

12.04 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT AND
TOURISM

Twenty-fourth Report

[English]

SHRI UTTAMSINGH PAWAR (Jalna) : Sir, I beg to lay the Twenty-fourth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Transport and Tourism on Demands for Grants (1996-97) of the Department of Civil Aviation.

12.04½ hrs

PETITIONS

[Translation]

Re: (i) Exploitation of labourers by contractors

and

(ii) Re: Exploitation of workers by the catering contractors at Katri Railway station at Jabalpur Division presented by Shri Sharad Yadav.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : I beg to present (i) a petition signed by Shri Birsa Munda and other labourers of Kuteshwar Mines, Jabalpur regarding exploitation of labourers by contractors; and (ii) a Petition signed by Shri Debidin Gupta of Katni and others regarding exploitation of workers by the catering contractors at Katni Railway Station, Jabalpur Railway Division.

12.05 hrs.

[English]

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that the Government Business during the week commencing Monday, the 9th September, 1996 will consist of:-

1. Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper.
2. Discussion and Voting on the Demands for Grants (General) for 1996-97 under the control of the Ministry of Human Resource Development.
3. Submission to the Vote of the House outstanding Demands for Grants in respect of Budget (General)

for 1996-97 at 6.00 p.m. on Monday, the 9th September, 1996.

4. General discussion on Jammu and Kashmir Budget for 1996-97.
5. Discussion and Voting on the Demands for Grants (Jammu and Kashmir) for 1996-97.
6. Consideration and passing of the Finance (No. 2) Bill, 1996.
7. General discussion on Uttar Pradesh Budget for 1996-97.
8. Submission to the Vote of the House Demands on Account (Uttar Pradesh) for 1996-97.
9. Discussion on the Resolution regarding rejection of the Award given on 31.03.1989 by the Board of Arbitration in C.A. Reference No. 3 of 1986 in respect of Encashment of Leave while in service in terms of para 21 of the Scheme for JCM and Compulsory Arbitration.

[Translation]

PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA (Samastipur): Mr Speaker, Sir, I request that the following item may be included in the next week's agenda:

The contract system was abolished from 26 depots of the Foodgrains Storage Depot in pursuance of Notification in the Gazette of India Part II, section 3, sub-section 2, Number 203 March, 1991. However, the system has not yet been abolished in 10 depots.

The question of implementing the Notification should be discussed in the House.

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I request that the following items may be added in the agenda for the next week:

1. The country is making fast economic progress. Kota has been described as the industrial capital of Rajasthan, but the waiting list of telephone connections runs into thousands. The question of exhausting this waiting list needs to be discussed in the House.

2. The Central Railway is running three trains from Kota, namely Kota-Damoh, Kota-Bina and Kota-Bhopal. However, none of these is an Express train. Any one train on this route should be made Express.

[English]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): Mr. Speaker, Sir,

the following issue should be included in the next week's agenda.

The United States had attacked several cities of Iraq with cruise missiles during the last two days killing many civilians. This is totally an unwarranted aggression against the sovereignty of Iraq. It also imposed an unprecedented hardship on the common people there. We should condemn this aggression.

We should discuss this matter. The House should condemn this and this condemnation should come from the Chair.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is an extremely important matter and the Government should come forward with a statement. Not only the entire House, but the whole country is worried on what is happening to Iraq. You may kindly direct the Government to make a statement in the matter.

[English]

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman and Nicobar Islands): Sir, we support this.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir...

MR. SPEAKER: Let him finish his submission.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Secondly, Sir, there is a most severe flood in the districts of Malda, Murshidabad, Nadia and in some parts of Howrah. The Government should give adequate financial assistance to the Government of West Bengal for rescue, relief and rehabilitation of thousands of flood victims.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: We do not know whether we will be able to find time, although we do want a proper discussion on this very serious matter. In any event, the entire House should condemn most strongly the blatant aggression that has been committed by the United States on Iraq. The United States is trying to impose their hegemony all over the world and is trying to play the role of a policeman when no policeman activity is necessary. We must condemn this aggression, and I demand a proper discussion on this. When the matter has been raised, let us condemn it unitedly here so that our message can be sent there.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar): Sir, we join the other Members while condemning the attack on another country by the United States of America. We expect the Government to find out some time to discuss this. Now that the B.J.P. has come down, the House will run smoothly. So,

let us have a discussion on this. I agree with Shri Vajpayee that some discussion should take place on this.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah): Sir, a *suo motu* statement should have come from the Government. Why are we waiting for a discussion? A statement should have been made by this time. It is a very serious matter and a *suo motu* statement should have come. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let us have some order because it is a serious matter.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had already given you the notice on two matters, one of which is on this same topic.

Therefore, at this present juncture itself, I will raise my first point and reserve the second whenever I am called upon by you.

The United States' attack on Iraq is extremely deplorable. There can be no two opinions about that. The aggression has to be condemned in the strongest possible terms. There is need also for international intervention to halt the United States.

Now, the Government of India has correctly criticised the United States' action through its spokesman. But the stand has been very mild. The Government needs to make a statement on the matter. This requires a discussion in the House...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR (Mumbai North-West): Mr. Speaker, Sir, about this particular aggression, if you see the whole world, most of the countries have condemned this aggression. Only a few countries have supported the United States of America. The most surprising thing is that the Government of India has not come out with any reaction...(Interruptions). For that purpose, it is absolutely necessary that we should discuss this subject matter in the House and condemn this aggression in the interest of democracy.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI: It should be unanimously condemned.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: A statement on the American attack has been given from the Government side, but that has been done outside the House. They should make a statement before the House, and the Members should be given an opportunity to express their views.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND

MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): Sir, the External Affairs Minister has told me just now that he is exactly clarifying the Government of India's stand on this issue in the other House. He is coming to this House just after that and he will clarify.

MR. SPEAKER: So, it is good that he will make a statement on that.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I shall be grateful to you for including the following items in the agenda for the next week:

1. It is necessary to set up the new Railway Zone at Ajmer, known as the 'Railway City', in view of the availability of all the required facilities there and its central geographical location.
2. It is necessary to convert the National Highway No. 8 into four lanes between Jaipur and Ajmer in view of the heavy pressure of transport between the two cities.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY (Mandsaur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I request for inclusion of the following items in the next week's agenda:

1. Effective legislative steps should be taken by the Central Government to check the atmospheric and water pollution being caused by Jayant Vitamins, Boridaya Chemicals and various distilleries and chemical units.
2. A new sugar policy should be framed by the Government relating to sugarcane growers and sugar mill owners in view of the urgency of increasing the sugar production.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL (Chandni Chowk - Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I request that the following two items be included in the agenda for the next week:

1. Provision of basic facilities at the slaughter-house at Motia Khan, Delhi.
2. Consideration of the situation arising out of the lottery business in the capital city of Delhi.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is a State subject. It cannot be done.

[Translation]

SHRI NANDKUMAR SAI (Raigarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir,

Kindly include the following items in the agenda for the next week:

1. The prevalence of viral fever and malaria in a serious form is taking a huge toll of lives of the Adivasis and other poor people in the far fetched Advasi areas of Madhya Pradesh as there is acute shortage of dispensaries, doctors and medicines. The Central Government should take immediate measures to control these diseases.
2. The quality of construction works executed in Raigarh district of Madhya Pradesh by the Indian Government from the financial provisions made in J.R.Y. and other heads is very poor. A number of school buildings culverts and other buildings have started wearing out even before being dedicated to the people. It is necessary that the Central government institute a detailed enquiry into these construction works executed during the last five years in Raigarh district.

[English]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Sir, TADA cases need to be withdrawn after the issue of TADA Act. The Government needs to make a statement in this regard.

[Translation]

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA (Ujjain): Sir, I request that the following items be included in the agenda of the next week:

1. The proposed reservation for Christians should not be a part of the existing reservation quota for the scheduled castes, but the existing 15 per cent be increased to 17 per cent as per proportion to their population.
2. Serious implications of the shooting down of the helicopter of the Indian forces by Pakistan and need for strengthening and streamlining the security arrangements of the country.

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): We strongly oppose the first suggestion.

MR. SPEAKER: This is only for inclusion in the next week's agenda.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Please think of the plight of the poor.

MR. SPEAKER: It is not a discussion. This is only a request for inclusion in the next week's agenda.