

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:** Not on the wrong foot, I am on barefoot, Sir. Item 10....

**MR. SPEAKER:** We have taken up matters under rule 377.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU** (Diamond Harbour): Sir, this relates to the affairs of M/s. Union North Jute Mill, West Bengal, an undertaking under the management of the Central Government.

The management has resorted to prolonged lay-off of workers without any reason whatsoever, causing production loss to the tune of Rs. 90 lakhs so far. The management has arbitrarily laid off all the workers and employees numbering about 2500, with effect from 13th May, 1980 without compensation.

On 12th May 1980 the factory management, all of a sudden put up a notice imposing unbearable workload upon the Bobbin Mazdoors of the spinning department without any prior information and discussions with the representatives of the trade Unions functioning in the mill.

In this connection, it is necessary to mention here that the Union North Jute Mill is the only single jute mill which is running viably and profitably thanks to the efforts of the workman.

The workmen demand immediate withdrawal of lay-off, order and restoration of production. They also demand immediate nationalisation of the mill in the public interest.

The Minister should issue a statement clarifying the whole position.

(ii) NEED TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE FUNDS FOR EARLY COMPLETION OF THE WESTERN KOSI CANAL IN BIHAR

**SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA** (Madhubani): Sir, I am raising a question

with regard to Western Kosi Canal. Sir, this project was inaugurated so many times—almost during every election it was inaugurated....

**MR. SPEAKER:** That is a malaise. I think.

**SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA:** But, Sir, even now it has not yet been completed. So, Sir, I wish to bring to your notice and the notice of this House that the completion of the Western Kosi Canal in Madhubani district of Bihar has already been unduly delayed. This canal, after completion, is to irrigate more than 8 lakhs of acres of land. Approximately half of it falling to the east of river Kamala can be commissioned to begin irrigation within a year after completing the remaining work. The other half to the west of river Kamala, including the crossing of Kamala, can be completed in about three years. I do urge upon the Government to ensure adequate funds and direct the State Government to complete the project according to time-schedule.

I request that the Minister may be directed to submit a written reply, if not to-day, at least later as to what is being done. Otherwise, Sir, there is no point in wasting the time of the House by raising these matters.

(iii) NEED TO RENOVATE THE FERTILIZER UNIT AT SINDRI AND TO STOP AUCTION THEREOF

**SHRI A. K. ROY** (Dhanbad): The Sindri Unit of F.C.I. Ltd., vide its N.I.T. No. AMM/Disposal/Tender/14/80 advertised in the leading dailies of the country for the disposal of Chemical Plants on "as is where is basis"; the due date for the opening of the tender was 20.3.80. The above advertisement appeared in the *Statesman* on 25-2-80, *Hindustan Times* on 24-2-80 and *Indian Nations* on 21-2-80

[Shri A. K. Roy]

and some other papers on the items as follows:—

- (1) Semi Water and Producer Gas Plant.
- (2) Gas Reforming Plant.
- (3) Air Separation Unit 1 (Lynde Frankle)
- (4) Air Separation Unit.
- (5) Naphtha Reforming Plant.
- (6) Ammonia Plant CCC Unit.
- (7) Ammonia Plant Montecatini Unit.
- (8) Urea plant.
- (9) Ammonium Sulphate Nitrate Plant (Double Salt).

The details of the equipments to be auctioned give the following picture:—

(1) Ammonia Plant:

(a) Compressor No. 5 was required by Namrup through P&D in the year 1976 within the F.C.I. but not given.

(b) Two Mixture Gas Compressors are without any defect.

(c) Out of Six Water Scrubbers, 4 are alright.

(2) Gas Reforming Plant:

(a) Ammonia Compressor is in good working condition.

(3) The total number of Boilers are 17, which are in satisfactory condition as certified by the Boilers Inspectors, Government of Bihar, last year.

(4) Double Salt Plant: All the equipments are in good condition. What is more in this wholesale disposal of a Fertilizer Plant, the first prestigious plant in the country under Public Sector, the quotations

accepted were all below the market rate and it is also reported that the materials shown are much less than they were.

It is distressing that when the country is starving of fertiliser, whose production is always falling short of demand, the FCI, a Public Sector Undertaking, is going to auction the entire unit of coalbased single fertiliser plant to the private companies involving crores of rupees, without exploring the possibility of renovating and utilising its potentiality to produce fertiliser, though most of its parts are in good condition and could be used viably for the same. The steps were taken without any proper scrutiny when the diesel based Sindri Modernisation Plant is lying idle due to the lack of diesel and there is an All India demand under consideration to switch over to the coal-based fertiliser plant. Government must intervene, renovate the coal based plant and stop this auction.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Under Rule 199, with your permission...

MR. SPEAKER: I shall consider it when it comes.

Mr. Vijaya Raghavan.

(iv) MEASURES TO CHECK THE ALLEGED CORRUPT PRACTICES PREVAILING AT SANTA-CRUZ AIRPORT

\*\*SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat): Newspapers have come out with complaints about the shameful goings on in the Santa Cruz Airport, Bombay. Hundreds of our people working in foreign countries come to Bombay every day. Often times people who come to visit their family relations and those who make a short hop to their native place fall a prey to the corrupt officials in this Airport.

While the deserving passengers after having got the tickets okayed run

\*\*The original statement was made in Malayalam.