

I hope that the fear that the rate of interest will be higher in comparison with other banks should also be dispelled. If the rate of interest is going to be higher, then the entire objective will be lost. I hope that this Bank will really become an important instrument for the service of those sections for which it has been there and there should not be overlapping. So the point that should be taken into consideration is that there should not be unnecessary overlapping.

The Reserve Bank of India's employees have sent a representation. I am just looking into the representation of their employees. They have opposed the setting up of this Bank. I do not agree with their representation. The basic objective is to set up the Bank. But there is an apprehension that perhaps 2000 people will not get their promotions. They say that they will be stagnated and their promotional avenues will be blocked. I think this apprehension should be taken into consideration.

I have just noted down a few points which I hope the Finance Minister will take into consideration. For example, in clause 5 you have said that the Board will be consulted for the appointment of the Managing Director. I do not think it is very practicable. Not the entire Board, but the Chairman of the Reserve Bank and the Chairman of the National Bank may perhaps be consulted for that. I think that from the very beginning there will be a Managing Director for this Bank. It is not that at a belated stage the Managing Director will be appointed. That will create certain problems. The composition of the Advisory Council is not very clear to my mind as to what will be their number, etc. I think some guide lines will be there from the Central Government. Lawyers and other agencies should be properly represented

so that it is really an advisory body and the problems are brought to the notice of the National Bank.

Clause 19 (c) : "receive gifts, grants, donations or benefactions from Government or any other source."

I have not been able to understand it.

Clause 20 is about borrowings in foreign currency. I hope "any other source" will not be interpreted as 'any foreign source'. If foreign source and grants are permitted, it should not be done without the permission of the Reserve Bank. This may not be used in a manner where foreign agencies may interfere through this Bank.

I have other points also. I thank you for allowing me time. I will not take much time of the House. I am sure the Finance Minister while moving this Bill for consideration it will take into account all these things and also will see that since we have already lost three or four years we should not lose more time and the people in the rural areas should have a kind of emotional attachment with this Bank—that this is a National Bank meant for them, mean for their progress and if they come to this Bank they should not feel that this is another organisation of bureaucrats but they will be treated with sympathy. This Bank should have some understanding and a feeling to help the people living there.

16.37 hrs.

STATEMENT Re : HIJACKING  
OF AIR INDIA'S AIRCRAFT

THE MINISTER OF STATE  
IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM  
AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI

CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) : Air India Boeing 707 flight No. 224 on a scheduled service from Salisbury and Seychelles to Bombay landed at Seychelles Airport last night (local time). It would appear that some persons who formed part of a group which had landed in Seychelles a few hours earlier by an Air Swazi service aircraft and had taken control of the airport, forcibly occupied the Air India aircraft and compelled the pilot to take off for Durban in South Africa. Subsequent information received indicated that the aircraft landed in Durban at 8.50 A.M. IST today. Capt. Saxena, 13 other crew members and 65 passengers were on board besides the hijackers. The aircraft was parked at the end of the runway in Durban airport and the local Civil Aviation and Security authorities had mounted necessary security arrangements.

As a result of the intervention of the Government of South Africa, and as a result of tactful handling of the situation, all the passengers on the hijacked Air India plane could be taken out of the aircraft safely and steps are being taken to fly them to Johannesburg in the course of the day. It is understood that arrangements are being made by the South African Government to send them to Bombay through the first available flight connection. The crew of the plane are also safe and are being lodged in the city of Durban until repairs to the aircraft which sustained some damage while taking off from Seychelles are completed. The South African authorities have arrested all the hijackers. Air India have sent necessary personnel from India to facilitate the return of the passengers to Bombay.

The Hon. Speaker has been kept informed of the developments from time to time.

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV : (Azamgarh) : I want to know

about the nationality of the hijackers. Were they Indians or were they foreigners? What is the information about that? Who were they?

SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR : Quite detailed information is not available for three reasons. Firstly we have no diplomatic corps there in South Africa....

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV : You have received all the information except who were they ! What was their nationality ? You did not care to know that. You did not care to know that also.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let the hon. Minister have his full say and then if anything substantial remains, you may ask.

SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR : You know, since we have no diplomatic relations, we have to talk through some other agencies. Instead of at Durban, the facts were to be decided at Pretoria, the capital of South Africa and through third agencies. In fact, we wanted to give the statement right in the morning itself, but things were getting delayed and the contacts were getting very late and something like that, and we thought that it should not be delayed further. We have asked for many other items of information ; but some of them are still not available to us. That is why we have delayed. But, instead of keeping it pending and further delaying it till tomorrow or so, whatever information we have, I thought it was better to give before the House.

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV : That is all right. But this is very serious

SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARULEKAR (Ratnagiri) : One of the inmates of the plane has been shot at or has been killed. Is it true? If so, may I know whether that

person is a member of the crew or a passenger? (*Interruptions*). That is what has been reported in the teleprinter. You have not made any reference to that. It is a very serious matter. At least, one person has been killed. Who is he? Was he a passenger or a member of the crew? He should tell us this.

**SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR :** So far as the contacts we have got and the agencies we contacted are concerned, they have not informed us that somebody has been killed.

**SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV :** This is really a very serious matter. In this context, who are the hijackers? At least, this should have been known to the hon. Minister.

**MR. CHAIRMAN :** Ordinarily, no question are asked when Government make a statement on its own. But here the situation is obviously extraordinary and the points raised are certainly relevant, most important. All of us would expect the Government to be alert and quite serious about the incident that has taken place, get all the relevant information and keep the House acquainted with such information and the latest developments.

16.43 hrs.

NATIONAL BANK FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT BILL—*contd.*

श्री उमा कान्त मिश्र (मिर्जापुर) : सभापति महोदय, मैं राष्ट्रीय कृषि और ग्रामीण विकास बैंक विधेयक का हार्दिक स्वागत करता हूँ। इस देश में 80 प्रतिशत के आस-पास लोग गांवों में रहते हैं।

इस देश में जो लोग शरीबी की रेखा के नीचे रहते हैं, उनमें से 80 प्रतिशत लोग गांवों में रहते हैं। महात्मा गांधी और पंडित जवाहरलाल नेहरू के नेतृत्व में स्वाधीनता की लड़ाई के जमाने में ही जब इस देश में एक राज्य-प्रणाली और आर्थिक व्यवस्था की स्थापना के बारे में विचार हो रहा था, तो यह धारणा बन गई थी कि देश का विकास नरते हुए गांवों के विकास को प्राथमिकता दी जायेगी। स्वाधीनता-प्राप्ति के बाद पंडित जवाहरलाल नेहरू ने, जो एक युग-पुरुष थे, देश के सर्वांगीण विकास का एक कार्यक्रम बनाया, एक ढांचा तैयार किया। पांच-बाला योजनाएं बनीं और लागू की गईं। निस्संदेह पंच-वर्षीय योजनाओं से इस देश की आर्थिक व्यवस्था को बड़ी मजबूती मिली। कृषि और उद्योग के क्षेत्र में महान् विकास हुआ। 1952 से लेकर 1962 तक दस वर्षों के अन्दर खाद्यान्नों और बुनियादी उद्योगों के मामले में देश को बहुत आगे ले जाया गया। उस अवधि में विकास-दर में 44 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हुई। खाद्यान्नों के अन्तर्ध में देश आत्मनिर्भरता की ओर बढ़ा और साथ-साथ इस देश में बड़े-बड़े बुनियादी उद्योगों की स्थापना की गई। मान्यवर, जिस देश में सिंचाई के साधन न हों, सड़कों की कमी हो, इस्पात न बनता हो, उस देश में दस वर्षों के अन्तर्गत बड़े पैमाने पर विकास के काम हुए। भाबड़ा, नांगल, दामोदर घाटी, गोर रिहन्द डैम आदि बड़े-बड़े विजली के डैम बनाए गए जिसे सारा देश विकास की प्रगति, प्रभावित हुआ और साथ-साथ देश में सड़कें बनाई गईं, नहरें बनाई गईं जिससे राष्ट्रीय सम्पत्ति बढ़ी और राष्ट्रीय विकास आगे बढ़ा। उस समय स्व. पंडित जवाहर लाल नेहरू ने यह महसूस किया कि एक तरफ राष्ट्रीय सम्पत्ति तो बढ़ रही है, देश की सम्पत्ति तो बढ़ रही है, खाद्यान्न का उत्पादन