

members are staying in a hotel at Udaipur. I have been informed that even by today i.e. 5th, his family members have not been sent. Sir, this way solution cannot be found. I would like to request the hon. Minister to look into it.

[English]

MR SPEAKER: Please look into it and do whatever is necessary.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK): I will look into it. Sir.

SHRI. P.C. THOMAS: Sir, it is really very shameful.

MR. SPEAKER: When I have said this, it is not necessary for you to say that it is shameful and all that.

[Translation]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Saharsa): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on 21st April, 1992 the Doordarshan Kendra, Patna, in its programme "Pallav" provided publicity to a private commercial organisation for 15 minutes. In the programme telecast as children programme the Natraj Circus of Patna was given wide coverage even without advertisement fee. In the programme the artistes and the persons associated with the Natraj Circus were extensively interviewed, thereby giving wide publicity to the Circus in whole of the region where programmes of the Kendra are beamed. Is any government organisation freed to give such a wide publicity? I would like to submit that during our public meeting camera teams of Doordarshan are not deputed for coverage but when any programme is attached by Doordarshan officials the camera team is deputed to cover the event which is not important. So, whether Doordarshan officials are free to decide about covering the programme even if it is not important? In this connection I would like to know the guidelines issued by the Government to Doordarshan and also all the facts regarding giving of

publicity to a commercial organisation, which was organising its programmes in that area, at that time, in the coverage of Patna Doordarshan Kendra? I would like to have the full information about the programme and also about the action taken against the officials responsible for telecasting the programme without charging the advertisement fee? This has also been openly reported by the newspapers in Bihar.

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: (Muvattupuzha): Sir, I have given a notice regarding scarcity of wheat which is being supplied to Kerala. There has been a complete disruption of the quantum of wheat which is being supplied to the State of Kerala for quite a few months now and this is going to affect the State in a very serious manner.

Regarding the strike of FCI workers, I had already made a submission last time and the Hon. Minister was pleased to make a Statement in this House. The Minister had assured the House that regarding the agitation of the FCI employees, the Government will have an open mind.

13.00 hrs.

It is said that the Government will keep an open mind. But I am sorry to say that there has been no open mind. The Food Corporation of India employees have given a notice that they are going on strike from 15th and they are going to stage a *Dharna* before the Prime Minister's house from 8th to 10th. I would request that some statement should come from the Minister to avert this strike. Because, this is going to be a very serious issue.

There are about 70,000 workers in the Food Corporation of India and the Employees' Association represents 95 per cent of these employees. They are going to be on strike for some very strong reasons.

There have been some victimisation of the Members of the Union and the Staff. The General Security of this Union has been

transferred just for the reason that a strike notice has been given and that they are going on a strike. Even against some other Members of the Union also, very stringent notices have been issued. In the said notices, the charges that are levelled against them are misconduct and so on.

Sir I would urge upon the Minister to give a statement regarding this aspect also.

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): I support him on this.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): Sir, I would like to take this opportunity of requesting the hon. Members to persuade the agitators to withdraw the agitation. We are keeping an open mind. We will surely look into the genuine grievances.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: You direct the Management that they should sit with them and solve the problem.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): Sir, can I have the kind attention of the Railway Minister? It is because, I want to congratulate him. This is for the first time that I am congratulating the Railway Minister in the last two years.

In Mumbai, the locals are over-crowded. There has been a demand from lady commuters that they should have, at least, one train during peak hours. I am glad that Ladies' Special Commuter Train is starting from today. Perhaps, it is an akshayya Tritiya auspicious day. Because of that, it might be starting today. It would start from Church Gate to Borivili. My only demand is this. From Church Gate to Borivili is only half a sector, it would be better, if it is extended further upto Virar which is 20 kms. away so that the entire sub-urban Western Railway sector can be covered.

So, I demand that train should be extended from Borivile to Virar and that this facility should also be started on the Central

Railway which would help lady commuters.

I once again thank and request the hon. Minister to make a statement saying that this would be considered as early as possible.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai): Sir, the problem of the Food Corporation of India employees is not going to be sorted out by merely saying "Now, we will deal with the matter with an open mind". Their petition has been pending with the Ministry of Food since the month of March. We have been waiting very patiently for over two months for a solution. It is essential that instead of reiterating that they have an open mind, the Government should tell us where its open mind has now led it to.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I have written several letters regarding this.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): Sir, on the 1st of May, the employees of Food Corporation of India held a rally in Delhi. Thousands came from northern part of our country and they raised their demand.

MR. SPEAKER: Why don't you ask only one Member to articulate on this point and then allow other Members to raise other point. If on one point seven Members speak, then the other Members do not have an opportunity.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: But, the point is this, When we are told that they will be going on strike and the Minister sitting here does not come out concretely as to how he is going to deal with the employees' demand, then it becomes our concern. How can we deal with this kind of classic Government like this?

MR. SPEAKER: But the entire discussion cannot take place at this point of time.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: He knows everything. Thousands of employees came. They were not divided. This is not what is expected of our responsible Government.