

# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## LOK SABHA

Friday, March 5, 1999/Phalgun 14, 1920 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD (Madhepura): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Bihar issue has been discussed in the House for two full days and you allowed everybody to speak on the matter. What we decided in regard to article 356, was immediately to be taken up in the Upper House also. But the Union Ministers are giving contradictory statements which, in turn, is giving birth to several kind of doubts in our minds. Somebody speaks of moving to the Supreme Court and somebody says that a decision in this regard would be taken finally by 8th day of this month. This situation has created a kind of chaos in the country, particularly in Bihar. We want to cooperate with you and run this House but it seems as if there is no Government in this House. They are making mockery of our Constitution. We want the Government to let us know as to when they propose to take this issue in the Upper House? Why don't they let us know about this?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Lalu Prasad, I will ask the Government after Question Hour is over. Please cooperate.

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the stand taken by the Government in this regard should be made clear today after Question Hour. They are destroying the entire democratic institutions in the country. The presence of the Government seems nowhere visible. They are involved in their own inner fighting. We people abide by your decision.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : After Question Hour, the Government should make a statement. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow you after Question Hour. Question No. 141. Shri Motilal Vora.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Bihar Budget is also to be taken up. If it is not revoked, the Bihar Budget will not get passed and resultantly there would be a constitutional crisis in the country.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, please raise it after Question Hour.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : This Government is hell bent upon breaking the constitutional machinery. They want to create constitutional crisis in the country.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Question No. 141. Shri Motilal Vora—not present. Question No. 142. Shri Ramchandra Bainsa—not Present. Shri Madan Patil—not present.

Question No. 143. Dr. Madan Prasad Jaiswal—not present. Shri Mohammad Ali Ashraf Fatmi—not present.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Yesterday, a CPI leader was shot at ... (Interruptions)

## ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

### Recommendations of S. Mohan Committee on CPSEs

\*144. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA :  
SHRI SUNIL KHAN :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the main recommendations of Justice S. Mohan Committee Report on revision of pay structure of executives of Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs);

(b) whether any indepth study of the implication of the recommendations has been made by the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the final decision by the Government on the recommendations of the Report is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

#### **Statement**

(a) The Justice Mohan Committee on the revision of pay structure of executives of Central Public Sector Enterprises has made the following major recommendations:

- The proposed pay scales would be effective from 1.1.97.
- The recommended scale of pay for Executives in Schedule 'A' posts is Rs. 27,750—31,500, Schedule 'B' posts is Rs. 25,750—30,950, Schedule 'C' posts is Rs. 22,500—27,300 and in Schedule 'D' posts is Rs. 20,500—25,000.
- 100% neutralisation of cost of living for PSE employees covered by the terms of reference of this Committee.
- The next pay revision for executives in PSEs should be after a period of 10 years or co-terminus with pay revision for Government employees.
- HRA based on the reclassified list of cities as notified by Government of India based on the recommendations of 5th Central Pay Commission.
- An increasing proportion of payments to executives, apart from salaries, should be performance related, thus constituting incentive/disincentive payments. Perquisites and allowances may not exceed 50% of basic pay. Payment over and above the ceiling of 50% should be entirely in the nature of performance related payments.
- In respect of sick enterprises, including those referred to BIFR, revision in pay scales should be allowed only after a strategic plan of

restructuring for revival with adequate funds, has been implemented. In respect of enterprises which the Government decides to close down, a generous VRS should be implemented.

(b) to (d) The Government are examining the recommendations.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, the Industry Minister has given a long statement in regard to wage revision of the Executives of public sector undertakings. Sir, I want to know from the Minister about the financial implication because of the implementation of wage revision for the Executives of public sector undertakings.

The Minister has not replied to that question. I want to know from the Minister as to what will be the financial implications arising out of this pay revision.

SHR: SIKANDER BAKHT : Sir, I am trying to settle down. I have not been able to understand that we would straightaway come to question No. 144.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, I think, there was no briefing meeting or the Minister has not done the homework.

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT : The details of the proposed pay scales for different levels of executives, both at the Board level and below the Board level, are like this. At the highest level, that is, the Chief Executive, the pay scale recommended by them is Rs. 27,750—31,500. For the junior level officers, the pay scale of Rs. 6,500—11,350 has been recommended. The financial implications will be of the order of Rs. 2,000 crore.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, there are a number of public sector undertakings which have been referred to BIFR where, in case of workers and employees, there had not been any revision of their pay and allowances. So, when Justice Mohan Committee had submitted its Report regarding wage revision for the executives of the PSUs, whether the Government has taken any action in regard to the revision of wages for the executives of the PSUs which have been referred to the BIFR. What action is Government contemplating to take?

MR. SPEAKER : Today, Shri Basu Deb Acharia is very brief!

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, I am always brief.

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT : The next round of wage negotiations which was due on general basis from 1st of January, 1997 with the trade unions of Central Public Sector Enterprises may be commenced by the management. The managements of PSEs will be free to negotiate the wage structure of the employees not covered by Justice Mohan Committee keeping in view and consistent with the generation of resources of the enterprises concerned.

The Committee recommended that a core Group of Secretaries should be formed to look into the problems and prospects of sick enterprises and identify sick enterprises which can be nursed back to health. In case of those which cannot be restructured, it was recommended that steps should be taken to close down their operations.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : I did not ask that question. I asked about the implementation of Justice Mohan Committee recommendations on wage revision with regard to the executives of the PSUs which have been referred to the BIFR.

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT : I will give you all the details.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Sir, this happens when questions are brief.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : I want to know the position with regard to those PSUs which have been referred to the BIFR.

DR. ASIM BALA : Sir, the Minister should do his homework. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : The Minister is replying.

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT : In respect of the enterprises, including those referred to BIFR, revision in pay scales should be allowed only after a strategic plan of restructuring for revival with adequate funds has been implemented.

SHRI SUNIL KHAN : I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the scales of pay, dearness allowance, etc., will be revised notionally from 1.1.1987 to 1.1.1992.

It is stated here that for the executives of public sector enterprises the period should be ten years. I want to know whether in other cases the pay revision will be done after five years, why not 5 years for Public Sector enterprises.

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT : It has been decided to convert it to ten years.

SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the pay scales and dearness allowance be revised notionally from 1.1.1987 and 1.1.1992 as the case may be, as also 1.1.1997 on the basis of such revisions.

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT : The whole question is under examination. All the Mohan Committee recommendations have not yet been taken up. There are some Ministries which have not yet conveyed their recommendations to us up-till now. This question will be taken up after their recommendations are received. The issue is under examination.

[*Translation*]

6 SHRI RAJO SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reply given by the Government constitutes six parts. It has been said that HRA would be given on the basis of the reclassified list of cities as notified by Government of India based on the recommendations of 5th Pay Commission. I, through you, want to know from the Government as to why have they not taken any decision so far in regard to the implementation of revised pay scales w.e.f. 1.1.1997 ?

The Government have said in their reply that they are examining the recommendations. I want to know from them as to why did not they take any decision in this regard from 1997 to 1999? I have clearly asked why the recommendations, which includes HRA as well, have not been implemented?

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT : I have told you that there are 34 ministries wherein these recommendations are to be implemented. Out of these 34 ministries, 25 have conveyed their recommendations to us and the remaining 9 ministries have not yet conveyed. They are awaited. We will start our examination and next course of action after we get their recommendations.

6 DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I, through you, would like to ask a very clear question from the Minister and that is—whether it is a fact that an allegation accusing the bank officers of having nexus with capitalists was made by the Central Vigilance Commissioner on occasion of a seminar on computerisation in Banks due to which non-performing assets are increasing continuously in Banks?

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Shastri, you have to understand the question first. This question is on Central public sector enterprises.

[Translation]

DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI : I thought, that first question is being taken up.

† SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister has given a lot of information about the recommendations of Mohan Committee in his reply. This is a fact that several public sector undertakings are running in loss. One of the reasons behind this is that there are several surplus posts in these undertakings which have got no work to do. They come in surplus category. Shri Yashwant Sinha ji, while presenting his Budget, has said that these surplus posts are no more required, therefore, their number is being reduced and they are being surrendered.

Now, I would like to know from the Minister whether his ministry propose to conduct any survey of several public undertakings in this regard so that a proper assessment of total surplus posts in these undertakings is made and they are surrendered and reduced in order to save the unnecessary expenditure incurring on their salaries and other amenities or, to a larger extent, this factor has been responsible for their continuous losses.

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT : This has been a continuous feature. The basic question, which he has derived from the speech of the Finance Minister, does not arise in this context. But, generally, the point is that efforts are on to reduce the amount of expenditure of public sector undertakings and Ministries also.

[English]

DR. ASIM BALA : Sir, the answer is given here in respect of the enterprises which the Government had decided to close down. They have said that a generous VRS should be implemented.

During the last Session, the Government had announced that eight public sector units had been closed down, and they would be given VRS. Recently, some packages have come up. We have also read about it in the newspapers. We heard that some eight closed public sector industries including the Cycle Corporation of India, MMCL, BOGL and National Instruments Industries were going to be revived.

MR. SPEAKER : Dr. Asim Bala, the question relates to the recommendations of the Justice Mohan Committee Report.

DR. ASIM BALA : So, I would like to know whether the Government has revived those eight closed down industries.

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT : Sir, his question does not arise from the main Question listed here. But I might tell him that we have already decided to extend three months period to have another look at all these things.

8 PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Sir, these days, the Industrial administration is quite different from the Government administration or Revenue administration because the Industrial administration entails the technocrats, technologies and all that. Therefore, it is highly necessary to have a separate cadre for Industrial administration. So, is the Government considering to have a separate cadre for the Industrial administration so that it is carried out effectively?

Nowadays, there is a tendency of transferring the IAS officers to the Industrial units. But after serving there for a few years, they go back. With the result, whatever experience they get from the industries does not get utilised for the benefit of industries. This stopgap arrangement has contributed much to the industrial sickness. Therefore, will the Government consider a separate cadre and long-term policy in this regard?

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT : I can only say thanks very much for his suggestion. But again, this does not arise from the original question. The original question relates to the recommendations of Justice Mohan Committee Report. But thank you very much for your suggestion. ...((Interruptions))

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Sir, this is related to the question. The Minister is too technical. ...((Interruptions))

[Translation]

SHRI H.P. SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister of Industry should explain about all the cases pertaining to public sector undertakings and the officers and employees since the cases about the change in their consolidated salaries and allowances are referred to the commission and committees as it has been stated in the recommendations made by Justice S. Mohan Committee. The last part 'D' of this question seeks information about the time by which the final decision will be taken by the Government on the recommendations made in the report? If a decision is taken in this regard now, since this issue has been lingering on since 1997, will the Government make extra payment on the basis of the rise in prices to compensate the delay caused in the wage revision of

the workers as fine is charged in the matter of late payment of electricity bill, late fee fine is charged from the students in school-colleges.

[English]

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT : Sir, the capacity to pay differs from PSU to PSU.

[Translation]

That is quite different. There are so many P.S.U.s., about 234 in numbers. The ministries have expressed different views about them. It is difficult to accommodate their views at this stage because all the Ministries have not given their views. When views from all the Ministries are received, then we will take some decision.

[English]

9-16  
Map of Underground Mines & Minerals

\*145. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which the map of underground mines of Bharat Coking Coal Limited was prepared;

(b) the number of times the map of underground mines has been updated, so far, after the nationalisation of Coal Industry;

(c) whether the cases of theft of cables and illegal mining are on the increase in the underground collieries of BCCL through various ways which are unknown to the management inspite of blockade of gates of these underground collieries;

(d) if so, the officers found responsible for it; and

(e) the action taken/being taken to check such thefts and illegal mining and also against the guilty officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) to (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement**

(a) and (b) Under the statutory provision of Coal Mines Regulation a number of maps/plans are required to be maintained for every working underground mine. Such maps/plans are being maintained for every working

underground mine of BCCL under the statute. These maps/plans are required to be updated once in three months (every quarter). As per information received from BCCL, the statutory plans are updated every quarter for every working mine of BCCL.

(c) to (e) According to information given by the coal company there has been no increase in the instance of illegal mining and theft of property in the underground mines of BCCL. However, it is submitted that, theft of pufferage coal as well as illegal mining is carried out stealthily and surreptitiously without the knowledge of or any assistance from the coal company's staff and as such it is not possible to keep total track of these activities. However, the coal companies are taking the following measures to curb these occurrences:

- (i) To the extent possible exposed coal faces in disused opencast mines have been covered with debris. Trenches have been cut around such opencast mines, wherever required, to make these unapproachable by bullock cart etc. Opening to underground working have also been blocked with debris to prevent access into the mines. Whenever it comes to the notice of colliery authorities that coal faces so blocked have been re-exposed, action is taken to cover the same again.
- (ii) Whenever such activity comes to the notice of the colliery authorities, patrolling by CISF/ Company watch and ward is intensified. At times, raids of such area are also conducted jointly by CISF and the police.
- (iii) At places theft prone areas have been converted into regular mines. Examples of such mines are Bhatdee colliery & Borea colliery in BCCL.
- (iv) Management maintains close liaison with state authorities/police to check such activity.
- (v) Colliery authorities on getting information of any such activity, file FIRs with local police.
- (vi) Regular liaison with state law & order authorities and collection of intelligence.

[Translation]

PROF. RITA VERMA : Mr. Speaker Sir, my question is very important because this is related to the safety of mines. The Congress party remained in power for 50 years after independence. The coal mines were