

[Shri George Joseph Mundackal]

crores. This Hospital is one of the best Hospitals in the country. This is also not recognised for training programmes. There is a patent injustice in this matter and the public is very much concerned over this attitude of the Bangalore University.

Therefore, may I request the Government to use its good offices and do justice in the matter of St. John's Medical College and Medical College Hospital of Bangalore?

(vi) NEED RESOLUTION OF MAHARASHTRA-KARNATAKA BORDER ISSUE BY IMPLEMENTING MAHAJAN COMMISSION REPORT

SHRI T. R. SHAMANNA (Bangalore South) After Independence, the Government appointed a States Re-organisation Commission headed by Justice Fazal Ali. The Commission after through examination (taking more than 7500 witnesses) gave a report. The Government of India accepted the report of the Commission and took steps to form new States on the basis of language spoken by a large section. The criteria taken by the Commission was that—the division and regrouping should not endanger:—

- (1) the unity and security of the country;
- (2) linguistic and cultural homogeneity of the areas;
- (3) financial, economic and administrative convenience;
- (4) successful working of the National Plan.

The new States were formed in 1956. On account of the narrow outlook of a few selfish leaders the full benefit of States re-organisation could not be got and on the other hand much heat has been created. This has cost heavy loss to the country.

The Maharashtra leaders were dissatisfied with the S.R.C. award and

pressed for reconsideration of S.R.C. recommendation. Much against the wishes of Karnataka leaders, one man Commission, Mahajan Commission was constituted. To respects the wishes of the leaders Karnataka accepted the appointments of the Commission.

Justice Mahajan after careful examination of all aspects gave a report and award. It is regretted that Maharashtra, instead of accepting the award passed by the Commission (of their choice), is making unreasonable demands to grab the areas legitimately belonging to Karnataka (Belgaum, Nipani, Karwar etc.). The coercion method is not the sole property of Maharashtra friends. Karnataka, is as it is, has lost valuable areas like Kasergod (now in Kerala) and a good portion of Sholapur, Kolhapur, etc. (in Maharashtra). The Kannadigas will not be idle spectators and are ready for any sacrifice to guard the Kannada areas. Karnataka is ready for small mutual adjustments, on the basis of Mahajan Report.

I, on behalf of 30 million Kannadigas, appeal to the hon. Prime Minister to advise our Maharashtra brothers to live as members of one family. Reopening of a closed case will be opening of Pandora's box. Let us spend our valuable time in nation-building activities.

(vii) CRISIS IN TEA INDUSTRY AND NEED FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF A COMPREHENSIVE PACKAGE OF RELIEF MEASURES

SHRI B. K. NAIR (Quilon) Sir, under rule 377, I would like to make the following statement. The tea industry everywhere in India is passing through a very serious crisis. Apart from the severe drought that has been seriously affecting production during the past two years, the steep rise in the cost of production on the one side coupled with an unprecedented fall in prices both in the export market as well as internally, have been fast eroding the capacity of the industry.

While the prospects for the entire country are quite gloomy, the situation is much more alarming in Kerala with its low average productivity, poor quality of the product, highest cost of production, heaviest taxburden and incessantly rising wage. And the unavoidable result has been that a good number of estates have already closed down and a growing number is sliding into the red, broken down with unbearable burden of arrears of taxes and wages.

A conference of the parties was recently convened in New Delhi by the Commerce Ministry and some proposals are reported to have been discussed. But no concrete steps have so far been adopted. The need of the hour is quick adoption and speedy implementation of a comprehensive package of relief measures both by the State Government of Kerala as well as the Centre. Further indecision and delay in this respect is bound to cause irreparable damage to the plantations, especially those in Kerala and result in tens of thousands of workmen and their families who belong to the lowest strata of society being deprived of their only means of livelihood. And let it be remembered, unlike in other industries, the tea estates once closed and left idle will within a short time and turn themselves into jungles entailing colossal expenses for clearing, weeding pruning, manuring, etc. and a waiting period of several weeks to go into production again.

It is time for immediate attention and remedial action on a wide front.

(viii) NEED FOR ABOLITION OF CONTRACTUAL SYSTEM OF *Safai Karmacharis* AND OTHER LABOURERS IN AIR INDIA, BOMBAY

श्री मंगल राम प्रेसा (बिजनौर) :  
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, बम्बई में एअर इंडिया के कुछ सफाई मजदूरों एवं अन्य मजदूरों

की सम्प्रति आर्थिक स्थिति बहुत ही दयनीय एवं सोचनीय है। वे ठेकेदारी प्रथा के शिकार बने हुए हैं। इन मजदूरों को ठेकेदार द्वारा केवल 7 रुपये प्रतिदिन पारिश्रमिक दिया जाता है जब कि ठेकेदार एअर इंडिया से 25 रुपये प्रति मजदूर भुगतान लेते हैं। इन असहाय मजदूरों की छुट्टियां काट ली जाती हैं और छुट्टी के दिनों की मजदूरी भी काट ली जाती है। निर्धारित समय से अधिक काम करने पर 1.25 रुपये प्रति मजदूर की दर से अतिरिक्त भुगतान होता है। इस प्रकार उन्हें कुल 225 रुपये प्रतिमाह की दर से वेतन मिलता है। ये मजदूर ठेकेदारों द्वारा रखे जाते हैं। बम्बई जैसे महंगे शहर में 225 रुपये की क्या विसात है। उच्चाधिकारियों से मिलने पर उन्होंने इस विषय में अपनी अज्ञानता प्रकट की।

एक तरफ तो सरकार मजदूरों के हित के लिए बंधुआ मजदूरी की प्रथा समाप्त करने का दावा करती है, परन्तु दूसरी तरफ सरकार के ठीक भाव के नीचे किस प्रकार मजदूरों का शोषण किया जा रहा है। इस संदर्भ में लिखित रूप से प्रधान मंत्री जी से आग्रह कर चुका हूँ। उन्होंने आश्वासन भी दिया था किन्तु महारा दुःख है कि इतने दिनों के गाने 6 महीने के बाद भी इस विषय में कुछ नहीं किया जा सका और एअर इंडिया में यह शोषण क्रूरतम रूप में है।

अतः इस सदन के माध्यम से सरकार से मेरा आग्रह है कि सफाई मजदूर एवं अन्य शोषित कर्मचारियों के हित में ठेकेदारी प्रथा को दृढ़ शीघ्र समाप्त कर सम्बन्धित कर्मचारियों की सेवा को स्याई करवाने की कृपा करें।