

है तो वे, जिस व्यक्ति ने काल बुक की है, उसे यह सूचना देते हैं कि लाइन खराब है। इससे काफी असुविधा तथा कठिनाई होती है, विशेष कर वह मामला जिसके लिये ट्रंक-काल का उपयोग किया जाता है, अविलम्बनीय लोक-महत्व का हो।

एक अन्य मामला जिसका मैं उल्लेख करना चाहूंगा, वह यह है कि जब एक बार स्मरण कराये जाने पर भी वह नहीं मिल पाती तो काल को रद्द करा पाना और भी अधिक कठिन होता है।

एस० टी० डी० कालों के बारे में मैंने यह देखा है कि प्रायः टेलीफोन कनेक्शन नहीं मिल पाता है।

इस बारे में मैं एक घटना का विशेष रूप से उल्लेख करना चाहूंगा। मेरी आवे-घंटे-की-चर्चा के बारे में 7 अप्रैल को मेरे स्थायी पते पर लोक-सभा सचिवालय ने एक अविलम्ब ट्रंक-काल बुक किया था। मुझे यह कहते हुए खेद है कि ट्रंक काल के लिए चार बार स्मरण कराने पर भी वह नहीं मिल सका तथा मुझे ठीक समय पर जानकारी नहीं मिल पायी। लोक-सभा सचिवालय द्वारा 6 अप्रैल को भेजा गया टेलीग्राम भी मुझे 9 अप्रैल, 1983 की शाम को मिला।

जब सर्वोच्च सदन के सचिवालय द्वारा अथक प्रयास के बाद भी अपने सदस्यों से सम्पर्क इन माध्यमों द्वारा नहीं किया जा सकता तो साधारण जनता की दुरावस्था का आप अन्दाजा लगा सकते हैं।

मैं मन्त्री महोदय से यह अनुरोध करता हूँ कि वह तार व दूर-संचार सेवाओं सम्बन्धी शिकायतों की विशेष रूप से जाँच करें और उन्हें अविलम्ब दूर करें।

(vi) Need for early re-opening of Bhaskar Textile Mills, Jharsuguda.

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKR-ABORTY (Calcutta South): I make the following statement under Rule 377.

The closure of Bhaskar Textile Mills, Jharsuguda from 10th January, 1983 has resulted in starvation of 3000 workers and their family members. This closure is causing deep resentment of the entire population of the area since its economy is greatly affected due to this closure. The company started from 1963-64 with investment of Rs. 35 lakhs. It earned a fabulous profit of over Rs. 3 crores till 1980-81. The owner of the company however indulged in several irregularities. When the workers were agitating for payment of bonus and the company on 1.10.82 fixed 16th October, 1982 for discussion with Jharsuguda Industrial Mazdoor Union it surreptitiously issued lockout notice on 2nd Oct, 82 though it was signed on 30th Sept. 82. Since 2nd October 1982 lockout became operative rendering thousands of workers jobless. At present it is still continuing despite repeated efforts by the Union to reopen the mill, and they demanded 1) immediate take over by NTC, opening it immediately by taking back all the workers who were on the rolls on 1.10.82, (2) payment of wages for the lock out period. Therefore, I urge the Government to take steps to meet up their just demands.

(vii) Need for providing speed boats to Custumes Collectorate of Madurai to curb smuggling.

SHRI M.S.K. SATHIYENDRAN (Ramanathapuram): Sir, the Collectorate of Central Excise and Customs at Madurai has under its jurisdiction the east coast from Rameshwaram upto near about Madras. With the duty free shops having been opened at Colombo in Sri Lanka, the smuggling along this long coast-line has gone beyond normal patrolling. Whenever the Customs officials get any information they have to approach through correspondence, the Department of Fisheries or the Naval Coast Guard for loaning speed boats to chase the smugglers. By the time the formalities are fulfilled and the boats are made available, the smugglers run away. It has become essential that the Customs Collectorate at Madurai should be provided immediately with two speed boats so that the smuggling activities are curbed effectively on the east coast. Besides, these speed boats may also stop the poaching being done by some adjoining for. countries on our territorial waters, particularly along the

east coast where the delicious *prawn* fish are available.

(viii) Problems of opium growers.

श्री चतुर्भुज (शालावाड) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, अफीम-उत्पादन कृषक को समस्याओं एवं कठिनाइयां पर केन्द्र सरकार को गंभीरता से विचार करना चाहिए। करोड़ों रुपये की विदेशी मुद्रा अफीम से प्राप्त होती है। कृषक को आज भी 130 पर के जी है लगा कर कुल 240 रुपए पर के जी मिलता है। विश्व बाजार में 10 हजार रुपए पर के जी मात्र है। अफीम उत्पादन पर तकनीकी प्रणाली पर कुल खर्चा एक बीघे पर 1000 रुपए आता है। करीब 1200 रुपए गंभीरता आमदनी प्राप्त करता है। उर्वरक, खाद, बीज, पानी, तकनीकी मजदूरों एवं ज्ञान पर कई गुणा खर्चा बढ़ा है, लेकिन पिछले तीन वर्ष में एक भी पैसा अफीम का भाव नहीं बढ़ाया, बल्कि घटाया है। अफीम उत्पादन क्षेत्र घटाया ही नहीं गया है, बल्कि प्रकृति प्रकोप से पीड़ित फसलों को भी राहत देना उचित नहीं समझा गया है।

अतः मेरा आग्रह है कि अफीम का भाव बढ़ाया जाए। अफीम क्षेत्र कम न किया जाए। अफीम क्षेत्रों में और अफीम दी जाए। नारकोटिस बोर्ड में लोक सभा सदस्य लिये जाएं। लोक सभा में एक बिल इस संदर्भ में लाया जाये, जो किसानों के हितों को संरक्षण देने वाला हो।

अतः अफीम उत्पादन लाखों कृषक एवं करोड़ों मजदूरों को संरक्षण प्रदान करने हेतु नारकोटिस नियमावली पर लोक सभा में प्रतिवर्ष विचार हो।

(ix) Increasing cases of blindness amongst children in the country

SHRI ARJUN STEHI (Bhadrak) : Sir, the high incidence of blindness caused by Vitamin A deficiency and malnutrition amongst the children estimated to be 2,50,000 in developing countries of the world and of them about 30,000 are Indians. This high

incidence was pointed out in 1981 by the National Institute of Nutrition and has been recently corroborated by independent studies by Indian Council of Medical Research. According to these, blindness among children ranged from 8.9% in Orissa to 0.6% in Gujarat, in Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal and Tamil Nadu the percentage ranged from 1.1% to 2.9%. In fact, in the International Year of Child, it was calculated that 2.5 million children were in varying daerees threatened by Vitamin A deficiency blindness.

An ambitious Central scheme for covering 125 million children at the cost of Rs. 18 crores was announced in 1981. The Institute of Nutrition has developed an oral dose of Vitamin A to be administered every six months.

However, this emphasis on administering concentrated doses of Vitamin A can have only limited effect in the country where the majority of the most vulnerable have little access to clinics. Workers at Primary Health Centres need also to be taught how to recognise the early symptoms of blindness due to deficiency. Educative compaigns will be more effective in the long run.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government to launch immediate frontal attack on blindness taking educative, preventive and curative steps to help control the increasing blindness amongst the children in the country.

14.10 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS, 1983-84—Contd.

MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We now go to next item. Discussion and Voting on the Demand for Grant under the control of the Ministry of Irrigation.

The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demand No. 67 relating to the Ministry of Irrigation for which 4 hours have been allotted.

Hon. Members present in the House whose cut motions to the Demands for Grants have been circulated may, if they desire to move their cut motions, send slips to the table within 15 minutes indicating the