

यह आर पी एफ और जी आर पी का आखिर दायित्व क्या है ? इस सम्बन्ध में पुनर्विचार करने की आवश्यकता है या नहीं—यह मंत्री जी को सोचना चाहिए । मैं आपको एक और उदाहरण देना चाहता हूँ । कुछ दिन पहले पलामू एक्सप्रेस में डकैती पड़ी जिसमें केन्द्रीय मंत्री भीष्म बाबू के लड़के का सारा सामान डकैतों ने लूट लिया तथा कुछ मार भी पड़ी । जब किसी ने कहा कि वे उनके लड़के हैं तो डकैत कुछ चीजें प्राप्त करके भाग गए लेकिन दूसरे यात्री बहुत घायल हुए । यह समाचार कहीं छपा भी नहीं । तो इस तरह को घटनायें प्रति दिन घट रही हैं । इनको रोकने की बहुत आवश्यकता है । अगर आप माल-भाड़े में वृद्धि करते हैं तो जनता को कुछ राहत भी देनी चाहिए ।

17 has.

मैं एक बात यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि मेरी कान्स्ट्रूऐंसी जो कि ग्रेडकॉर्ड लाइन पर पड़ती है, वहां 82-डाउन और 81-अप कोडरमा पर एकता है, लेकिन वहां पर कोई सीटों का कोटा नहीं है । वहां की जनता के लिए कोटा कुछ कर दीजिए, ताकि वहां की जनता को कुछ सुविधा हो सके । वहां दिन भर में एक पैसेंजर-ट्रेन नहीं है, जब कि बीच में बीसियों छोटे-छोटे स्टेशन पड़ते हैं । इसी प्रकार जयपुर ब्लाक और बरकटहा ब्लाक, जिस के बीच में सरमाटांड स्टेशन है, वहां पर भी सियालदा एक्सप्रेस या देहरादून एक्सप्रेस को दो मिनट का हाल्ट देने से वहां की जनता को काफी राहत मिल सकती है । इसी तरह से चिचांकी, चौबे और चौधरीबांध—ये तीन स्टेशन हैं, यहां भी दिन भर में कोई पैसेंजर ट्रेन नहीं है और बोगियां भी हैं, जिन गाड़ियों में, वहां लोगों को चढ़ने में काफी मुश्किल होती है और लोग जा नहीं पाते हैं । वहां पर भी एक्सप्रेस ट्रेन का दो मिनट का हाल्ट देने से वहां की जनता को

सुविधा हो सकती है, जो कि बहुत ही आवश्यक है ।

एक बात की ओर मैं मंत्री जी का ध्यान और आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ ।

सनापति महोदय : वर्मा जी, अब आप बैठ जाइए । कल फिर आप बोलेंगे ।

17.02 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. CHANGE OF SITE FOR THE PROPOSED STEEL PLANT IN ORISSA.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF INDUSTRY AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): As the Hon'ble Members are aware, Government of India had decided to locate the second new steel plant at Paradip in Orissa. Further examination of the meteorological data have brought out the following unfavourable factors for locating the steel plant at Paradip:

(a) design parameters would have to withstand a wind velocity of 250 KPH as against 170 KPH envisaged earlier;

(b) sand filling will have to be 7 metres against 3 metres considered necessary earlier; and

(c) consequential infrastructural investment of a substantial dimensions to ensure proper alignment for the road and rail network leading to Paradip.

In view of the above, Government have decided to change the site to a place in Daitari region about 120 Kms inland in Orissa State. Considerations of logistics and safety, substantial savings in infrastructural costs, economies in cost of site preparation and recurring cost over the life of the plant would justify this change. This

decision will not result in any delay in the time schedule for the construction of the steel plant.

17.03 hrs.

DISCUSSION RE. REMUNERATIVE PRICES FOR POTATOES TO GROWERS.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Prof. Madhu Dandavate.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: (Rajapur) Sir, at the very outset I must express our gratitude that when both the sections of the House strongly pleaded for discussion being admitted on the subject of remunerative prices for agricultural produce, the Hon. speaker promptly conceded the demand and allowed discussion on the subject under Rule 193.

During the discussion on the subject, I am quite conscious of the fact that I am raising the discussion on a problem that is of great importance to the peasantry who are engaged on agricultural production and particularly this year has been described as the "Year of Productivity" and, as if to anticipate the announcement of this 'Year of Productivity', the agriculturists have tried their best to augment their production. It is expected that this year the production of potatoes might be ten per cent more compared to last year's production. That means, we can very well estimate that production of potatoes may cross even the hundred lakh tonnes. More than a hundred lakh tonnes of potato will be produced and 50 per cent of this production will be from U.P. particularly, Farrukhabad happens to be an important centre as far as production of potatoes is concerned.

AN. MON. MEMBER: Himachal Pradesh.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I have said 'particularly'; I have said that 50 per cent of the production would come from U.P. It is, therefore, quite clear that the production of the

other 50 per cent will be spread over other areas. It is simple arithmetic.

As far as this burning problem of assuring remunerative price to the agriculturists who produce potato is concerned, I think, the very concept of remunerative prices has to be properly reviewed. I do not think that the concept of remunerative prices can be linked up only to a particular quantum of price. If we just consider that a particular quantum of price is a remunerative price for potato, when the situation changes in terms of inputs and in terms of other circumstances, that very quantum of remunerative price will have to be changed. Therefore we cannot treat the very concept of remunerative price as an absolute concept. What is more important and more significant that a particular quantum of price is that the remunerative prices of potatoes should be linked up with the cost of production involved. Unless you link up the remunerative price with the cost of production it may happen that one who produces more might be punished for that productivity. And I hope that this will not happen in our country.

As far as potato production is concerned, it is concentrated in certain areas. There is a certain degree of local consumption and if you look at the marketable surplus of potato production, there being a gap between local consumption in the areas in which potatoes are produced and the marketable surplus, the problem of transport becomes extremely important. Unfortunately, at a time when the production of potatoes has gone up and this year as I said, it is likely to go beyond even a hundred lakh tonnes—at this very time, we are facing the strike by the motor-operators. That constraint is there. Whatever was produced was dumped for some time. (Interruptions) I may tell my colleagues that the strike by the operators has not been ended every where: in some localities it is still continuing There-