

STATEMENT FOR NOT LAYING THE ANNUAL REPORT OF BONGAIGAON REFINERY AND PETROCHEMICALS LTD. FOR 1981-82 IN TIME

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PETROLEUM IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI GARGI SHANKAR MISHRA): I beg to lay on the Table a statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining the reasons for not laying the Annual Report of the Bongaigaon Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited for the year 1981-82 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the Accounting Year. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5929/83].

REVIEWS ON ANNUAL REPORTS OF HINDUSTAN ORGANIC CHEMICALS LTD. FOR 1981-82, HINDUSTAN INSECTICIDES LTD., NEW DELHI FOR 1981-82 AND A STATEMENT FOR DELAY

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI R. C. RATH): I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(a) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Hindustan Organic Chemicals Limited, for the year 1981-82.

(ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Organic Chemicals Limited, for the year 1981-82 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5930/83].

(b) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Hindustan Insecticides Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1981-82.

(ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Insecticides Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1981-82 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (b) of item (1) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5931/83].

REVIEW ON AND ANNUAL REPORT OF NORTH EASTERN ELECTRIC POWER CORPORATION LTD. SHILLONG FOR 1981-82.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(1) Review by the Government on the working of the North Eastern Power Corporation Limited, Shillong, for the year 1981-82.

(2) Annual Report of the North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Limited, Shillong, for the year 1981-82 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5932/83].

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Dalbir Singh.

NOTIFICATION UNDER COAL MINES (CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT) ACT, 1974.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat): Sir, I am opposing the laying of this paper against item No. 9. I want to draw your attention and the attention of the House once again to this obnoxious practice which the Government has been following and which has become a habit with them.

Actually, the House is seized of the Budget proposals also. They are now coming forward with laying on the Table a copy of the Notification of 8th February, 1983 imposing a certain rate of excise duty on certain description of coal. I do not know the details of the Order because we have not seen it and we have not been told about it though the Parliament has been in session since 18th

[Shri Indrajit Gupta]

February, 1983. I am sure, this is an increase in excise duty on various types of coal, may be domestic coal, may be coal for industrial purposes. Coal is an essential commodity. Even yesterday, when the Budget had been presented in the House, this thing has been left out of its compass. A Notification issued on 8th February, is being laid on 1st March when the House has been in session since 18th February.

I am not bothered about these people; they are incorrigible people. But I am bothered about you. You are going on making observations which are completely ignored by them.

MR. SPEAKER: What can I do? You change the rules.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: They cannot increase excise duty like this by a Notification.

MR. SPEAKER: That is the law.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: They cannot do it when the House is in session and the House is considering the Budget proposals. This means a further burden on the people and it is being hidden from the country. It is a fraud. It is a deception. It is contempt of the House and it is contempt of your ruling. I am surprised that you do not attach any weight to your own rulings! They are taking it lightly.

MR. SPEAKER: I am only bound by rules.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: We want to know from the Hon. Minister why the Government has brought about this increase in excise duty. Coal is an essential commodity. The Government cannot do this kind of thing.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप क्या कर रहे हैं।

रंगा जी बोल रहे हैं। (व्यवधान)

Order please. Rangaji.

PROF. N. G. RANGA (Guntur): Since the Hon. Finance Minister is not here to answer the point made by Mr. Indrajit Gupta, may I suggest that this matter be considered by you in consultation with the Finance Minister?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: This is not made by the Finance Minister. This is made by Energy Ministry.

PROF. N. G. RANGA: But the Cabinet Minister is not here.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: They must explain the points. Then we will see to the financial business.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Jadavpur): In a parliamentary democracy, there is no imposition of tax without having an opportunity to discuss in the House. The whole Budget exercise has become a futile exercise: everything can be kept out of Budget discussion; no discussion takes place; Appropriation Bill is not necessary any longer. Credit is being taken for imposition of Rs. 760 crores only, and that only minimal imposts have been made. Expenditure will not be made without the approval of the House. The whole thing has become a mockery.

SHRI MAGNBHA BAROT (Ahmedabad): If the revenue amount involved in the recovery is more than Rs. 50 lakhs, then the notification has to be placed on the same day. Let the Hon. Minister say what the revenue expected is and why it is so delayed.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : बैठिय, सोमनाथ जी और आप भी ।

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): It is not known why Hon. Members should get so much agitated. It is in accordance with the laid down rules and regulations of this House.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: which rules

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: Because the amount is needed for repairs and construction of roads in Dhanbad area. The roads in Dhanbad area are in bad condition and the amount is required for the improvement of road construction and that is why a notification has been issued. There is nothing more than that. Amounts so realised are being utilised in Dhanbad area for road construction.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : रोज रोज इम्प्रूवमेंट का काम बढ़ता चला जाता है।

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Are you satisfied with the reply of the Hon. Minister? We have not questioned the Government's legal right to pass this kind of order. Now the Hon. Minister said that the money is needed for the road construction in Dhanbad. The point is one of propriety. The roads are in bad condition in Dhanbad. Therefore, they must increase the price of coal!

MR. SPEAKER: What can we do?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: If this is the condition, everywhere the Government will go by the backdoor.

MR. SPEAKER: I can only observe what I have observed.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: The Hon. Minister must tell the House how much the Government expects to get out of this. By how much will the price of coal go up?

(Interruptions)

The House is entitled to know the information. Are you preventing us from getting the information? How are the Government going to realise the increased excise duty? The Hon. Minister must tell the House.

MR. SPEAKER: They want to know how much will accrue out of this.

(व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : जब बता रहे : आप सुनते नहीं हैं।

(व्यवधान)

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA (Tumkur): Is it a debate, Sir? It is all right; they have made their submissions. Why do you force him to reply to all that? This is not a debate.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS, SPORTS AND
WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BUTA
SINGH): It is not a question of the

merit of the proposal in the paper which is being laid. It is a question of propriety and the procedure involved in the House. The Minister has said it. It is clearly according to the procedure of the House. There are certain items, as was explained the other day by Shri Gadgil, which need not necessarily form part of the Budget. Therefore, all these measures are taken by the Government of India under the specific provisions of the Constitution as allowed in the procedure of this House.

AN HON. MEMBER: That is not the point.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I can allow a full debate on this. You can raise all this in the debate...

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Allow a debate.

MR. SPEAKER: Please give a notice.

The Minister may lay it on the Table of the House.

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRA-
BORTY (Calcutta South): Never plead your helplessness, Sir. You are like Lord Vishnu, the Protector.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: They are helpless Ministers. You should come to the aid of these helpless Ministers. They are doing things which are absolutely improper.

SHRI BUTA SINGH: He has explained the position. We are all in the hands of Hon. Speaker. If he allows a discussion, who can block the discussion?

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRA-
BORTY: By such things you are trying to destroy Parliamentary democracy.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE
MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI DAL-
BIR SINGH): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Notification No. S.O. 95(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 8th February, 1983 fixing with effect on and from

the 9th February, 1983 the rate of duty of excise on certain description of coal, under sub-section (3) of section 6 of the Coal Mines (Conservation and Development) Act, 1974. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5933/83].

NOTIFICATION UNDER INCOME TAX ACT, 1961 AND WEALTH TAX (AMENDMENT) RULES, 1983.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy each of the following Notification (Hindi and English versions) under section 296 of the Income-tax Act, 1961:—

(1) The Income-tax (Amendment) Rules, 1983 published in Notification No. S.O. 128(E) in Gazette of India dated the 21st February, 1983.

(ii) The Income-tax (Second Amendment) Rules, 1983 published in Notification No. S.O. 131(E) in Gazette of India dated the 23rd February, 1983.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-5934/83].

(2) A copy of the Wealth-tax (Amendment) Rules, 1983 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 130(E) in Gazette of India dated the 22nd February, 1983 under sub-section (4) of section 46 of the Wealth tax Act, 1957. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5935/83].

12.18 hrs.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—(RAILWAYS), 1982-83

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI GHAN CHAUDHURI): Sir, I beg to present a statement (Hindi and English versions) showing Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget (Railways) for 1982-83.

DEMANDS FOR EXCESS GRANTS—(RAILWAYS), 1980-81

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI): Sir, I beg to present a statement (Hindi and English versions) showing Demands for Excess Grants in respect of the Budget (Railways) for 1980-81.

12.19 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) CERTAIN OBJECTIONABLE AND OFFENSIVE REMARKS IN THE BOOK 'LEADERS' WRITTEN BY RICHARD NIXON.

SHRI KAMAL NATH (Chhindwara): Before I make my statement under rule 377, with your permission, Sir, I would like to lay this on the Table of the House...

MR. SPEAKER: I will have to examine it. I will examine it.

AN HON. MEMBER: Are you permitting?

MR. SPEAKER: I have only said that I will examine it.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: I rise to mention under Rule 377 a matter that involves national honour and prestige calling for immediate action. I draw the attention of the House to a chart-topping recent American publication. I am referring to the book called 'LEADERS' written by Richard Nixon, the former U.S. President, and published recently in the U.S. by Warner Books. 'LEADERS' is a collection of highly subjective profiles of international states persons drawn by Nixon during his Vice-Presidency as well as Presidency. However, I am drawing your attention to page 270 of the book in a chapter entitled 'Nkrumah, Sukarno and Nehru'. It reads, (and please mark the words) "Nehru was born in 1889 in Allahabad, in what is now part of Pakistan". He says that Allahabad is a part of Pakistan....

MR. SPEAKER: He is a very knowledgeable person!