

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Monday, May 27, 1996/ Jyaistha 6, 1918 (Saka)

(The Lok Sabha met at Thirty Two
Minutes past Ten of the Clock)

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES (TENTH LOK SABHA)

Thirty-Ninth Report

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL : I beg to lay on the Table the Thirty-Ninth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Government Assurances (Tenth Lok Sabha) under the direction 71A, sub-direction 6 of the Directions by the Speaker. The Report was presented to the Speaker of the preceding Lok Sabha before its dissolution

MR. SPEAKER : I have received a number of notices for Zero Hour. All the notices that have been received have been admitted. So, you do not have to worry. I will call the Members one by one. Mr. Priya Ranjan Das Munsi. Please restrict to two minutes.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI (Howrah) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I raise a very important matter in spite of having an excess in the export market, the reputed typewriter manufacturing unit Remington Rand India remained closed for the last two years because of fraudulent change over of the management. I desire the Central Government to immediately instruct the State Government of West Bengal through the Labour Ministry to find possibilities of reopening the unit immediately. It is causing 1500 people salaries and wages, PF and Gratuity. I apprehend a serious unrest in the city of Howrah in West Bengal within two weeks which can be avoided if immediate intervention of the Union Government takes place.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman and Nicobar Islands) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, a serious problem is being faced by the people in the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands because of detention of two ships, one at Calcutta and the other one at Vizag, by the Forward Seamen Union. I have written a letter to the hon. Prime Minister in this regard. These ships are the lifelines to Andaman and Nicobar Islands where essential commodities are scarce. People stranded on the Islands are not in a position to come out and those who are on the mainland are not in a position to go back. That is why I requested the Prime Minister in the letter to

kindly intervene in the matter and to contact the State Governments concerned to facilitate the release of these vessels in order to overcome the problems that have arisen. Fortunately, I have received a call yesterday that the Unions have withdrawn their strike. However, I would like to say that this is a regular problem. The Government should take up this issue and see that some permanent solutions are arrived at... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : We have received notices. All the notices that have been given have been admitted and those Members will be allowed. No other Member is allowed.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur) : Only matters under Rule 377 have been mentioned in the printed List of Business and not zero hour.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I will come to Matters under Rule 377 later on. Matters under Rule 377 is very much there

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha) : Sir India is a forerunner in the export of spices and especially so in the export of pepper. There is a problem being faced in this field. A cess was imposed on pepper and some other spices... (Interruptions)... The earlier Government has given a stay for a certain period on the imposition of this cess and that period would be over by 31st March. Now, I request the Government to kindly intervene immediately because unless the cess of two per cent is stopped forthwith for some more months, our exports are going to be in great peril and the farmers dealing with cardamom, pepper and other spices are going to be in great difficulties in the days to come.

I request the hon. Government and the Commerce Minister - I do not know whether the Commerce Minister has been appointed - that is why I am sure the Prime Minister will take note of it because it is a matter of great public importance. But for an immediate action our exports are going to suffer to a great extent

MR. SPEAKER : If you did not know that there was a scope for Zero Hour, you knew very well that there was a scope under Rule 377. Whoever has given notice under Rule 377, I have admitted it. So, you cannot claim it now.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYADEV SINGH (Balrampur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw, through you, the

attention of the House as well as the Government towards the difficulties of sugarcane farmers of Uttar Pradesh. The present condition of Uttar Pradesh is such that the sugar mills in large number are being closed there now. Around 20 lakh quintal of sugarcane of farmers is likely to remain idle in the fields itself in my parliamentary constituency Balrampur. Sugarcane farmers are baffled today and facing difficulties. I, through you, would like to request the Government to issue instructions to Uttar Pradesh to ensure that the crushing work of sugar mills is not stopped until and unless the sugarcane crop is there in the field. If sugar mills need economic assistance for that purpose, they should be provided. The Government should exempt sugar mills from levy sugar when crushing starts in June, so that they may be able to purchase sugarcane. I would like to suggest that the corruption, which is rampant in sugarcane dealing should be eradicated to end the tragedy of sugarcane farmers in Uttar Pradesh.

Secondly the demand of delicensing sugar mills, specially in UP has been persistently made in the House so that the farmers could be saved from the tragedy in future.

Besides this, sugar mills of UP owe a huge outstanding amount to farmers. Some of these mills are in public sector, some are owned by State Government and some are in private sector. I demand that effective steps should be taken in this regard so that the sugarcane farmers are paid their dues.

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR (Hapur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I, through you, would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the pitiable condition of sugarcane farmers of Uttar Pradesh. In my constituency, around 75 per cent sugarcane is there in the field itself. Therefore, I would like to demand that sugar mills should continue crushing until the entire sugarcane is not utilized. No payment has yet been made for the slips provided against the sugarcane supplied to mills and causing worry to farmers. Therefore, payment should be immediately made against these slips. Uttar Pradesh produces sugarcane in huge quantity, therefore I would like to demand that sugar mills should be delicensed so that the mills may be set up at various places and farmers may supply sugarcane easily, they are benefitted and their condition is improved.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards a serious matter. The bomb blast in Dausa bound bus coming from Agra, in Rajasthan has claimed 34 innocent lives besides injuring many. Likewise the bomb blast in Lajpat Nagar in Delhi and communal riots in Assam indicate that after the formation of new Government, some anti-national forces... (Interruptions)

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to state that Rajasthan is most peaceful State where people from every nook and corner of India like to set up industries and reside there. There is full peace in the state ruled by hon. Bhairon Singh Shekhawat but a bomb blast took place on January 26, 1996 and after that, as my precedent Speaker was stating, another bomb blast took place on 22.5.96. A bus of Rajasthan transport corporation, started from Agra at 11 A.M. and when it was only 4 kms. away from Dausa, a bomb exploded in the bus at 2.10 P.M. Hon. Chief Minister, Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat, Home Minister Shri Kailash Meghwal and all the MLAs and officers reached there immediately and provided relief to all those who were injured and Rs. on lakh each to the bereaved families of those who died in the incident. I myself had visited the site yesterday. All the 26 injured persons have been admitted to Sawai Man Singh Hospital and the State Government is taking all care to provide them proper treatment. Any type of discontentment is not visible any where. I would like to state that people of the predecessor Government are creating nuisance and my Government has been able to nab the terrorist. The BJP Government at the centre and Rajasthan Government both deserve thanks for this act.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You have made your point, now conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to request you to spoil their evil designs and take action against them in order to avoid such nuisance and to strengthen the Government of India... (Interruptions)

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards intentionally freezing out the electric supply in Uttar Pradesh. In connivance with officers electricity crisis is being created in entire Uttar Pradesh to dislodge the elected Government of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee at centre. I demand the Government of India to take effective steps in this regard since officers, in political pressure, are terrorising the people by defaming the Government and freezing out the electric supply. Government should make proper arrangements to take care of it.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per the directions of Supreme Court, uninterrupted power should be supplied to Taj Trapazium Area but in connivance with some Central and State Government officers and in political pressure this order is being overlooked. Though Affidavit was demanded by Supreme Court but the officers refused to bear the responsibility. I, drawing