

[Shri K. T. Kosalram]

dedication to teaching has also been undermined by the Government of Tamil Nadu deciding to have no examination upto 5th standard and the proposal to have no examination up to 8th standard is also under active consideration of the State Government.

The Central Planning Commission feels that this programme has led to diversion of resources from Plan projects; this apprehension has been confirmed by the diversion of foodgrains and funds given under NREP to this programme by the State Government.

Besides upsetting the economic well-being of the State by catering to the development of brawn and not to the brain, this nutritious meal scheme will result in breeding beasts of burden in Tamil Nadu. The parents throughout the State are in deep anguish that the educational needs of their wards are being neglected. I demand a thorough re-appraisal of this scheme by the Centre before commending to other developing countries

(ix) Liberalisation of rules for Indians returning from abroad in respect of goods brought by them.

श्री शीत लाल प्रसाद वर्मा (कोयंबूर):

विश्व के विकसित एवं अवि-मिन देशों जैसे अमरीका, यूरोप, खाड़ी के देशों, अफ्रीकी देशों, एशियाई देशों में भारत के लाखों की संख्या में विज्ञान एवं टेक्नोलॉजी अभियांत्रिकी, चिकित्सा-विज्ञान, अध्यापन, मादित्य-सृजन, योग, धर्म एवं निर्माण-प्रायोजनों हेतु कुशल श्रमिकों के नाम पर अस्थायी रूप से कार्यरत रह करोंड़ों रुपये मासिक विदेशी मुद्रा हासिल कर रहे हैं। इन भारतीयों ने अपने को पराकाष्ठा तक पहुंचा कर भारत का नाम भी ऊंचा किया है। कई देशों में इनकी नियुक्ति विदेशों में धाक जमाने तथा हजारों

हजार नागरिकता के अधिकार प्राप्त करने पर वहां के मूलवासियों ने भारत भगाने का भी आन्दोलन प्रारम्भ कर दिया है।

इस प्रकार भारतीयों को अर्जित बचत विदेशी मुद्रा के अपव्यय के लिए उन्हें विवश होना पड़ रहा है। ऐसी परिस्थिति में वे सभी जब अपने देश के परिवार के लिए नये पुराने मशीन एवं सयंत्र, इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स, कपड़े एवं रेडीमेड पोशाक तथा अन्य उपयोगी औद्योगिक लाभ हेतु सामग्री लाने पर बन्दरगाहों तथा हवाई अड्डों पर कस्टम अधिकारी यमराज की तरह नाना भय दे कर परेशान कर आधे सामान हज्म कर जाते हैं। इससे विदेशों से वापिस आ कर भारत में उद्योग धंधे लगाने तथा विदेशी मुद्रा को दूसरे रूप में अपने देश में लाने से हतोत्साहित हो चुके हैं और वे पानी की तरह अपव्यय कर रहे हैं।

ऐसी परिस्थिति में मैं भारत सरकार से आग्रह करना चाहूंगा कि प्रधान मंत्री, वाणिज्य मंत्री एवं वित्त मंत्री गम्भीरता-पूर्वक इस महत्वपूर्ण विषय पर विचार करें तथा ऐसे लोगों के लिए भारतीय मुद्रा के अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय मूल्यों के दृष्टिकोण से उन्हें बीस से पच्चीस हजार रुपये तक के उपयोगी सामानों का लाने की छूट प्रदान करें और अधिक मूल्यवान उद्योग का मशीनों में भी उत्साहवर्द्धक छूट प्रदान करें ताकि भारत के औद्योगिकरण में श्रीवृद्धि हो तथा विशेषतः ऐसे लोग भारत सहर्ष लौटने में प्रेरणा प्राप्त कर सकें।

1508 hrs.

[Dr. Rajendra Kumari Bajpayee in the Chair].

(x) Shortage of Rice in Kerala

PROF. P. J. KURIEN (Mavelikara): Kerala is once again going to be under

the grip of shortage of rice and consequent rise in the price of rice. Not only that the price of rice has gone up but also that rice is scarcely available in the market. The so-called superfine quality of rice released from the FCI is so poor in quality that it cannot be used for consumption. Adding fuel to the fire, the Tamil Nadu Government has imposed a ban on the free movement of rice to Kerala and the Central Government have cut down the rice allocation to the State. All these have created a very serious situation demanding the immediate attention of the Government.

It should be noted that the main cultivation in Kerala is cash crops, which earn considerable amount of foreign exchange to the country. If enough quantity of rice is not made available at moderate price, the farmers will be forced to divert from foreign exchange earning cash crops to rice and other crops which will be ultimately detrimental to the national interest itself. Keralites are only rice eaters and not accustomed to wheat and it is the responsibility of the Central Government to provide enough rice to this foreign exchange earning State.

Therefore, I urge upon the Central Government to restore the rice allocation to Kerala to the previous level, direct the FCI to provide boiled rice instead of the so-called superfine quality and to direct the Tamil Nadu Government to lift the ban on the movement of rice.

(xi) Delay in President's assent to the Bill Nationalising Kumardherbi Engineering Works Ltd., Dhanbad.

SHRI A. K. ROY (Dhanbad): Mr. Chairman, we feel seriously concerned over the delay in getting Presidential assent on the Bill nationalising Kumardherbi Engineering Works (Pvt.) Ltd. in Dhanbad, Bihar which was passed unanimously by the Bihar Assembly and the Council on the 26th and 27th July, 1982. Since then the

Bill has been pending before the Central Government for the needful, Continued closure of Kumardherbi Engineering Works, a prime engineering concern of the coal belt producing various items of priority used in the railways and the colliery has become a national issue raised in the Parliament several times. The factory employing more than 3000 workers, i.e. supporting their 20,000 family members is lying closed since July, 1979 due to the mischief and mismanagement of the employer who was a part of the Bird & Co.. In the beginning, the Central Government assured taking over of the factory under IDRA and declared the factory economically viable and a national asset and the Chief Minister of Bihar announced over the radio in November, 1980 the take over based on this assurance. Effort was made so that the Provincial Government took that over to restart the factory. Ultimately, a bill to that effect was brought and passed more than three months ago. Still, the factory could not be opened as it did not get the assent of the President.

After more than three years of closure, the plight of the workers is easily imaginable. The people are literally starving. The families have got disintegrated. More than fifty workers have committed suicide. Only last month one worker gave his life before a running train. Severe drought in the countryside has further accentuated the misery. So, the delay in getting assent from the President is acting as the last cruel blow to the patience of the workers and their withering existence.

(xii) Problems of Railway Employees retired from S.R.P.F

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Mr. Chairman, Sir, a peculiar situation has arisen out of the problems of railway employees retired under SRPF. It is a matter of grave concern because of the way their problems are being tossed around from one Ministry to another without