

[English]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, in 1993 I raised in Parliament a case of Shri Ramashray Singh, who was dismissed from PDIL because he had the cheek to bring in an allegation that the top brasses of FCI, Sindri, PDIL and BCCL had links with fraud and corruption to the tune of Rs. 2733 crore. I also wanted an inquiry and reinstatement. Shri Indrajit Gupta also wrote to the Minister concerned. After that, that gentleman through court order got reinstated. Despite the fact that at least twelve-fifteen Members of Parliament sitting here, namely, Shri Basudeb Acharia, Shri Rabi Ray and very many others have been asking the Minister about this fraud, the Minister goes on saying that there is nothing despite the fact that a person who was proved guilty, was promoted. I demand a CBI inquiry into this case which we have been referring to but without any success up to now.

[Translation]

SHRI RABI RAY (Kendrapada) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you and the whole country is aware of the fact that Sindri Fertilizer Corporation of India is the first public sector undertaking of this country. Besides, there are three more public sector undertakings namely the F.C.I., Bharat Coking Coal and Projects Development. The basic objective of public undertakings is to work for the upliftment of the country, but as Geeta ji has said, a particular newspaper has published a report about a Rs. 2733 crore scandal involving these undertakings and one Shri Ramashray Singh has been carrying out a crusade against corruption for many years without getting justice from any quarter so far. As Geeta Ji has stated and Shri Basudeb Acharia has been demanding from the Prime Minister for many days to conduct a C.B.I. inquiry in at least this case but they are not ready for it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a particular newspaper while commenting on it has termed the Bofors scandal as a peanut in comparison to this huge scam of Rs. 2733 crore. Therefore, through you, we press our demand in the House but the Government is keeping mum. It is a matter of concern that its officers are becoming millionaires through corruption which has taken everybody into its fold and that they are extirpating the entire public sector. By adopting the policy of destroying the public sector and inviting the private sector, they are throwing the country to the dogs. Through you, I would like to submit that it is the question of the whole country and, thus a C.B.I. inquiry should be conducted into it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government of India constituted a R.C. Mishra Committee. In its report, the Committee has ratified the scandal. I would like to cite an example.

In 1989 the Coking Coal Company awarded a contract of processing the raw coal to the TATAs at a rate of Rs. 350 per ton, whereas Bokaro which is a public sector undertaking given Rs. 500 per ton to them. You can see that what a public undertaking is doing with TATAs? Imagine what type of scandal is being cooked there. The whole House has a unanimous opinion on conducting a C.B.I. inquiry into this Rs. 2733 crore scandal forthwith and Shri Ramashray Singh should be awarded for unethically this scandal.

PROF. PREM DHUMAL (Hamirpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Budget session is the longest session of the House and the Centre has been continuously receiving a demand from Himachal Pradesh. I would like to say that Himachal Pradesh is the only state in the country in which the people of a particular caste living in one part of the State are included in the category of scheduled tribes whereas the people of the same community living in another part are not. At the time of reorganisation of Punjab in 1966, certain parts of the State were annexed to Himachal Pradesh. Some people of the former Himachal Pradesh belonging to Gaddi and Gujjar Community are categorised as scheduled tribes and all such facilities are extended to them but the people of Gaddi and Gujjar Communities of the areas annexed in 1966 are not included in the category of scheduled tribes due to which they are denied all such facilities as are being provided to scheduled tribes.

In this regard, the State Government has repeatedly written to the Central Government and also sent many proposals. Through you, I would like to urge upon the Central Government to include Gaddis and Gujjars of the new areas of Himachal Pradesh in the category of scheduled tribes.

I would also like to draw your attention towards another fact. In Himachal Pradesh itself one of the two brothers who is a blacksmith by vocation is included in the category of scheduled caste but another one who is a carpenter by vocation is excluded. This is a grave discrimination due to which there is a great resentment among the carpenters of Himachal Pradesh. Therefore, through you, I urge upon the Central Government that they also should be included in the category of scheduled castes.

[English]

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR (Mangalore) : Every day we are hearing about social unrest in various parts of the country, one of the main reasons being long pendency of the number of cases in various High Courts in the country. Specially I make a reference to the Punjab and Haryana High Court. The pendency is due to not filling up of the vacancies for the post of Judges. For a long time a number of posts are lying vacant in the Punjab and Haryana High Court; so also in various High Courts in the country. There is a system of direct recruitment from the Bar and also recruitment from in-