

Act and this issue was discussed a lot throughout the country. I would like to know from the Government whether it has any plans and has made its mind to bring forward any amendments in the Peoples' Representation Act during the Budget Session of the Parliament, as I do not want to touch upon certain issues which may be pending before the Supreme Court other than the issue of a multi-member Commission. I urge upon the Government to take this important issue seriously and bring forward a Constitutional Amendment Bill in this regard during the current session of the Parliament. Vidyacharan Shukla ji and the hon. Minister of Law are present here. Therefore, I say that this issue should be seriously considered and an assurance with regard thereto be given in the House.

[English]

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN (Chirayinkil) : Sir, fishermen all over the country have started agitation from yesterday onwards. Their leaders are on hunger strike in Porbandar. They are staging Satyagraha near Kerala House here. Two hundred and twenty five fishing trawlers have been granted licences and they are catching fish. As a result of that, fish is also very much reduced for the catch of the traditional fishermen. They are staging an agitation. They are actually frustrated and agitated and anything can happen throughout the coastal States of India. Maharashtra, Goa, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, all these States are actually disturbed by this. Fish has become very costly and these poor fishermen have no work. Twenty two lakhs of fishermen are there. What is going to happen to them?

So, the Government should immediately call their leaders and discuss with them and immediately cancel the licences given to the foreign trawlers...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very important issue and the Government must respond to this issue because fishermen of the entire coastal belt are agitated. The deep sea trawlers cross the India Ocean. The traditional fishermen are on strike. Throughout the coastal belt, this has become a problem.

MR. SPEAKER : She has done it very ably. Why should you disturb her?

(Interruptions)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : I am not disturbing her. Let the Government respond to this issue. Yesterday also, this issue was raised but the Government is totally mum...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : It is not going on record.

(Interruptions)...*

SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT (Rajapur) : Sir, lakhs of fishermen are on strike...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : It is not going on record

(Interruptions)...*

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE (Bombay North Central) Mr Speaker, Sir, I wish to bring to the notice of this House and also to the notice of the Government the serious agitation that is going on in respect of the employees of BARC in Bombay resulting into indefinite hunger strike undertaken by the Union leaders from Friday, the 21st April, 1995. The action is to protest against the totally unjust and unilateral decision of the Department of Atomic Energy to recategorise the various types of flats under the control of the Department and it has unilaterally changed the allotment rules. The rules were changed. And, in spite of the request of the Unions to discuss this matter, no further time was given and the recategorisation has taken place. This recategorisation order by the Department is indeed unjust, arbitrary and *mala fide*. By the stroke of pen, 548 flats of C1 type (the eligibility for which is the pay range of Rs. 2,200 to Rs. 2,799/-) became flats of 'D' type (the eligibility for which is they pay range of Rs. 2,800 to 3599/-). So, the employees of lower pay-ranges stood robbed and what was robbed from them has been handed over to the employees of higher pay ranges, i.e., very high officers of the Atomic Energy Department. Therefore, the employees are agitated very much and an indefinite hunger strike was undertaken on 21st April 1995. It was only at my intervention that the hunger strike was given up. It was given up on my assurance that the matter would be raised in Parliament and I would take up this matter with the Department.

So, I urge upon the Minister for Atomic Energy to look into the serious dispute in respect of the employees of the BARC and the employees of the All India Atomic Energy Employees Coordination Committee constituted by the various associations, unions in the Department of Atomic Energy and its constituent units...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, I have raised the matter on Friday. The Minister must intervene.

[Translation]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards an issue which, to my mind, is an unprecedented happening. The Supreme Court has for the first time sentenced the police officers of a state to imprisonment. This is a serious matter in itself.

AN HON. MEMBER : Very good.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I don't want to go into whether it was good or bad. It is a very serious issue that the police officers of a state should take such steps at the instance of the State Government or under the