

[श्री आर० एन० राकेश]

ही बन्द कर दिया है। दैनिक "भारत" इनमें से एक है। उल्लेखनीय है कि "भारत" के मालिक देश के सब से बड़े उद्योगपति बिड़ला हैं।

देश की स्वतन्त्रता से 15 वर्ष पूर्व 1932 में "भारत" का प्रथम अंक निकला था। महामना पंडित मदनमोहन मालवीय, पं० मोतीलाल नेहरू, डा० तेज बहादुर सप्रू, डा० सच्चिदानन्द सिन्हा तथा राजर्षि पुरुषोत्तमदास टंडन के आग्रह प्रेरणा और आशिर्वचन लेकर "भारत" ने देश के जन-जीवन से जुड़ने के लिए अपनी यात्रा आरम्भ की थी। आजादी के बाद इस "भारत" ने प्रयाग, उत्तर प्रदेश और देश के लोगों की भावनाओं और आकांक्षाओं को निरन्तर अभिव्यक्त कर के अपने दायित्व को सदैव सजग लक्ष्य की भांति अनेक संज्ञावातों के कठोर थपड़े को सहते हुए भी आज तक पूरा किया है।

इसी संस्था ने इलाहाबाद से ही प्रकाशित होने वाले "लीडर" को भी बन्द कर दिया है। इकीकतन यदि यह सच है कि देश की आजादीकी लड़ाई में इलाहाबाद की विशेष अहमियत है तो यह भी सच है कि इसमें "भारत" और "लीडर" दोनों समाचारपत्रों की भूमिका प्रति गौरवमयी है। उक्त प्रेस की पचासों लाख की मौजूदा सम्पत्ति इन्हीं "भारत" और "लीडर" की गाड़ी कलाई है। पालेकर एवार्ड से बचने के लिए "भारत" के प्रकाशन को ही प्रकाशक तथा मालिकों द्वारा बन्द कर दिया गया है जिससे दैनिक "भारत" समाचारपत्र सम्बन्धित पत्रकारगण और मजदूरों के जीवकोपार्जन के लाले पड़े गए हैं। ऐसा लगता है कि समाचारपत्र को बन्द करके इसके मालिकगण "भारत" की उक्त सम्पत्ति को किसी अन्य कार्य में लेना चाहते हैं जोकि घोर आपत्तिजनक है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि आजादी की लड़ाई में "भारत" की भूमिका के सम्मान, उत्तर भारत के आठ लाख पाठकों की आकांक्षा और पत्रकारों के हितों की रक्षा हेतु सरकार

प्रबलम्ब हस्तक्षेप करे और प्रकाशकों के नापाक इरावों को पूरा न होने दे।

(vii) REPORTED SUGGESTION BY WORLD BANK TEAM FOR IMPORT OF HIGH POWERS LOCOMOTIVES BY INDIA.

PROF MADHU DANDAVATE: (Rajapur) It is reported that the World Bank team which recently visited India, had elaborate discussions with the Railway experts and the team indicated that no World Bank aid would be available to the Indian Railways, unless the Railways decide to have computerised management system so as to adequately plan the rolling stock, wagon loading review all India marshalling orders and organise up-dated reservation system.

The World Bank has suggested the import of high power locomotives.

AN HON. MEMBER: High powered locomotives? You were the Railways Minister.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Please do not be disturbed. I am not referring to you. I am referring to the World Bank. I have never imported high power locomotives.

In the past also there have been pressures for the import of high power locomotives. But the railways resisted these pressures, in view of the fact that the railways were self-sufficient in locomotives and there was no need of import of high power locomotives; instead, an experiment of double headed trains was attempted.

The Railway Minister should make a categorical statement whether the Railway administration desires to reverse its past attitude towards the import of high power locomotives.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: (Diamond Harbour) Sir on a point of order.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER :  
No point of order.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (Shri Kedar Panday) :  
I shall make a statement later.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Anand Gopal Mukhopadhyay.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :  
Sir, I have a point of order on this.

SHRI KEDAR PANDAY : I shall make a statement later on.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :  
They are going to import it.

SHRI KEDAR PANDAY : I shall make a statement some day regarding this.

(viii) DIFFICULTIES OF ROLLER FLOUR MILLS IN WEST BENGAL

SHRI ANANDA GOPAL MUKHOPADHAY (Asansol) : The roller flour mills in West Bengal are facing acute difficulties and unless immediate remedial measures are taken, some of them are likely to be closed down shortly throwing hundreds of employees out of job and jeopardising production in a serious manner.

Sir, prior to 1980 wheat allotted by the Central Government was reallocated by the State Governments to the respected flour mills on the basis of their capacity. However, this basis for allotment was changed in August, 1980. According to the guidelines formulated by the Centre, the State Governments were requested to sub-allot wheat to flour mills on the basis of the "average actual rate of milling in the recent past rather than licensed or installed capacity". The States were further advised that in computing the performance, three years performance, i.e., for the period ranging from 1978 to 1980 was to be taken into consideration and added to this, local factors and cir-

cumstances, viz, load shedding, financial resources, strikes etc. were also to be taken into consideration. The Centre also suggested that a Committee be appointed which would oversee the distribution system and also presumably take remedial measures as and when necessary in solving problems as they cropped up.

The West Bengal Government accepted the guideline, but while trying to implement the same, violated the very essence of the guideline, i.e. instead of three years' performance, they have introduced only one year's performance and the Committee suggested by the Centre was also not formed. This vital distortion in implementing the guideline has created a very difficult situation for the smaller mills and the supplies are now being cornered by the big mills only. The disparity has become so acute and appealing that while the big mills have on the basis of their performance been given 150% of their capacity, the smaller mills have been given only 10% of their sanctioned capacity. Since it is wholly uneconomical to operate at this low supply, one mill has already closed down and 22 others are likely to follow suit shortly unless some remedial measures are taken.

The inherent drawbacks of the performance basis lies in the fact that the smaller mills because of their lack of financial resources, milling capacity etc. would always remain far behind in the race when compared with the bigger mills who have better capacity, better financial resources, manpower etc. Since a mill can crush only as much as is allotted to it and as it cannot make any open market purchase, under the present system the bigger mills will keep on enjoying the benefit at the cost of the smaller mills. Incidentally, it may be mentioned in this connection that this principle of distribution on the basis of performance is applicable only in West Bengal and all other States are still following the time-honoured principle of allocation on the capacity basis.