

[Shri Radha Krishnan Malaviya]

- (3) A copy of the Cine-Workers Welfare Fund (Amendment) Rules, 1988 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G. S. R. 1214(E) in Gazette of India dated the 28th December, 1988, under sub-section (4) of section 11 of the Cine-Workers Welfare Fund Act, 1981.

[Placed in Library, See No LT-7408/89]

12.14 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

[English]

Fifty-ninth Report

SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI (Dharmapuri): I beg to present the Fifty-ninth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Private Member's Bills and Resolutions.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS

Fiftieth Report

SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN (Alleppey): I beg to present the Fiftieth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Public Undertakings on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in their Thirty-second Report on Accountability and Autonomy of Public Undertakings.

12.15 hrs.

[English]

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

STATEMENT RE: FIRE AT SEMICONDUCTOR COMPLEX LIMITED, SAS NAGAR, PUNJAB

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT ATOMIC ENERGY ELECTRONICS AND SPACE: (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN):-

It is with deep sense of regret I have to inform the Honourable Members that on the 7th February, 1989 around 11.40 PM a fire was noticed at Semiconductor Complex Limited, SAS Nagar, Punjab, a public sector undertaking under the Department of Electronics engaged in the manufacture of integrated circuit chips and related modules and sub-systems. Steps were immediately taken by the fire fighting staff of Semiconductor Complex Limited and the fire tenders from Mohali, Chandigarh, Punjab State Electricity Board, Ropar and Air Force Service Station to put out the fire. The fire was finally put out on the morning of 8th February, 1989.

There has been extensive damage to the device manufacturing facility and R&D area. However, the other building housing Administration, corporate staff and computer aided design facilities were unaffected. There were no casualties. The Inquiry Committee constituted to go into the cause of fire under the Chairmanship of Maj. Gen. S. A. Mohile (Retd.) Ex-Director, Defence Institute of Fire Studies, Ministry of Defence has submitted its report to Chairman-cum-Managing Director, Semiconductor Complex Limited. This report, along with the evidence yet to come from the analysis of ash samples taken from four different locations to ascertain about the contents of Petro-chemicals in the ashes if any, is to be considered by the Board of Directors of Semiconductor Complex Limited. SAS Nagar, Punjab. A preliminary estimate of the loss on account of the fire assessed on the basis of the financial records of the company works out to about Rs. 60 crores.

Semiconductor Complex Limited has a total staff strength of about 850 personnel. About 50% were affected by the fire in terms of employment. Bulk of the staff are Technicians and Technical Assistants category.

Steps are being taken to ensure that the highly trained personnel at Semiconductor Complex Limited are not dispersed and their services continue to be available. The intention is to re-establish the facility at the present site using this opportunity to the

extent feasible to upgrade the technology level.

Rehabilitation measures are being worked out in detail. Steps to ensure continuity of supply of products and services to user agencies have already been initiated. Semiconductor Complex Limited has also sent their engineers to other public sector undertakings in the field with a view to obtain sub-contracts for assembly work from these organisations and to explore the possibility of utilising their facilities for fabrication of integrated circuits.

12.18 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[Translation]

- (i) **Need to direct Government of Rajasthan to stop recovery of loans to farmers for constructing water courses to carry water to their fields from Indira Gandhi Canal.**

SHRI BIRBAL (Ganganagar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Indira Gandhi canal is being constructed with special assistance of the Central Government. The water courses under this scheme should be made pucca. Apart from estimated expenditure, by adding administrative costs, simple and compound interests, the total amount has been shown to be 5 to 6 times more than the principal amount. Land has also been acquired from the farmers for the constructions of water courses. With the construction of these water courses, irrigational areas have increased which will yield more revenue for the State Government by way of irrigation tax. Under the circumstances, is it justified to ask for more money from the farmers? The State Government should bear this burden. There have been many kinds of bungling in the constructions of pucca water-courses and for which the farmers are being blamed. The banks are issuing property attachment notices to them. The farmers are restless about the fact that if they are blamed for Departmen-

tal lapses, it will be difficult for them to bear it. I had apprised the House in this regard during the last session.

Therefore, I want to request the Central Government that by keeping in view the importance of issue, Government of Rajasthan should be directed to take necessary action for stopping recovery of loans at once so that the problems of the farmers of that area can be solved and their restlessness can be removed.

[English]

- (ii) **Need for Financial Assistance to Maharashtra for Development of Gadchiroli Tribal District**

SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE (Chandrapur): Government of Maharashtra has prepared a massive development plan for the Gadchiroli tribal district and some parts of Chandrapur and Kinwat taluka of Nanded district. This plan amounting to about Rs. 200 crores will help to fight out the disruptive and anti-national activities of the so-called Naxalites. Government of India should help the Government of Maharashtra financially to effectively execute the developmental activities. I request the Minister for Planning to take this matter seriously.

- (iii) **Need to give emigration clearance without insisting on Pre-paid Travel Advice**

SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN (Alleppey): A large number of workers both skilled and unskilled, in our country especially a higher percentage from Kerala, have been going to Gulf countries in search of employment. This not only helped us in easing the unemployment problems but also brought to the country much valuable foreign exchange and to the families a livelihood to raise their standard of living. Nearly a lakh of skilled and unskilled labourers go abroad every year in search of employment and the country was getting foreign exchange to the extent of Rs. 3,200 crores annually.