

Environment Guidelines to Narmada Control Authority

4006. SHRI RABI RAY:
 PROF. MALINI BHAT-
 TACHARYA:
 SHRI VIJAY KUMARYADAV:
 SHRIMATI GEETA
 MUKEHERJEE:
 DR. LAXMINRAYAN PAN-
 DEYA:
 DR. D. VENKATESHWAR
 RAO:
 SHRI GEORGE FERNAN-
 DES:
 SHRI MANORANJAN
 BHAKTA:

Will the Minister of WATER RE-
 SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have di-
 rected the Narmada Control Authority to
 adhere to the environmental guidelines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether in view of the Morse Com-
 mission report the Government propose to
 review the project; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RE-
 SOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN
 SHUKLA): (a) and (b). Narmada Control
 Authority is required to ensure implementa-
 tion of environmental safeguards *pari-passu*
 with the construction of Sardar Sarovar
 Project. Environmental safeguards to be
 taken by the project are for:

- (i) Rehabilitation Master Plan
- (ii) Phased Catchment Area Treatment
 Scheme.
- (iii) Compensatory Afforestation Plan.
- (iv) Command Area Development.
- (v) Survey of Flora and Fauna.

(vi) Carrying capacity of surrounding
 area.

(vii) Seismicity; and

(viii) Health aspects.

(c) No, Sir,

(d) Does not arise.

12.00 hrs

[*Translation*]

SHRI RABI RAY (Kendrapada): Mr.
 Speaker, Sir, the news of a bomb explosion
 in Chhota Bazar of Raibareli district, where
 some children were studying in a mosque is
 tragic. We got the news at 8 A.M. today. The
 hon. State Minister has also confirmed it.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Let us get the informa-
 tion first. Before raising it, let us get the
 information.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RABI RAY: Sir, the news is true
 as the Government has also confirmed it and
 some children have been killed there. The
 people are agitated and there is an uneasy
 calm in the area. Therefore, my submission
 is that the Government should take the House
 into confidence regarding this issue.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I think the Government
 can collect the information and if the Govern-
 ment wants, it can come back and inform the
 House.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY
 AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD):
 Okay, Sir.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South

Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the House towards certain developments during the past 6 months. Earlier wheat was exported from this country at the rate of 95 American Dollars i.e. Rs. 240 per quintal and later news appeared that in the later months wheat was imported at double or more than double the rate, so what are the reasons for it?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to inform the House through you about four scandals which involved crores of rupees. I have with me a copy of the hon. Minister's statement made at the press conference in January, 1992. He had said in the press conference:

[*English*]

"The stock position of foodgrains in the Central Pool is quite comfortable. For the first time we have allowed FCI to deliver about eight lakh tonnes of wheat for export".

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, last time when I asked the hon. Minister about this he said that this decision was taken by the Chandra Shekhar Government, and we had only implemented it. Sir, my submission is even through the procurement in the farmer's pool was short of 9 lakh tonnes as compared to last year why was export of wheat allowed and similarly, why were the roller flour mills provided wheat at subsidised rates and what were the reasons behind it. On the one hand wheat was short in the pool, then why was such a statement made on 1st January, 1992. Secondly, I have the clipping of the newspaper of 16th in which it is mentioned that 10 lakh tonnes of wheat will be imported. On January 1st, 1992 it appeared in the newspaper that the wheat would be exported and just after 15 days it is said that 10 lakh tonne of wheat will be imported.

Thirdly, on March 20th it appeared in the newspapers that "tender floated for wheat import" and at that time the international rates were 130 to 168 dollars per quintal i.e.

Rs.350 per quintal and during the present session on 14th July, 1992 in reply to my question number 3981 a very interesting thing was said:

[*English*]

"The Government entered into a contract with the Canadian Wheat Board 19th June, 1992 for import of 10.05 lakh tonnes of wheat. The landed cost of Canadian wheat has been estimated at Rs.5,260 per tonne."

[*Translation*]

Rs. 526 per quintal. Mr. Speaker, Sir, in this way I have put forth a few things. In January wheat was exported at the rate of Rs. 240 per quintal and after 15 days it was said that we do not have any foodgrains and later on in the month of March tenders were floated. Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is very interesting that none of those who sent tenders were given orders for importing wheat but wheat was imported from Canada at the rate of Rs.526 per quintal (*Interruptions*)

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the people of this country want to ask few questions. It was said at first that we had exported rice to Cuba that is why America had refused then why did you import it from Canada at the rate of Rs.526 per quintal while the other countries were giving at a cheaper. The House was told that we had exported wheat to Cuba so America had refused. Then wheat was imported from Canada not from the countries who had filled the global tenders, so when the import was not to be done from those countries why was global tender invited. Under the pressure of which foreign power, wheat was imported from Canada at the rate of Rs.526 per quintal while the prices in the whole world in the month of March were less.

The Indian farmer is offered Rs. 250 per quintal while it is imported from Canada at the rate of Rs. 526 per quintal (*Interruptions*).

Mr. Speaker, Sir, later on there was a news that since wheat is being procured at a higher cost therefore, the price of wheat distributed through the ration shops will be increased by Rs.60 per quintal. The burden of this scandal is being put on the common man on the pretext that the price of wheat at the ration shop is being increased since wheat is being imported from America and Canada.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, keeping in view the facts which I have placed before you, I want to make a submission. The entire scandal should be investigated by a high powered committee and I would like that a committee of M.P's should investigate this matter and the report should be submitted within six months as to why wheat was imported at more than double the prevalent price. No other scandal can be more serious than this one, that first wheat was exported and later on it was imported. I want to admit that the Members of Parliament should be involved in the investigation of the matter.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH (Sheohar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, today a news item has appeared in 'The Statesman' that a ship of Shipping Corporation of India was attacked by the sea pirates on its way from Singapore to Malaysia and by chance the attempt was a failure.

Similarly, some years back in the Straits of Morocco another ship of the Shipping Corporation was attacked. The matter for concern is that the Captain of the Merchant ship had a secret chart of the sea route provided by the naval department and that is used during the war times only. That secret document remains in the safe custody. There is a standing order to open it only under such circumstances. In the last attack the document was stolen by the sea pirates.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a serious matter because the naval department had to change

the whole strategy regarding the sea routes which our merchant ships will take during the war period. That secret document has all these things. Secondly, there is no arrangement of security on the merchant ships. They do not have the right to keep any weapon on board. Has the Government paid attention towards it? What arrangements are being made by the Government to provide security and the steps taken by the Government to provide security for this important document which is vital from the point of national security? Such incidents have become a common feature in the Straits of Morocco. Does the Government propose to take up the matter with the Government of Malaysia and the Government of Singapore? Besides this issue which pertains to the foreign land, in our own country at Madras, Cochin and Vizag minor incidents of theft are regular feature which creates problems for shipping. I want to draw the attention of the Government towards it. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri Khurana has raised a very important question about wheat scandal. A reply should come from the Government. (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): Mr. Speaker, Sir, actually this issue concerns the Ministry of Food. I think everything will be cleared if a discussion is held on the Calling Attention Motion. You please allow a discussion on it. The Ministry of Food can better handle it as this concerns that Ministry. You may please allow the Calling Attention and they will do it. There will be a discussion on it. (*Interruptions*)

AN HON. MEMBER: The Government purchases wheat at the rate of 250 rupees from farmers whereas it is purchased on higher rate from America.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Mr. honourable Member, wheat is procured at the rate of 200 rupees.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, when a problem has many aspects, a discussion on it is understandable. But here the question is very specific as to why is there so much difference in the rates of export made earlier and the import made later. The difference is double. In the present situation, when the position of the balance of payment is bad.

[English]

It is not explicable on the face of it. There is something shady about the whole thing.

[Translation]

There should, therefore, first come a statement about this fact and then there can be a discussion on that statement.

[English]

On the face of it, it is inexplicable.

[Translation]

The Government cannot justify it. How is it justified should be known. A statement is, therefore, due on this specific question. The discussion can follow thereafter.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: A Calling Attention should be allowed. The Ministry of Food will reply to it as it deals with the matter of export and import.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The Government will make a statement on this.

[Translation]

I would like to bring it to your notice that the bank matter is pending for a long time. It would be better if that is taken up after sometime.

SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR SINGH THAKUR (Khandwa): Mr. Speaker, Sir, young women labourers working in the Indira Sagar Project in district Khandwa have been missing for one and a half month. No clue has been found as to their whereabouts though the Government and the Police have knowledge of the incident. Their guardians and others are worried and the women are very much disturbed. The Government is aware as to who are behind it. There is great resentment among the labourers as no step has been taken by the Government. They are annoyed. The people of that area have been trying to find out for one and a half month as to who are behind all this. They first entice the young girls in the name of employment and later on they make them disappear. It is not known as to who are behind this racket. Our representatives and other people approached the Government of Madhya Pradesh and the police but nobody is ready to cooperate. Persons belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes work there. So it is painful that these women are missing. And this has become a topic of discussion. I would like to submit that the Government should pay attention towards it and made efforts to trace the missing girls.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): The coming Sunday is 9th August which is the revolution day. We will complete 50 years of our August Revolution. The Government has decided to celebrate its Golden Jubilee. It is a golden day in the history of freedom struggle of the country.

Though it has not been confirmed by the

Government or by anybody else, but it is learnt that the hon. Prime Minister is to visit Bombay and a number of programmes have been fixed for him. Even though I am an M.P. from there, I have not been informed of these programmes being organised by the Government or the Congress party. Any way I least bother about that.

What I mean to say is that I have also given you a letter that there is a Telecom Factory in Bombay. The workers union there had given a letter to their Chief General Manager that they wanted to celebrate Revolution Day on the coming 9th August in the factory. But permission therefor was denied to them. I have a copy of that letter. I would conclude my speech by reading four lines of that letter. This letter has been sent to the union which reads:

[*English*]

"With reference to the above, the DOT, vide their letter No.25-37/91-TFS dated 5th September, 1991, has directed this Office to inform you that the proposal to accord permission for celebration of *Kranti Din* in the Telecom Factory premises has been examined and that the proposal is not possible to be accepted...."

[*Translation*]

So the point is the workers there want to celebrate that day, but they are not being permitted. Now very little time is left, there is a programme to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary throughout the country. Why does when the Government not allow the workers to celebrate the day in its factory? The Government should accept it and should pass an official order. As very little time has been left, the Government should give permission immediately. The Government should adopt a policy of cooperation throughout the country.

My humble submission is that the hon. Prime Minister should make a statement on

it making clear as to what the Government is going to do.

[*English*]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO (Dhenkanal):
Sir, I have given a notice regarding the utter neglect of our cultural, archaeological and archival heritage which is lying in the open and is subject to vandalism. The Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany in Lucknow has brought out that in Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Bihar and Karnataka, rare plant fossils which date back to millions of years and which have a linkage with the Continental Drift Theory of geological correlation between South America, Africa and India, are being converted into building stones. Tourists are also coming and taking them away. All these things are taking place in the absence of a legislation or preventive and deterrent measures. The same is the case with National Archives of India. They have been complaining that for want of just four chowkidars, a building extension worth Rs.6.5 crore could not be utilised and valuable records pertaining to the First World War, Second World War, Freedom struggle and documents of various Ministries have been destroyed because they could not find place in the National Archives. Just as a kingdom is lost for a horse-shoe nail, we are losing valuable scriptures and documents which give a correlation to our culture as well as history.

Just now Shri Ram Nayak was mentioning about the celebration of 50th Anniversary of the Auit India Movement relating to our Freedom Struggle are lying in a most atmosphere and are getting destroyed. The National Archives are demanding for some records of the First World War records, but they are not being given these documents. Therefore, the Government must come out with concrete steps to see that these documents as well as fossils and other cultural, archeological and archival heritage are preserved properly and there should be strict enforcement of law. Deterrent punishment should be given to vandals.

SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA (Keonjhar): Sir, I rise to protest about the mismanagement of our airways as well as railways. Day before yesterday, there was a programme of our hon. Prime Minister at Visakhapatnam and we, the Members of the Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Steel and Mines, were invited to participate in the function. But we were put to a lot of inconvenience. The flight was delayed for about three hours due to an engineering defect. Action should be taken against those who are responsible for this sort of mismanagement. Secondly, I was travelling in the Utkal-Expres from Puri to Nizamuddin. The latrines and bathrooms in the train were very dirty. The fare was high but the services were poor. The concerned Ministries should look into these aspects and take prompt action.

[*Translation*]

SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM (East Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention to the photo of the Coupon published in the Sunday Mail of 21st and 28th Junly where it has been written that the Government is being subjected to a loss of several lakh rupees. These coupons are printed in the printing press of the North-eastern Railway and they are selling in large numbers which are of course being misused. These coupons are blank on which the name of any M.L.A. is filled up and then claim is made. Similarly, goods worth several lakh rupees are also booked which is causing a loss of several crore rupees to the Railway.

I would like to submit that a C.B.I. Inquiry should be ordered to investigate into this case and action be taken against the guilty persons.

SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL (Chandni Chowk): Mr. Speaker, Sir, today all the newspapers have published the news of the robbery committed in the Sadar Bazar area yesterday evening and the killing of an old woman. I am coming from there itself

after spending an hour there. It seems that the law and order situation in Delhi has deteriorated. You will be surprised to know about the false claims of the police that they are ready for service at the phone number 100. But I would like to say that the members of that family and of that locality kept dialling from quarter past seven to half past seven. The bell was ringing but nobody picked up the telephone. I would have been convinced if the number had been busy but the point is that it was ringing and there was no response. The street where the incident took place is considered to be safe from security point of view. If such an incident can take place at a safe place then it clearly shows that our police have become completely ineffective. A film is shown on television from 5 "O" clock to 7.30 p.m. The police on patrolling duty do also stand and watch T.V in some shops instead of performing their duty. This is why such incidents are taking place frequently. I would like that the hon. Home Minister should make a statement regarding the steps taken by the Delhi Police to check such incidents.

[*English*]

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAIK (Phulbani): Sir, a major part of Orissa has been severely affected by floods and particularly, my constituency, Phulbani where villages adjoining river Mahanadi and Tel have been severely affected.

Sir, I would request the Government through you, to sanction more funds as well as subsidise rice. The funds should be released for repairing the damaged crops and so on.

I would also request you to immediately send a team from the Central Government for ascertaining the flood position in Orissa.

MR. SPEAKER: Let us now take up the bank matter.

PROF. PREM DHUMAL (Hamirpur): Sir, I have given a notice.

MR. SPEAKER: Not only you, there are other hon. Members who have given notices. They will be taken up later on.

12.26 hrs

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:-

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 30th July, 1992, agreed without any amendment to the Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Bill, 1992, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 20th July, 1992."

12.27 hrs

FOREIGN EXCHANGE CONSERVATION
(TRAVEL) TAX ABOLITION BILL*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Finance Act, 1987.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Finance Act, 1987."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR: I introduce the Bill.

12.28 hrs.

[English]

STATEMENT GIVING REASONS FOR
IMMEDIATE LEGISLATION BY THE
FOREIGN EXCHANGE CONSERVATION
(TRAVEL) TAX ABOLITION ORDINANCE,
1992

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): I beg to lay on the Table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions giving reasons for immediate legislation by the Foreign Exchange Conservation (Travel) Tax Abolition Ordinance, 1992.

[Placed in Library . See No. LT- 2405/92]

12.29 hrs

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

- (i) **Need for central assistance to the Tamil Nadu Government in checking the menace of a paddy disease in Thirvanamali and North Arcot Ambedkar district**

SHRI M. KRISHNASWAMY (Vandavasi): A dangerous disease has affected the entire paddy crop at early stage in Tiruvannamalai district and North Arcot Ambedkar District, Tamil Nadu. It was brought to the notice of the agriculture department of Tamil Nadu Government. The State Gov-

* Published in Gazette of India, extra ordinary, Part-II, section & 2, dated 3.8.1992.

** Introduced with the recommendation of the President.