

[Shri Charanjit Chanana]
lay on the Table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) giving reasons for immediate legislation by the Bird and Company Limited (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings and other Properties) Ordinance, 1980.

13.13 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) AROMATICS PROJECT AT COCHIN

SHRI XAVIER ARAKAL (Ernakulam): Sir, this is to bring to the notice of this Government the need for an aromatics project at Cochin. The Engineers India Limited has submitted a feasibility report and the Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation Limited has applied for letter of intent in 1979. The benefit of this project at Cochin will spread to the entire southern States. The secondary processing facilities of the Cochin Refineries can be fully utilised without much additional investment or difficulties. There will be a great saving for the nation in investment both in cost, time and other things. Our nation cannot waste time and plant facilities and imbalance in petro-chemical industries should be mitigated. The State Government has expressed its willingness to take the total equity capital cost. The Committee headed by Dr. Tilak has also, it seems, recommended Cochin for this project. Under these circumstances and facts, I urge upon this Government to sanction the much-needed Aromatics Project to Cochin, without further delay.

(ii) IMPLEMENTATION OF DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES IN U.P.

श्री हरीश चन्द्र सिंह रावत (अलमोड़ा) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, उत्तर प्रदेश के आठ पर्वतीय जिलों के लिये वार्षिक योजना केन्द्र सरकार के विशेष अंशदान द्वारा बनाई जाती है। इन जिलों के योजनागत कार्यों के महत्वपूर्ण अंग सड़क, पुल एवं नहर निर्माण तथा पेयजल व विद्युत योजनाएं हैं। इन

समस्त योजनाओं का क्रियान्वयन निम्न दो कारणों से दुष्प्रभावित हो रहा है :—

1. सीमेंट, स्टील, कोलतार की आपूर्ति की स्थिति पर्याप्त असंतोषजनक है। इसे सुधारने के लिये आवश्यक है कि उत्तर प्रदेश के लिये उपरोक्त वस्तुओं का कोटा आवंटित किये जाते वक्त आठ पर्वतीय जिलों के लिये विशेष कोटा निर्धारित किया जाय ताकि निर्माण कार्यों हेतु समयबद्ध आपूर्ति संभव हो सके।

2. उपरोक्त निर्माण कार्यों के क्रियान्वयन की स्थिति भी पर्याप्त असंतोषजनक है। इन कार्यों को क्रियान्वित करने वाली अभियंत्रण सेवाओं द्वारा लापरवाही बरतने व भ्रष्ट तौर-तरीके बरतने के कारण करोड़ों रुपये की लागत से बनने वाली सड़कें व पेय जल योजनाओं जैसे नैथना ग्राम समूह पेय जल योजना, पिथोरागढ़ व अल्मोड़ा पेयजल योजनायें संकट में हैं, बिल्कुल असफल हो गई हैं। इसका निराकरण भी तभी संभव है जबकि इन कार्यों को करने वाले अभियंताओं के लिये योजना की सफलता का कानूनी दायित्व निर्धारित किया जाय। वर्तमान समय में योजना के फेल होते ही अभियंता अपना स्थानांतरण अन्यत्र करवा लेते हैं।

अतः माननीय योजना मंत्री कृपया ध्यान दें।

(iii) KORBA FERTILIZER PLANT

DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT (Rajgarh): The recent news emanating from the Union Government sources indicated a strong possibility of changing the location of Korba Fertilizer Plant from Madhya Pradesh to Orissa or Karnataka State. This has grossly disturbed the public mind and moves are afoot to stage strong opposition and agitation to prevent this change of policy.

It is about 17 years since the Government had decided to set up the fertiliser plant at Korba, particularly to improve the lot of this backward under-developed State. Besides, over

18 crores of rupees have already been spent in various surveys, reports, fixation of location at Korba, technical feasibility and such other preliminaries. More so, some construction and other equipment are lying at the site idle.

It is disturbing and distressing that the Government at such a late stage is thinking of changing the location of the fertilizer plant and for reasons which are beyond logical and national capitulation. The Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh has strongly protested against this reported move. It is, therefore, requested that the Government will come out with a categorical statement in the Lok Sabha on the finalisation of this prestigious fertiliser plant in Madhya Pradesh for the development and uplift of the backward regions.

(iv) TAKING OVER OF BUCKINGHAM AND CARNATIC MILLS OF MADRAS

DR. A. KALANIDHI (Madras Central) The Buckingham and Carnatic Mills, Madras, a constituent of the world famous Binnys, was running smoothly till 1976. During the month of November, 1976, floods entered the mill and affected the normal functioning of the mill and caused damages to the machinery and the stock. Taking advantage of this natural calamity the then management of Lakshmi Mills, Coimbatore, as its Chairman closed the mill. For the reopening and viability of the mill, the management has laid down certain conditions such as reduction of 2000 men and wage reduction. The Company Board was re-constituted. The mill was re-opened on 20th February, 1977.

As assured before the Government the workmen continued their co-operation and accepted the finalisation of rationalisation also. After continuous negotiations the strength of the workmen was reduced considerably. The details are:

| | 1970 | 1980 |
|-----------------|--------|-------|
| Operatives | 12,669 | 9,560 |
| Unionised staff | 1,249 | 1,029 |

Contrary to the above, the strength of the management staff remains unaltered. The unions have accepted to share the rationalisation gains at 40 per cent to workmen and 60 per cent to the management. Moreover, on the request of the management, the unions have agreed to continue the 7-day week system. With the continued co-operation of the workmen the management has turned the corner and made a profit of Rs. 437.93 lakhs during the year 1978-79.

All of a sudden, to our dismay it was informed that the company is facing a serious financial crisis. The reason set out by the management for the present crisis is identical to the one stated in the year 1976 which has been disproved.

I like to state that the management's proposal to reduce the manpower and wages is totally unwarranted and unnecessary. Since the level of production, productivity, perfect cloth realisation, sales, etc. remains the same when compared to the previous year during which the company was able to make profit.

I wish to stress once again that the root cause for the ruin of this world renowned mills is managerial lapses and sheer mismanagement. For the healthy functioning of these mills, I suggest to revamp the whole structure right from purchase to sales, including managerial set up.

The management of the B&C Mills has declared that it will close the mill from 1-1-1981. The proposed closure will affect about 13,000 persons directly and about a lakh indirectly. The State Government of Tamil Nadu are saying that they are taking keen interest.

I request the Central Government to intervene in this matter urgently and immediately, to arrange to take over the mill from the present management and to run it as a relief undertaking by the NTC, as has been done in the case of the Kohinoor Mills of Maharashtra. The Centre should take up immediate steps to