

way in achieving for the first time self-sufficient in all types of cotton required by the industry. It has won national recognition, both by the Government of India and the industry through no less than four awards won by them.

In spite of the very good work already done, the Regional Station at Coimbatore, employing over 250 people, and the cotton project itself are handicapped by lack of proper independent status. Administrative delays and lack of appreciation of the work at Nagpur have hampered the progress of the project, in addition to causing frustration to the scientific and technical personnel of the Regional Station.

I understand that a proposal has already been submitted for the creation of an independent project Directorate of Cotton, on the lines of similar Directorates for Rice, Pulses and Oilseeds in the country. The proposal is also under the consideration of the ICAR and it has been referred to the Planning Commission for its decision. The financial outlay for the entire project for the Sixth Plan period has been estimated around Rs. 3 crores. Therefore, the raising of the cotton project, along with the Regional Station to the status of a Project Directorate, does not involve any additional financial commitments.

In view of what has been stated above, I request your goodself to sanction the creation of the Project Directorate for Cotton at Coimbatore.

(ii) Reported death of two Workers of Naval Dockyard, Visakhapatnam due to suffocation in a gas Chamber.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE (Howrah): Two workers of the Naval Dockyard, Visakhapatnam, died on 18th March, 1980, while they were on duty, due to suffocation in a gas chamber. These deaths have taken place due to the non provision of proper safety

appliances. The negligence agitated the other workers who demanded peacefully that adequate safety appliances should be provided by the management. They had every right to express their protest against the negligent attitude of the management which caused death to two of their colleagues. But the management tried to crush their protest voice by inducting police resulting in serious skull injuries to many workers. The workers were attacked while performing their duty. I am giving below the full text of the telegram which I have received from the Hindustan Shipyard Labour Union, Hindustan Shipyard Staff Union, Visakhapatnam:

....Civilian workers of Naval Dockyard, Visakhapatnam, inhumanly lathicharged on twentieth morning at workspot by State police resulting in grievous skull injuries and bone fracture to several innocent workmen...consequent upon death of two workmen on eighteenth while on duty due to non-provision of safety appliances...Naval Dockyard management tried to camouflage situation by calling State police who resorted to unprovoked lathi charge on workmen while on duty...request institute judicial inquiry and to reprimand inhuman attitude of state police...

Hindustan Shipyard Labour Union,
Hindustan Shipyard Staff Union.

This is a very serious matter and I request the Minister concerned to make a statement thereon.

(iii) Piling up of Steel ingots in public Sector steel Plants.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI (Bhubaneswar): Sir, I beg to raise the following matter under Rule 377:

"When imports are unable to bridge the gap between the demand and supply of steel, more than 5.5 lakh tonnes of ingots have piled up at the public sector steel plants as the power shortage has affected the working of rolling mills.

The total ingot production in the country is lower this year by 5.2 per cent as compared to last year. The saleable steel output is down by 6 per cent.

I draw the attention of the hon. Minister to this for taking immediate measures to overcome these bottlenecks in the steel plants and to overcome the shortage of steel."

(iv) MURDER OF A STUDENT OF ST. STEPHEN COLLEGE, DELHI

श्री चन्द्रपाल शैलानी (हाथरस) : सभापति महोदय, सेंट स्टीफेन कॉलेज, नई दिल्ली में बी०एस०सी० (द्वितीय वर्ष) का एक 19 वर्षीय छात्र श्री गौतम जयसिंघानी इस महीने की 6 तारीख को अचानक लापता हो गया था। इसके बाद उसका कोई पता नहीं चला। दो हफ्ते बाद गत 21 मार्च को श्री गौतम जयसिंघानी की लाश ओखला के पास जंगल में पड़ी मिली थी। इसका मतलब यह हुआ कि श्री गौतम का अपहरण किया गया था और जब अपहरणकर्त्ताओं को अपने उद्देश्य में सफलता नहीं मिली तो उसकी हत्या कर दी गई। श्रीमन् संजय-गीता चौपड़ा कांड की टीम दिल्ली और देश की जनता के दिल से अभी निकली भी नहीं थी कि एक और होनहार नवयुवक की हत्या कर दी गई। ये हत्याकांड तो ऐसे हैं जो प्रकाश में आ गये हैं। इस देश में इस प्रकार के हत्याकांड तथा अन्य जघन्य अपराध न मालूम रोज कितने होते हैं जिनका पता नहीं चल पाता। अफसोस तो इस बात का है कि देश की राजधानी में इस प्रकार के अपराधों की बाढ़ आ रही है। रोज इस सर्वश्रेष्ठ सदन में सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित कराया जाता है, किन्तु कोई असर नहीं। दिल्ली पुलिस श्री गौतम के हत्यारों का पता लगाने में नाकामयाब रही है। यह उसकी अक्षमता, अकर्मण्यता की ओर इशारा करता है। दिल्ली के लोगों के दिल से पुलिस के प्रति विश्वास उठता जा रहा है और यहां

अराजकता का स्वराज कायम हो गया है। वातावरण चिंता एवं असुरक्षा की भावना से भरा हुआ है।

ऐसी स्थिति में हमारी आपसे सानुरोध प्रार्थना है कि आप सरकार को कड़े शब्दों में चेतावनी दें कि वह पुलिस के ढांचे में आमूलचूल परिवर्तन करके उसे सक्षम, सजग एवं अधिक क्रियाशील बनाये ताकि लोगों के मन में उसके प्रति पुनः विश्वास की भावना जाग सके और श्री गौतम के हत्यारों को शीघ्र ढूढ़ निकाल कर कानून के वाले करे।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Only the approved statement will go on record.

v4.00 hrs.

श्री चन्द्रपाल शैलानी : सभापति महोदय, इस स्टेटमेंट को पहले आपने पढ़ लिया है और इसको एप्रूव किया है। आपके महकमे ने ही इसको टॉप करवा के भेजा है।

(v) STARVATION CONDITION IN ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman and Nicobar Islands): Severe drought prevails throughout the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the rural poor are facing starvation. The Andaman and Nicobar administration declared the Territory as drought affected and started relief work through the Food for Work Scheme. In spite of repeated requests to the Government of India, a post of Rural Development Officer was not created, and the relief work is also inadequate. Every day I am receiving a number of letters from Village Panchayat Pradhans and others stating that works under the Food for Work Scheme is not provided to them adequately and that those who are working are not paid either rice or wheat and that the people are starving. When the officers are contacted, they are not helpful.

I draw the attention of the Home Minister and the Minister of Agriculture to this and request them to