

[श्री रामाक्षतर शास्त्री]

कमोशनों में वृद्धि का अर्थ यह कदापि नहीं होना चाहिए कि राशन को दुकानों से मिजने वाली चीजों के मूल्य बढ़ा दिए जायें।

आशा है सरकार राशन के दुकानदारों को कमोशन बढ़ाने की मांग पर सहानुभूतिपूर्वक विचार करेगी।

(vi) ALTERNATIVE EMPLOYMENT FOR THE EMPLOYEES RETRENCHED FROM SALEM STEEL PLANT.

*SHRI C. PLANIAPPA (Salem): Under Rule 377 I wish to raise the following matter of urgent public importance.

The Hindustan Steel Construction Company Ltd., is a Central Government organisation. This organisation is engaged in erecting steel mills in many parts of our country and also in implementing allied projects. Particularly, in Bhilai, Bokaro, Kudremukh, Visakhapatnam, Salem, Madras etc. the work of the Hindustan Steel Construction Company is continuing. Similarly, this organisation is also engaged in construction work in Libya, Iraq and other countries.

The most unfortunate aspect of this organisation's work is that the workers are to fend for themselves immediately after the completion of a particular project by this company. This system of leaving the workers in the lurch should be stopped.

The Hindustan Steel Construction Company is getting work contracts in other places even before the work in a particular place is completed. In such cases the surplus workers in the project being completed should be taken over to the new projects. If that is done, then there will be no retrenchment of workers. New, news has come that there are reports that there

will be retrenchment of workers in Salem, Kudremukh, Madras and particularly in Salem. Under the labour laws of the country, those who have joined later must go first. But in Salem, there is a proposal to send all of them together. Should such large-scale retrenchment be allowed? Cannot H.S.C.L. find alternative avenues of employment for them in the new projects being undertaken? Should not the Ministry of Steel take interest in this matter and ensure that they are taken in the steel projects undertaken by H.S.C.L. elsewhere?

Though the finances may not permit the taking up the second phase of Salem Steel project, at least the work on the second Sensameer Mill should be started. The present salem project has not led to any appreciable benefit to the local people and they are not satisfied. The present cold rolling mill has given employment only to 1000 people. So, immediately the second Sensameer Mill should be constructed so that there is no large-scale retrenchment in Salem Steel Plant.

(vii) RELIEF MEASURES REQUIRED FOR THE INHABITANTS AND LIVE STOCK ENTRAPPED IN KARGIL AND LADAKH DISTRICTS DUE TO HEAVY SNOW FALL.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL (Ladakh): The untimely heavy snowfall in first week of November, 1981 in Ladakh regions has entrapped inhabitants and caught them unawares, resulting in early blockage of many roads in far-flung and remote villages of the districts of Kargil and Ladakh. Communications have been suspended, entire pasture lands of Changthang, areas bordering Tibet, and Zaskar areas are snow-covered, depriving survival of sheep, goats, horses, mules and other livestock, including Yaks of the nomadic tribes. The first information reports from these areas revealed that more than 5,000 heads of cattle, mostly young kid of sheep and goats, have perished due to starvation and cold. Several cases of frost bites to human

beings are also reported. So far available reports indicate that pasture lands are still covered under thick layers of snow, and live-stocks are dying due to starvation. If timely supply by air-dropping of foodstuffs for the inhabitants, and fodder and concentrates for the livestock are not made early, apprehensions are that besides miseries to the inhabitants, most of the livestock may perish within a couple of days.

I urge upon the Government to immediately air-drop rations and medical aid for the entrapped inhabitants and fodder and concentrates for livestock, necessary for their survival.

(viii) NEED TO OPEN AN OFFICE OF SHIPPING CORPORATION OF INDIA AT MADRAS.

DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT (Rajgarh): The Shipping Corporation of India was established in 1961. The main aim of the Government was to help, develop and channelize the export-import business, shipping opportunities and passenger services from various ports of India. During the course of the last 20 years, the SCI has invested over Rs. 1,000 crores in expanding their activity and services throughout the major ports of India. The SCI has drawn up an ambitious programme has drawn up an ambitious programme for further expansion and development in all the port services. A sum of Rs. 800 crores will be spent during the coming 3-4 years. Presently, SCI is one of the biggest shipping companies in the world.

At any given time, about half the number of ships at the Madras port belong to SCI. The Corporation runs a highly lucrative passenger services from Madras to Singapore, to Port Blair, to Japan, to East and West Africa, and various cargo ships from and to Madras port. It passes one's comprehension why the SCI has never bothered to open its own office in Madras. The entire business has been

given to a private company, which makes enormous profits at the cost of SCI. The SCI has long been toying with an idea of opening its own office in Madras.

All the shipping business, including passenger services is run through Messrs. K.P.V. Shaikh Mohammad Rowther Pvt. Ltd., Actually Messrs. K.P.V.S. has been doing monopoly business with SCI. In addition to their commission arrangements, they are also doing agency, stevedoring, clearing forwarding, contracts, chipping, painting and ship chandler work with SCI through *benami* firms. Due to this monopoly, lot of complaints and harassments have been experienced by traders, exporters, importers and even passengers.

May I, therefore, request the Government to establish an SCI office at Madras, the prestigious port of India in the South? The SCI has even opened their own offices in foreign countries, while only at Madras they have given their business on agency basis. In view of the fast expansion of SCI business in Madras, it is but wise and proper that SCI must operate on their own, without allowing individual monopoly to make profits and get all other benefits. I hope Government would announce their decision on the above important matter, in public interest, and to keep up the prestige of the SCI.

(ix) WORKING OF THE KHADI AND VILLAGE INDUSTRIES COMMISSION,

श्री राजनाथ सोनकर शास्त्री :
(सैदपुर) : माननीय सभापति महोदय,
मैं माननीय उद्योग मंत्री का ध्यान देश
के खादी एवं ग्रामीण कमीशन की
गतिविधियों को और दिलावा चाहता
हूँ। इस कमीशन की स्थापना ग्रामीण
शिल्प एवं हरिजन, कर्मजोर, पिछड़े
तथा आर्थिक अभाव में ग्रस्त शिल्पकारों
को प्रगति के लिए की गई है। कमीशन
का लक्ष्य 10 लाख परंपरागत कारीगरों