

[English]

SHRI M. SELVARASU (Nagapattinam) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, in the last Railway Budget, the hon. Railway Minister Shri Ram Vilas Paswan has allocated Rs. 130 crore for the conversion of Nagore-Trichirapalli line into broad gauge. The Railway Ministry has released only Rs. 1 crore for this, the machinery for work was stored at different railway stations and the work was also started. But when there was a delay in completing it, I contacted the General Manager and other higher officials of Southern Railway. They told me about the indifferent attitude of the Ministry and about the meagre fund that was released.

In the meantime, the machinery which was stored at different railway stations was loaded in trucks and transported them to Karnataka. The local people who come to know about this staged a demonstration and stopped the loading operations. The local people were agitated over the stoppage of work and are prepared to resort to all types of agitation. The conversion plan was mooted to facilitate the tourists visiting Nagore Darga which is called the Ajmer of South India and the Valankanni Cathedral.

I would also like to mention here that the Railways have been neglecting Tamilnadu and especially my Constituency which is the southern-most part of India. I am elected from a reserved seat where most of the people are SC/STs.

The conversion plan was cleared by the Railway Ministry and the fund was also allocated. But the work is not progressing; it has stopped. So, I would like to know about the present situation. I also request you to kindly take necessary action in this regard.

[Translation]

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD (Fatehpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for allowing me to speak. Five persons are killed almost every day in my Parliamentary Constituency. On 22nd/23rd of this month SHO of police station Kishanpur arrested a youth named Garibdas. Who was killed by the SHO publically later on this murder was shown as 'killed in encounter'. In village Ithala under the Jafarpur police station, police removed the statue of Babasaheb and threw it away. Dalits have been murdered in village Budhavan under the police station of Thaga. In the same way dalits have been murdered in Danva village also I would like to say that reality of police of Kishanpur has been exposed. Atrocities are being committed on the Dalits there. I would like to draw the attention of the Central Government towards it because Uttar Pradesh is under President's Rule. Chaos is prevailing there. Injustice and atrocities are being committed against dalits. Poor are not getting justice. They are killed in front of courts. The police present at the spot of incident does not nab the criminals. I request the Government that position of law and order in Fatehpur should be improved and S.P. and D.S.P.

should be transferred from there. Inquiry should be conducted into these murders and justice should be done to the distressed.

SHRI TILAK RAJ SINGH (Sidhi) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for allowing me to speak. You have given me time for the first time I would like to know the procedure of raising my point during the Zero Hour. I have been trying for it since 9 A.M.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You have to give notice for it. A list is prepared and then Members are called to speak on selective basis. Do you want to say anything more.

SHRI TILAK RAJ SINGH : I would like to know the actual procedure because I was told that one will be called to speak only if one has given his notice in the morning.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will tell you the procedures I follow. First, I see which subject is relatively more important and then I go through the names of Members who have given notices. Notices are selected on the basis of importance of the subject. All the Members are not called. Now you can have your say.

SHRI TILAK RAJ SINGH : Alright, Sir, the work on Mahan Irrigation Project had been taken in Sidhi district of Madhya Pradesh which was sponsored by World Bank and Madhya Pradesh Administration. Around 50 percent work on this project has been completed with fifty percent of the total cost of the project. Now all of a sudden work on this project has been stopped. Besides raising the standard of living of people of Sidhi area, this project would have made an important contribution in national development.

While drawing the attention of the Government towards it, I would like to make a submission that efforts should be initiated for mobilising required fund and resources for taking the remaining work of Mahan Irrigation Project.

SHRI JAGAT VEER SINGH DRONA (Kanpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have raised this issue in this House time and again but it seems that this Government do not care for implementing the assurances given and schemes launched by it. The workers of N.T.C. mills have not been paid salaries for the last three months. I discussed this issue with hon. Minister of Textiles three times and he had given assurance for payment of salaries in next two-three days but later on I came to know that funds allocated in the budget for this purpose have been spent. Now there is no money for it and decision on this issue would be taken in the Cabinet meeting. This issue had been raised twice in Cabinet meeting but could not be discussed. Salary is the only source of income for the workers engaged in these mills. They have been compelled to organise dharna, demonstration and Kanpur *bundh* on this issue. But it seems that Government is not worried about fulfilling of the assurances given by it in this regard. It was proposed that NTC Mills throughout the country would be made functional after modernisation. Rs. 2005 crore were earmarked for the purpose but nothing has been done so far.

[Shri Jagat Veer Singh Drona]

Secondly, I would like to mention the assurance given by Hon. Prime Minister and Hon. Minister of Textiles for timely payment of salaries to the remaining workers of NTC after introducing the Voluntary Retirement Scheme for the workers. All these problems are occurring because the Government have not taken any effective measures in this regard. The salaries for two months have been paid to them but still salary of one month is due. I request the Government to consider the matter seriously and fulfill the assurances given by it. It is the only source of income for workers. Timely payment of salaries should be ensured so that they could fulfill the needs of their families. The scheme for modernisation of NTC, introduced by the Government should be implemented at the earliest.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the shortage of LPG in my constituency Patna. Though this problem is being faced all over Bihar but Patna is facing acute shortage of LPG. There one has to stand in a long queue for LPG. Several other Hon. Members and I, myself have raised this issue here time and again but the Government have not paid attention towards it. Patna has a population of 20-25 lakh. LPG is not being supplied Commisurate to the requirement and this is the reason for acute shortage of LPG there.

I request you to take measures for removal of their problems because people have to wait for a long time for getting LPG. The quota of supply of LPG should be raised, as more number of people have been given LPG connections. At present the supply of LPG for Patna is not proportionate to the population of the city. I request you that LPG quota should be increased. Women are facing problems in cooking on this count and I request the hon. Minister of Petroleum for increasing the quota of LPG so that this problem could be removed.

SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE (Jabalpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, due to deforestation on large scale during the 50 years after independence, the quantity of fuelwood has reduced in Madhya Pradesh there used to be fuel wood 'Beshram' which was not used earlier as cooking fuel as it was considered dangerous. But at present it is being used because there is shortage of coal and kerosene. People have to queue up for long time for kerosene and they get it with great difficulty. A quota of 25 has allotted to MPs but I have received 1300 applications during last eight months. Every MP is facing this problem. There is a quota of 25 and 500 persons are waiting for it. I, therefore, request you to raise it upto 100.

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : Sir, thank you very much for allowing me to make my submission. I would not dwell at length on this issue—this issue has already been raised many times by respected Shri Vajpayee ji and other hon. Members—of UP police firing in the BHU campus.

I would like to convey to you and through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government as well—I hope, Shri Ram Vilas Ji would bring it to the notice of the hon. Home Minister—to the fact that the situation in the Benaras city after the police firing inside the BHU campus has not only alarmed the students of the Benaras Hindu University but also has alarmed the students of the Northern India as a whole. Therefore, I would like to convey the decision of the National Students Union of India which they have conveyed to me for conveying it to the House. They said that unless a judicial enquiry into the police firing is conducted immediately by the Ministry of Home Affairs; unless the students who have been harassed by the Superintendent of Police are released immediately; unless a sum of Rs. two lakh as compensation is paid to the victims who have lost their lives in the police firing; unless the Superintendent of Police and the ADM of Benaras city are transferred immediately and unless the Advisor of the Governor goes there to restore normalcy, it would create fire among the students of the entire Northern India. The situation is so grave that the police firing incident inside the BHU campus would carry a message to the students community, including those of Delhi, and it would then be impossible to prevent the students movement.

Therefore, I would like to urge upon the Government to respond to these demands—immediate institution of a judicial enquiry; immediate transfer of the SP and the ADM of Benaras city; immediate release of the students; release of compensation etc.—and to take all steps to restore normal situation.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please conclude now.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Otherwise, I am told that the situation is so alarming that tomorrow or the day after—if the Government do not come forward with a decision—similar things would happen in Delhi University and all other places in Northern India in support of the demands so made. That is what I wanted to convey.

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly) : Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards an important problem being faced in Uttar Pradesh. Uptron is a leading Public Sector Undertaking located at Lucknow. But due to instable governments in the State for a long time, this undertaking is facing problems and its condition is deteriorating. Its units which were earning profit upto 1988-89, are now incurring losses. The future of thousands of its employees and their family has become uncertain. The employees are going to hold dharna and demonstration. They all are reputed engineers. Unfortunately, at present the Government sector is encouraging private institutions and thus there is resentment among the employees of Uptron. In view of the seriousness of the matter, I request the Government that Uptron should be revived and instructions should be issued to the hon. Governor to provide