on a war footing to the city. Thank you, Sir.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KAPSE (Thane): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have received a telegram on this matter from my constituency.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am not allowing you now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH (Adoor) Sir, the Air India's flight charge from Trivandrum to the Gulf countries is at a very high rate. The longstanding demand of the passengers flying from Trivandrum to the Gulf countries had been a reduction in the flight charge of Air-India. But the Air India had not taken any action so far. During the year 1978, the Air India operated their flight service from Trivandrum to the Gulf countries and in the past 14 years, the passengers flying from Kerala to the Gulf countries had been demanding from the Air India for their urgent steps being taken in reducing the unjustified higher flight charge from these sectors. In this regard the Malayalees residing in the Gulf countries had also submitted a memorandum to the Government of India. But the Air India did not take any action so far in meeting this justifiable demand in the reduction of flight charge from the Gulf passengers. The following are the demands:—

1. Flight charge of the Air India for the passengers by the Gulf-Trivandrum flight should be reduced.
2. The Air India be requested to refund the overcharge taken from the passengers so far.

The other demand is to allow the same landing facilities to Trivandrum Airport also as has been done to the other international flights from the foreign countries to Trivandrum Airport.

I draw the attention of the hon. House to the real fact in regard to the higher flight charge taken from the passengers from Trivandrum to the Gulf countries. For example,