

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) NEED FOR A MINING ENGINEERING DEGREE COLLEGE IN ORISSA

SHRI RASABEHARI BEHERA (Kalahandi): Orissa is a mineral-rich State where iron-ore, manganese, limestone, pig iron, chromite, tin, mica and coal are available in abundance. Seeing the availability of high grade minerals, private and public sector undertakings have established mineral-based industries and factories at different places of the State. Works are in progress in almost every mine except the few ones which have been recently discovered by the Geological Survey of India. Engineers from all parts of the country are working in those mines and factories. But the number of mining engineers from Orissa is microscopic. The reason is not far to seek. There is only one mining engineering school in the entire State which can only give a diploma to its students. Students coming out from that institute are deprived of getting higher education on mining engineering. The financial status of each of those students is not sound enough to join in other States for higher education. Due to the above reason, there is always shortage of highly qualified mining engineers from Orissa.

The people of this backward state have been agitating for the last many years for the setting up of a Mining Engineering degree college, and some higher institution for research and training in the subject. Government of India has a proposal for modernization and upgradation of mines of the country during the sixth plan period. The role of mining engineers in the implementation of modernization is very significant. In order to make mining engineers available, Central Government should expedite the programme of opening mining engineering degree colleges.

Orissa is an under-developed State where infra-structural facilities are

available to provide practical training to the mining engineering college. In view of this, I urge upon the Government of India to take all possible steps to open a degree college on mining engineering in Orissa.

(ii) NEED FOR PROTECTION TO REMINGTON RANDS HOWRAH UNIT

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE

(Howrah) : The standard typewriter is an essential office equipment in the present Indian commercial conditions (small unit with meagre capita and mountain-high employment problem). Remington Rand's Howrah unit has an installed capacity of 36,000 standard typewriters. Since 1969, Remington's production has all along been pegged to an average of 22,000 to 23,000. During all these years, the plant and the machinery at the Howrah factory has been exploited without any major replanishment, so much so that their written-down value has dwindled from Rs. 87.75 lakhs in 1965 to a meagre Rs. 35 lakhs. But the Central Government has already issued licence for electric typewriter in favour of the proposed Bangalore electric typewriter unit, while abandoning its mother unit at Howrah. How without enquiring into all these things, licence has been issued to make them other plant further crippled, i.e. any investment during coming years in plant and machinery will be for electric typewriter plant, with the deliberate intention of further shattering this mother unit in Howrah. This act of the concerned Ministry was also protested by the Bureau of Public Enterprises and the Communications Ministry. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to save the Remington's Howrah unit from being further crippled, and demand a statement from the concerned Minister in this matter.

(iii) ALLEGED ARREST OF TWO TRADE UNION LEADERS OF LOGO-RUNNING STAFF UNDER NATIONAL SECURITY ACT.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur) : I wish to draw

*The original speech was delivered in Oriya

[Shri George Fernandes]

the attention of the House to one more instance of the way the National Security Act is used to harass and brow-beat trade union workers.

Mr S. C. Datta, driver and Mr. Newton Eliza, shunter are active trade union workers among the loco running staff at Ajni near Nagpur. Apparently, orders for their detention under the National Security Act were issued on January 28, 1981 along with similar detention orders for other workers. This was at the time of the loco running staff strike. However, for reasons best known to the police, they were not arrested.

The strike of the loco running staff was called off towards the end of February 1981. Both Mr. Datta and Mr. Eliza were allowed to resume duty on 6th and 7th of June 1981 respectively. They were kept attached to the office, and not posted on running duty.

Now, two and a half months after they resumed duty, Mr. Datta has been detained on 26th August and Mr. Eliza on 28th August, under the National Security Act.

The action of whosoever it is that ordered their arrest is patently *mala fide* and needs to be condemned in the strongest possible language.

I urge that the Home Minister take steps to order the immediate release of these two railwaymen.

(iv) NEED FOR DEVELOPMENT OF IRRIGATION SYSTEM IN CHHATISGARH AREA OF MADHYA PRADESH.

श्री कंधर भूषण (रायपुर) : मान्यवर मध्य प्रदेश का पूर्वी हिस्सा जो छत्तीसगढ़ के नाम से जाना जाता है जहाँ पर आदिवासियों एवं हरिजनों की संख्या अधिक है आर्थिक दृष्टि से बहुत पिछड़ा हुआ है। निगत कुछ वर्षों से उस क्षेत्र में अकाल पड़ रहा है। उस क्षेत्र के

ग्रामीण खेतिहर मजदूर मजदूरी की तलाश में छत्तीसगढ़ छोड़ कर पलायन कर जाते हैं। उन्हें दूरस्थ स्थानों में बहुत कठिन स्थिति में जीवन बिताना पड़ रहा है। मजदूरी का फायदा उठा कर मजदूर भरती करने वाले दलाल पैदा हो गए हैं। वे उन्हें उचित मजदूरी की लालच बता सपरिहार ले जाते हैं तथा ठेकेदारों के पास बंधक मजदूर के रूप में बंधक रख देते हैं। उन्हें जीवन यापन के लिए उन प्रदेशों में ठेकेदारों के यहाँ आजीवन बंधक रहना पड़ता है। उन्हें वहाँ नाममात्र की मजदूरी मिलती है। घर वापस जाना चाहते हैं तो उन्हें डरा घमका कर रखा जाता है तथा उनके मजदूरी के पैसे उन्हें दिए नहीं जाते। उनके जीवन रखा का प्रबन्ध वहाँ की सरकार किसी प्रकार की नहीं कर रही है। न ही उन्हें मुक्त करने की व्यवस्था कर रही है और न ही उन्हें छत्तीसगढ़ मध्य प्रदेश के अन्तर्गत आपस लाने तथा उनकी जीवकोपार्जन की व्यवस्था की जा रही है। छत्तीसगढ़ में पुनः अकाल की स्थिति है। अतः उस क्षेत्र के खेतिहर मजदूर पलायन करना प्रारम्भ कर दिए हैं। इसलिए शासन का ध्यान छत्तीसगढ़ की अकाल से मुक्ति दिलाने के लिए सिंचाई सुविधा उपलब्ध कराने के लिए उस क्षेत्र के प्रस्तावित योजनाओं को शीघ्र प्रारम्भ करें तथा वहाँ उचित मजदूरी की व्यवस्था करे तथा छत्तीसगढ़ के मजदूर जो देश के विभिन्न हिस्सों में बंधक मजदूर बन कर जा रहे हैं विशेषकर हरियाणा, पंजाब, राजस्थान, उत्तर प्रदेश में उन्हें शीघ्र मुक्त करावें।

(v) NEED FOR PAYMENT OF PENSIONS TO EX-SERVICEMEN AND FREEDOM FIGHTERS BY MONEY ORDERS.

श्री महावीर प्रसाद (बालगढ़) : मान्यवर, मैं आपका ध्यान भूतपूर्व सैनिकों