

April rail roko' agitation was launched by Janata Dal in protest against Dunkel proposal all over the country. The workers resorted to chakka jam at almost all the Railway stations in Uttar Pradesh. The state administration which is under President's rule, resorted to indiscriminate lathi charge on the workers at Kanpur, Gorakhpur and Sidharth Nagar. At Kanpur, women were dragged from their hair and were beaten up with shoes. At Gorakhpur two women named Geeta Pandey and Punam Kishore were stripped before police officials. Later on the workers were arrested and put behind the bars. The police official beaten them severely at police station saying that these people belong to Mandal and Masjid which resulted into fracture of hands and arms of ten workers. Protesting against this high handedness the local people staged dharnas. On the 20th they staged a dharna in front of District Collector Office and later on at GPO park. Sir, through you, I would like to say that this was a democratic and peaceful agitation organised by Janata Dal and Left fronts to draw the attention of the Government towards the serious consequences of Dunkel proposal but the Government tried to crush and suppress the agitation, beaten the workers and stripped the women. Therefore, I would like to appeal to the Government to order a judicial enquiry into it and punish the guilty officials.

**SHRIBALRAJ PASSI (Nainital)** Mr Chairman Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards an article appeared in Rashtriya Sahara newspaper under caption 'Bharat gulami ki or' 'The reckless foreign loans being taken by the Government are increasing debt burden on the country. There is debt of thousands of rupees an every citizen of our country. Many citizens have sent cheque of Rs 3180/- to the president of India or to the Finance Minister Dr. A. B. Ahmed to get themselves debt free. It is mentioned in the news that the disastrous economic policies adopted by the Government directly or indirectly amounts to treason. Such allegations leveled against the Government in the newspaper have made the people worried.

I would like to request the Central Government that it should make all the things clear to the people and political leaders of different political parties. There is a need to tell the people about the economic crisis and the direction in which our country is heading so that country could be saved from the disaster.

**SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhunjharpur)** Mr Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards a matter of public importance. The Central Government has cleared a plan in 1989-90 for the construction of 135 kms long lateral road from Darbhanga to Forbesganj in North Bihar. Two years have passed since then and all procedures have been completed by the planning commission but the construction work of this lateral road is lying in complete dur to the non-allocation of funds. It is a matter of serious concern.

This lateral and border road is not important only from transportation point of view but also from strategic point of view. This border road would link India and Nepal.

Therefore I would demand that the Central Government should immediately release funds for the construction of this lateral road and the construction work, which is lying incomplete on this 135 km long road from Darbhanga to Forbesganj should be taken up on war footing.

[English]

**SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS (Jaipaugun)** Mr Chairman, Sir, I would just like to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that the Railway Department has recently given an order to close down the marshalling yard and steam loco shed in Siliguri junction Darjeeling, North Bengal as a result of which all the development work, which was undergoing was stalled. The doubling of Malda - New Bongaigaon line and gauge conversion from new Jaipaugun to New Bongaigaon Via Siliguri junction has already

[Sh Jitendra Nath Das]

been stopped. These actions of the Railway authorities have created a chaos among the people of that area who are agitated and also among the employees whose future is in the dark and who are in a very distressed condition. Hundreds of contract labourers have been thrown out of the job.

You know, Sir, that siliguri is a very important city and has now become the nerve centre of the business activities of the North East zone. Also for the overall development of siliguri town railway communication is very essential.

I would like to draw the attention of the Government so that the Government may revoke these orders so that the development of siliguri town may stand in a better position.

MR CHAIRMAN: We have almost completed the list. The last speaker is Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Mr Chairman, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards an important matter. The Central Ministry of Environment has issued a notification on the 28th January, but the forest area has not been defined clearly in the notification. The areas where there is no tree or where tree cannot be grown have also been defined as forest areas. Such areas have not been excluded from agriculture land ceiling Act. It has rendered 50 thousand mine workers and owners jobless in Rajasthan. Besides, it has ruined the economy of Southern Rajasthan where 40 per cent of population is directly or indirectly dependent on mining. There was an earning of Rs. 150 crores from this. My allegation is that it is not being exported to international market. This concession was given with a view to bring multinational compa-

nies to India. The mine owners have mechanised. They are exporting their goods. Hundreds of crores of rupees of Rajasthan Finance Corporation and Rajasthan Bank have been invested in these mines. It can be understood if a ban is imposed on a mining operation in thick forest areas but where there is no tree and no tree can grow there. The defective notification issued by the Ministry of Environment will have nationwide effects. They should define the forest area so that mining operation may also be saved.

Sir, you have given me little time in the end while other hon. Members got more time. With that I thank you, Sir.

13 32 hrs

#### BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that government Business during the week commencing 26th April 1993 will consist of

1 Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's order paper

2 Discussion & Voting on the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministries of

- (a) Defence
- (b) Home affairs
- (c) External affairs
- (d) Agriculture