

[Shrimati Chandra Tripathi]

Reports (Hindi and English versions) of Estimates Committee:-

- (i) 49th Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 37th Report of the Committee (8th Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs) - Revision of Form and Contents of the Demands for Grants.
- (ii) 50th Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 32nd Report of the Committee (8th Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Urban Development - Housing for Landless Rural Labour.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Vishnu Modi.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANAVATE: Sir, you were making some observations.....

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: When I was in a mood, you did not listen to me.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): We always look to you.....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I am always ready to

listen if you want to talk calmly. Shri Somnath, you can come to me and discuss and whatever you say.....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Somnath, I am always ready to listen to you. You come to me and tell me what is to be done. I shall do that.

(Interruptions)

[English]

PROF. MADHU DANAVATE (Rajapur): Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: What is your point of order?

PROF. MADHU DANAVATE: You were on your legs and you were to make some observations to find out a solution to the problem. We would request you to be on your legs....We will sit and.....

MR. SPEAKER: For the time being I have reserved it. You come to me.

PROF. MADHU DANAVATE: Kindly make some observations Sir. That will help us.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH): If the problem can be solved that way, kindly be on your legs, Sir!

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

- (i) **Need to revise orders for exemption of excise duty on LDPE coated/laminated cotton fabrics and HDPE woven fabrics.**

SHRI VISHNU MODI (Ajmer): In this

year's budget Government have imposed excise duty at the rate of 30% advalorem on LDPE/ Laminated cotton fabrics as an anti-evasion measure merely on some apprehension of misuse of the exemption. This decision of the Government is based on some alleged unsubstantiated reports without going through its impact on the small scale units. This decision of the Government has entailed lot of hardship to the small scale units who are only manufacturing LDPE coated/laminated cotton fabrics and are not, in any way, connected with the manufacture of PVC coated rexin and artificial leather cloth like fabrics. This is a grave injustice to these small scale units. Government should have rather taken certain measures to identify these products. According to ICI technology there is a very simple test to differentiate these two plastic materials i.e. LDPE and PVC which are commonly used for coating purposes on cotton fabrics.

There are many other tests of differentiating these two plastics, which can be carried out without any extra cost and even at roadside.

Sir, there are about a hundred units in the country who have LDPE flat film extrusion lamination plants used for making LDPE coated or laminated cotton fabrics. PVC coating is impossible in these plants. There is yet no flat dye in the country to extrude PVC film for coating purposes. As such there is no chance whatsoever for the exemption on LDPE coated cotton fabrics being misused in these LDPE extrusion lamination units. As a result of the imposition of 30% duty these units are suffering for no fault of theirs.

LDPE flat film extrusion lamination units use LDPE in its natural colour. The LDPE coating or lamination of LDPE coated fabrics is neither coloured nor printed nor embossed. To check misuse, if thought advisable, the exemption be restricted to LDPE

coated cotton fabrics where LDPE coating or lamination is neither coloured nor printed nor embossed. This restriction coupled with 'burning' test will surely help in rooting out misuse.

I would, therefore, request the Hon'ble Minister to give his considered thought to this.

(II) Need to pay remunerative price to farmers for their produce

DR. PHULRENU GUHA (Contai): The cost of electricity and other infrastructure used by the agriculturists is going high and thus the farmers are facing financial crisis.

It is high time that Government should pay immediate attention to the problems of agriculturists.

They should be given remunerative prices for their produce.

(III) Need to lay a new Broad Gauge Railway Line from Lanka to Silchar in Cachar district

12.20 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

SHRI SUDARSAN DAS (Karimganj): The Hill-Section Railway track under N.F. Railway which operates between Badarpur Junction in Barak valley and Lumding Junction on Brahmaputra Valley main line is century old worn up rail-track and might collapse at any moment. This track consists of 37 tunnels and even Express trains take 12 hours for 165 kms. run in normal weather conditions but during rainy season travelling is a nightmare for the passengers and it is difficult for Goods trains that cater to Karbi Anglog, North Cachar Hill districts, Cachar,