Title : Need to stop violation of labour laws in the country.

SHRI SUNIL KHAN (DURGAPUR): The violation of labour laws is being promoted by most of the Governments in the States and at the Centre, by forces of capitalism, both domestic and foreign. In the unorganised and organised sectors, even multinationals are vigorously thwarting attempt by the workers to form unions. There are instances where the Labour department is refusing to register the Unions. Even when the Union is registered, the management does not sit with the Unions to settle the disputes. When disputes are raised, the Labour Commissioner, in many cases, does not take any initiative to convene a meeting and settle the dispute. There are also instances, where some agreement was arrived at with their intervention, but even then, the management did not implement the agreement. As for example, the latest episode of police torture has taken place at Karnal. The workers of the production units of Liberty Foot Wear have been pursuing the management for implementation of the tripartite agreement signed in October 2005, in constitutional manner. The management has first committed illegality by not implementing the tripartite agreement which has a legal force. On 25th June, 2006 midnight, the employees were beaten up in police custody and locked under 307 IPC. More than 50 workers have been jailed and others are in hospitals. This is happening in Haryana[h24].

In Himachal Pradesh Chamera Hydro Power Project Stage-III, construction work started by NHPC six months back. NHPC is the principal employer and the owner of the project; HCC is the main contractor. In this project, there are gross violations of labour laws. No appointment letter, no minimum wages are paid to the workers. No wages for the Sundays or other holidays are paid to the workers. Contractors are not giving the payments to the employees since last four months. Twenty-five per cent tribal area allowance is also not being paid, and the workers are bound to work 12 hours a day. When they formed a Union on 10th June, the three leaders, namely, Babu Ram, CITU District President, Vijoy Tamoor and Dhang Singh were killed on the spot. In Punjab, for the last three years or so, the cycle factory workers of Ludhiana have been trying to register their Union. The Owners Association wrote to the Government of Punjab urging upon them not to register CITU Union, and the Government obliged them by not registering the Union. This is a general phenomenon.

I would, therefore, urge upon the Labour Minister to direct the NHPC and the States to stop the violation of labour laws and due compensation should be given to the bereaved families.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Harikewal Prasad - Not present;

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