

12.05 hrs.

**COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF
SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED
TRIBES**

[English]

Eleventh Report

SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI (Simla) : I beg to present the Eleventh Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on the Ministry of Welfare—Atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

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BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI
H.K.L. BHAGAT) : With your permis-
sion, Sir, I rise to announce that Govern-
ment Business in this House during the
week commencing 28th April, 1986, will
consist of :

- (1) Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper.
- (2) Consideration and passing of :
 - (a) The Tea (Amendment) Bill, 1986.
 - (b) The Swadeshi Cotton Mills Company Limited (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Bill, 1986.
 - (c) The Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Divorce) Bill, 1986.
 - (d) The Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund (Repeal) Bill, 1986.
 - (e) The Delhi Apartments Ownership Bill, 1986.

- (3) Discussion on the Resolution seeking approval of the draft Ministers' (Allowances, Medical Treatment and Other Privileges) Amendment Rules, 1986.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska) : Our esteemed Prime Minister has suggested a five-point action to strengthen the functioning of the Public Service Commissions. There is need for sufficient delegation of financial and administrative powers on the lines of the Union Public Service Commission taking greater recourse to modern aids, including computerization and ensuring that Commissions were staffed at all levels by persons of proven integrity and institutionalization in all sections, by associating sufficient number of experts. I suggest that the State Governments should be asked to take care to notify the right number of vacancies in advance, and scrupulously resist the temptation of asking for supplementary lists later. It would be better if the Commissions could evolve their own internal review of methods and techniques, and also inter-act regularly with experts and consultants in related fields ; and selection of candidates should not be delayed. The composition of the Commission should be such as to command the confidence of all sections and communities.

SHRI S.G. GHOLAP (Thane) : The following matter may be included in the Government Business for the next work.

Government of India has accepted a scheme to supply wheat free of cost to State Government to distribute to the labours under the RLEGP and NREP labours only.

The Government of Maharashtra has its own ambitious programme of Employment Guarantee Scheme to provide work to every adult who is in need of work and demands work. The scheme is in operation since 1972 and has tremendously spread all over the State generating on an average about 17 to 18 crore mandays (which is about 5 times the mandays generated under central scheme) for

which rupees two hundred crores were spent last year.

It is a fact that Central Government is not supplying wheat free of cost to distribute to EGS labours and therefore there is discontent among the labours.

The Government of Maharashtra has given a proposal and has requested to extend free supply of wheat to EGS labours along with RLEGP and NREP labours at a uniform rate of 1 kg. per day.

I request Central Government to take early decision to supply free wheat even for EGS labours so that Government of Maharashtra will be able to utilise the entire quantity of 1.60 lakh metric tonnes of wheat offered free of cost for 1986-87.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore): I would like to submit the following two very important subjects in the House for their inclusion in the business for the week commencing from 28.4.86.

Even though the Centre has taken firm decision for supply of drinking water to all the villages of the country by 1990 but due to mismanagement, lack of proper attention and timely repairs etc. thousands and thousands of villages in various States of the country debarred in getting drinking water, causing much hardships and difficulties to the millions of rural people, specially in this hot summer.

Due to severe type of cyclone, hailstorm and whirlwind of 3rd week of April, 1986, they have destroyed many high yielding paddy crops and various types of vegetable crops of eleven police stations of Orissa State. Many hundreds of public institutions including various types of schools, colleges either blown away or severely damaged and some are collapsed including thousands of dwelling houses, which made several people homeless. The telegraph and telephone cables and electric wires were destroyed and many poles of telephone and electric lines are uprooted and communication is totally disrupted. About 10 lakhs of people are affected by this.

SHRI ANOOPCHAND SHAH (Bombay North): The following matter may be included in the Government Business for the next week.

Looking towards the present position of our country prevailing in almost all the States, it is felt whether we belong to one country or not. Everything is considered from State angle and not from national point of view. Sometimes Central Government becomes helpless to protect the national interests as far as the utilisation of resources available with a particular State are concerned.

So there is an urgent need to discuss the relations between State & Central Government. I request the Honourable Minister for Parliamentary Affairs to include following subject in the next week business. "Urgent need for cordial relations between State & Central Government for national development."

[*Translation*]

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA (Sangrur): Sir the following item may be included in the next week's agenda:

Recently, several Harijans who had undergone conversion, had ascribed it to the fact that even now their rights were not being protected and as such they were undergoing conversion. I would request that the Government may make a statement in this regard and there should be a discussion on this issue in the House.

[*English*]

DR. G.S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur): The following matter may be included in the Government business for the next week:

Bihar is facing acute and unprecedented power crisis at present. The State Government has resorted to power shedding on a large scale in the entire State. In North Bihar, particularly in Mithila region, electricity is available for not more than four to six hours a week. As a result, irrigation of standing crops is at a standstill. It has also affected the drinking

[Dr. G S. Rajhans]

water scheme adversely in both urban and rural areas.

Due to heavy load-shedding work in almost all big and small industries has come to a grinding halt. It has resulted in the retrenchment of a large number of workers. The problem of unemployment is already acute in Bihar. Heavy load-shedding has added fuel to fire.

There has been a steep decline in thermal power generation in Bihar. Besides, there have been a number of cases of sabotage also. The Electricity Board has failed to check such incidents. It was hoped that Kanti power project would give relief to the people of Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga, Madhubani and Saharsa. But that hope has also been belied.

The present power crisis in Bihar is the worst in living memory. I would request the Central Government to take effective steps to solve the problem on a war footing. In order to tide over the present power crisis in Bihar, the Central Government should help in obtaining power from other States.

[Translation]

SHRI AZIZ QURESHI (Satna) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda :

1. Satna district of Madhya Pradesh is an important place from the point of view of religion, history and culture and is visited by thousands of tourists. Unfortunately, it is a very backward area from the point of view of communication and transport. Although Government have spent lakhs of rupees there yet neither S.T.D. facility has been provided nor a television centre has been set up in Satna district. Similarly, in spite of a big airport of the Central Government being there, Vayudoot service has not been introduced. Many important trains do not halt at Maihar which is a place of international fame and is a centre of religion and culture. Besides, no direct train is available from Satna to the capital Bhopal. Due to all these factors there is much resentment among the people of Satna.

I, therefore, demand that instructions may be issued for the establishment of a television centre at Satna, to link Satna with the entire country with STD line and to introduce Vayudoot Service at the earliest. Similarly, direct train service may be introduced between Bhopal and Satna and orders may be issued to halt all the important trains at Maihar.

2. Previously, Satna district of Madhya Pradesh was affected by drought due to failure of rains. As a result thereof, the crops were destroyed and a condition of famine prevailed there and the poor labourers and the farmers had to face starvation and unemployment, so much so that even fodder was not available for the cattle. Unfortunately, that region was lashed by hailstorms during the winter and the crops were destroyed due to frost. The poor there, the labourers and the farmers have become victims of starvation and unemployment. The Central Government should direct the Madhya Pradesh Government to start relief works there on war footing so that the problem of starvation and unemployment is tackled effectively. The farmers should be provided due compensation after getting their crops surveyed. Special assistance should be provided to those whose cattle have perished. The Madhya Pradesh Government should be provided special financial help for carrying out all these works.

[English]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY (Hanamkonda) : The following matter may be included in the Government business for next week :

Azam Jahi Textile Mill is only one major industry in the District of Warangal. For the last 5 years it is under National Textile Corporation. From the day NTC took it over, it has been incurring huge losses. It is due to the outdated machinery, outdated technology and mismanagement by the officials of the Mill. This industry is providing employment to 7000 workers directly and 5000 indirectly. For one year the workers of this industry are afraid of its closure any time. Recently a Committee of experts

was appointed which might recommend closure of this mill. Already there is a large number of unemployed and there is no hope of any other industry coming up in the District of Warangal.

Hence I request the Government of India to provide sufficient funds to the Azam Jahi Mill, Warrangal for modernisation of the machinery and technology.

Number two is this :

The land belonging to Northern Railway near Varanasi Railway Station Plot No. 366/2, 364/2, 36511, 363 etc. is situated at Mukhdumpur Pargana Dehat Amanat Teh. Varanasi, Distt. Varanasi Nearly 100 acres are being sold by some private persons to the public. Due to this, the Railway Department has been able losing crores of rupees and people who are purchasing that land were cheated by them. In this way, this illegal transaction is going on since 1975. Some local persons made so many complaints to the Railway Department through local MPs. and prominent M.Ps. of the Opposition parties. Yet, no enquiry has been initiated in the matter. The District Magistrate, Varanasi also made enquiry and submitted a report through his letter No. 5696/19-79/72-75 dated 27.9.1973 to the Divisional manager Northern Railway, Gorakhpur to take action against the culprits.

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT : Sir, I have carefully listened to the points that have been made by hon. Members. I shall certainly bring them to the notice of the Business Advisory Committee which decides on the discussion of subjects. I would also like to point out in this connection that hon. Members have every right to move the motion but the matters are such that they could have mentioned them during the discussion on the demands for grants of the various Ministries and Departments. Also, there

are number of points which can be taken up by them directly with the Ministers concerned. In case they need any assistance from me, I will only be too glad to offer them whatever help I can.

12.16 hrs.

RAILWAYS BILL, 1986**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRI BANSI LAL) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to Railways.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to Railways.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRI BANSI LAL : Sir, I introduce* the Bill.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Have you got the Bill.....

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat) : We received it yesterday evening.

SHRI NARAYAN CHAUBEY (Midnapur) : We received it yesterday night.

MR. SPEAKER : There seems to be some mistake somewhere. Some of the hon. Members got it in the evening, some got it in the night.

(Interruptions)

* Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

** Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part-II, Section 2 dated 25.4.1986.