

dited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—1921/91]

- (d) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Limited, Shillong, for the year 1989-90.
- (ii) Annual Report of the North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Limited, Shillong, for the year 1989-90 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—1922/91]
- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Damodar Valley Corporation, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts under sub-section (5) of Section 45 of the Damodar Valley Corporation Act, 1948.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Damodar Valley Corporation for the year 1988-89.
- (3) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—1923/91]

14.03 1/2 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

Second Report

[English]

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY (Jagatsinghpur): I beg to present the Second Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Petitions.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned for lunch to meet again at 3 P.M.

14.03 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for lunch till fifteen of the clock*

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at four minutes past Fifteen of the Clock*

[SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN *in the Chair*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Maheshwar Singh.

STATEMENTS UNDER DIRECTION 115

**Re. Reply to USQ No. 4055 dated 4.9.1990 on Acquisition of land in Himachal Pradesh for Military Transit Camp**

[English]

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH (Mandi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, with your permission, I rise to make a statement under Direction 115 as under:—

I had addressed unstarred question No.

[Sh. Maheshwar Singh]

4055 to the Prime Minister on 9 April, 1990 and the reply to this question given by the then Minister of State in the Minister of Defence is not based on facts. In his reply, the Hon'ble Minister had stated that Government had not issued any notification regarding acquisition of land and therefore, the question of giving any compensation to the farmers does not arise. But it is a fact that the Defence Ministry had initially expressed its willingness to acquire 150 acres of land to set up a Transit Camp in Phati Barua and Phati Palchan, Kothi Manali, Distt. Kullu, Himachal Pradesh, but later on after visiting the site, the Ministry in its high level meeting decided to acquire the land of farmers—372.16 Bigha in Phati Barua and 11 Bigha 3 Binswan in Phati Palchan. This decision was taken by the Defence Ministry after inspecting the sites and selecting the locations for this purpose.

Thereafter, Himachal Pradesh Government had initiated action through Divisional Commissioner, Mandi on 13.10.1988 for acquisition of land under section 4 and the officers of the Defence Ministry immediately acquired the land of poor farmers—38 Bigha and 11 Binswan land in Phati Barua and 11 Bigha 3 Binswan land in Phati, ruined the standing crops, apple orchard etc. The Defence Ministry officials had assured the farmers that Government would soon compensate them fully. After having the assessment of the loss of crops, Revenue officers submitted the complete case to the Defence Ministry.

The Government of Himachal Pradesh issued the notice under section 4 on 28 October, 1989 and its copy was handed over at Station Headquarters, Palampur. Thereafter, Station Headquarter, Palampur officer inspected this area during 2 to 4 May, 1990 and said that till the land acquisition process is completed, Ministry of Defence would pay the ground rent of this land. The revenue officers again handed over the full relevant records to Station Headquarter, Palampur on 4 May, 1990. On June 1, 1990 the same

officer again visited the site and a meeting of the Board was held on 2 June at Palchan. But it is a matter of regret that till date the farmers have not been paid even a single penny. Before the land acquisition by the army, a temporary bridge was used to be constructed every year on Beas river between Phati Barua and Palchan by the Forest Department in order to facilitate farmers to have access to their land but now this bridge has been constructed by the army and army officers do not permit locals, farmers and other persons to use this bridge. As a result of which, farmers are facing difficulties even in ploughing their respective fields. The army has used bulldozers in the land acquired by them and has thrown all the garbage into the fields of the farmers resulting in destroying the adjoining fields of the farmers. No action has been taken till now on the repeated requests made by the local people in this regard.

Therefore, I request Hon'ble Prime Minister to intervene in this matter and ensure justice to these poor farmers without any delay.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI LALIT VIJOY SINGH): Sir, I rise, with your permission, to make a statement of facts and clarifications in response to Hon'ble Shri Maheshwar Singh's statement.

Due to operational necessity, 49 Bighas 11 Biswas of land was occupied by the Army at Palchan in July, 1988. This fact has not been suppressed. There has been no intention, at any stage, of misleading the Hon'ble Member.

The proposal for the acquisition of land measuring 76.9348 acres of private land (which includes 49 Bighas and 11 Biswas of land already occupied) and transfer of 155.05 acres of State Government land for the establishment of a Military Transit Camp at Palchan was at a preliminary stage at the time when the Question asked by the Hon'ble Member was answered in the Lok Sabha. At that time, and even till today, sanction for the

acquisition of the subject land has not been issued.

It is clarified that the process of acquisition of land for Defence purpose commences only after the Ministry of Defence issue sanction for the acquisition of the required land and a demand for the acquisition of the land is placed on the Collector by the concerned Defence Estates Officer. The acquisition of land in the subject case is still under the consideration of the Ministry of Defence.

It needs being clarified that the State Government of Himachal Pradesh had, in good faith, issued a Notification under Section 4 of the LA Act, without awaiting issue of Government of India's sanction in the matter. The Defence Estates Officers, Jalandhar, had requested the Deputy Commissioner, Kullu, to stop the acquisition proceedings until Ministry of Defence issued the requisite sanction.

It is confirmed for the information of the Hon. Member that the due rent will be paid from the date the land was occupied by the Army till the date it is finally acquired. The fixation and payment of rent is receiving Government's urgent attention.

As regards providing access through the rented land to the adjoining farmers, Government have asked for an immediate report and effort shall be made to provide whatever help is practically possible.

I reiterate that there has never been any attempt, at any stage, to provide incorrect information to the Hon'ble Member. It shall be ensured that the concerned farmers are duly compensated, as per law.

15.10 hrs.

#### BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

##### **Eighteenth Report**

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALVIYA): I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the 18th report of the Business Advisory Committee, presented to the House on the 7th January, 1991."

[*English*]

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY (Jagatsinghpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir. I have given a notice... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: But it is time barred please. You cannot move it just now.

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: There is no question of time barred. Many Members have given a notice for a discussion under rule 193 about Orissa Floods, but the Business Advisory Committee has not taken it into consideration.

MR. CHAIRMAN: First of all, your notice is time barred. Secondly, you have asked for the inclusion of a new item.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM (Salem): I have also given a notice, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: In your case also, the Business Advisory Committee has fixed the time of the Government business. You have also raised some new point. So, it is not allowed.

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: It is a motion before the House, Sir. I has gone in the form of a motion... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please hear me. The amendment to a motion for adoption of BAC Report could be moved to change allocation of time recommended by the Committee but new items of business could not be added through amendment.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please speak one by one.

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: Sir, we have given a notice under rule 193 to the