

[Mr. Deputy Speaker]

Bhakta--absent; Shri Mool Chand Daga--absent. We will take up the next item.

12.34 hrs.

RE. CALLING ATTENTION NOTICES

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur): Sir, may I make a submission? We all give Call Attention Notices. But you publish only five names. Yesterday also this happened, when there was a very important Calling Attention Notice on the Bangalore-based public sector undertakings. Today also it is an equally serious matter, where hundreds of people are reported to have died. Besides, it raises certain basic questions about ownership of mines, safety in mines etc. Though you have published five names, we suddenly discover that four of them are absent. So, my submission is, you give the names of only those who come in the ballot and you call only five names. But, if the first, say, four are absent then you should call the next five names. Otherwise, we are denied a discussion by default. In fact, I gave my name yesterday and today, but it did not come in the ballot.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You are the makers of these rules.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: I am making a submission that you may making this rule so that on every Calling Attention five Members can put questions, even if some Members are absent. I am sure the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs will agree with me, because we should not allow the discussion to go by default.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY (Bombay North East): This is a good suggestion. It should be referred to the Rules Committee. In

fact, this is the practice in Rajya Sabha. We can have it here also.

12.36 hrs.

STATEMENT CORRECTING ANSWER TO S.Q. NO. 278 RE DATE FOR RECEIPT OF TENDERS FOR PROPOSED IRON ORE PELLETISATION PLANT AT MANGALORE

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH): On behalf of Shri Pranab Kumar Mukherjee, I make the following Statement: On the basis of material furnished by Kudremukh Iron Ore Co. Ltd., on the 27th November, 1980, I had stated in the Lok Sabha on the 5th December, 1980 in answer to Starred Question No. 278 and the supplementaries arising therefrom that the last date for the receipt of tenders for the proposed iron ore pelletisation plant at Mangalore was the 15th December, 1980. However, it appears that at the request of prospective tenders, Kudremukh Iron Ore Co. Ltd had notified the parties on the 3rd December, 1980 of the postponement of the tender opening date to the 15th January, 1981, that is, by one month. The Ministry of Steel and Mines was not immediately informed of this extension and, as a result, the answer given to Starred Question 278 and the supplementaries thereto did not reflect the correct position in this regard.

12.38 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH): With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business in this House during the week commencing 23rd February, 1981, will consist of:—

(1) Further discussion on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address.

(2) Discussion on the Resolution regarding increase in the rate of export duty on groundnut.

(3) General discussion on the Railway Budget for 1981-82.

As members are already aware the General Budget for 1981-82 will be presented on Saturday, the 28th February, 1981 at 5.00 P.M.

SHRI R. K. MHALGI (Thane): Sir, I am going to make only two submissions. To be very brief, it is better that I should read so that I can be brief.

Sir, the Chief Minister of Maharashtra has called tomorrow meetings of four important committees separately during the period from 10-30 a.m. to 11-15 a.m. to consider the proposals for winding up of two important trusts and to merge their assets in "Chief Minister's Relief Fund". (*Interruptions*). The y said two trusts are:

- (1) Jawans' Welfare Fund, and
- (2) The Koyna Relief Fund.

The Jawans' Relief fund is specifically intended for the well-being of the war widows and jawans' families. It has an asset of Rs. 3,50,00,000, and the other Fund has an asset of Rs. 80 lakhs. The total amount is worth Rs. 4,30,00,000. This is a public collection from Maharashtra in the days during 1962 to 1968.

The Chief Minister of Maharashtra wants their winding up and getting these assets under his personal control and discretion to use this public money for Indira Pratisthan. Jawans' money cannot thus be misused.

The Defence Minister should take immediate action and stay those meetings and make a statement to that effect in the next week.

The second is about the Railway Budget.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We are going to have a discussion on it.

SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Yesterday in the Calcutta press, I mean, in the *Business Standard*, it has already appeared. So, the Railway Minister must either resign or come before the House and make a statement to that effect.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री (पटना) :
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं बहुत दुःख के साथ पहला आइटम आप के सामने उठाना चाहता हूँ। जमशेदपुर में आप जानते हैं टाटा की जमींदारी है। वहाँ उन का कारखाना टिस्को है। टिस्को में दस हजार मजदूर ठंके पर काम करते हैं, कांट्रैक्ट लेबर के रूप में जिस में 7 हजार आदिवासी हैं जिन के लिए सरकार यहां बहुत ग्राम् बहाती है। उस में भी दो हजार औरतें हैं। यह सब पेरैनियल नेचर का है।

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please do not go into the details. You may say what you want to be discussed.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : वहाँ एक समझौता हुआ था 7-8-79 को जिसमें यह तय हुआ था कि इन को परमानेंट बना लिया जायगा। लेकिन वे नहीं बनाए गए। 11 फरवरी से वहाँ हड़ताल चल रही है। 15 तारीख को वहाँ लाठी चार्ज हुआ और सब से दुःख की बात यह है कि उस लाठी चार्ज में एक बड़े ही वयोवृद्ध स्वतंत्रता सेनानी और उच्च कोर्ट के मजदूर नेता श्री केदार दास जो प्रोफेसर अब्दुल बारी के सहयोगी थे, वह उस लाठी चार्ज में घायल हुए और कल उन की जमशेदपुर में मृत्यु हो गई। यह इतना बड़ा सवाल है और आदिवासियों का सवाल है, इसलिए इस के ऊपर कालिग अटेंशन या किसी भी रूप में जिसमें संभव हो बहस होनी चाहिए।

दूसरी बात मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ, कि हमारे सूबे बिहार में माननीय संसदीय

[श्री रामावतार शास्त्री]

कार्य मंत्री जी भी जानते हैं क्योंकि उनका क्षेत्र पलामू भी उस में आता है, पुनपुन, दर्घा और मोरहार नदियां बहती हैं। पटना, गया, पलामू, नालंदा, नवादा, इन जिलों का सम्बन्ध इन नदियों से है। वहाँ की एक सिंचाई योजना बिहार सरकार ने भारत सरकार को भेजी है। उसके बारे में हम लोगों को जानकारी होनी चाहिए कि सरकार उस को ले कर बैठी क्यों हुई है? पहले तो कहते थे कि कोई योजना नहीं है, योजना बनवाइए। अब योजना आ चुकी है लेकिन सरकार उस पर कुंडली मार कर बैठ गई है।

आखिरी बात कहना चाहता हूँ। बिहार में आज गोलीकांड का राज हो गया है। जयप्रकाश बाबू का जब आन्दोलन चला था, आप जानते हैं कि हम लोग उस आन्दोलन के समर्थक नहीं थे, उस समय जो गोली चली उसमें एक साल के अंदर 34 आदमी उस से मरे। लेकिन अभी-अभी पांच महीने के अंदर 43 आदमी गोली से बिहार में मारे जा चुके हैं जिन में गुआ (सिंहभूमि) में 12 मरे, समस्तीपुर जेल में जो निर्दोष व्यक्तियों की हत्याएँ की गई उन में 13 आदमी मरे और बलरामपुर (हजारीबाग) में 3 आदमी मरे हैं। उन की जमीन ली गई थी, वह प्रदर्शन कर रहे थे। उन के ऊपर गोली चला कर तीन आदमी मार दिए गए। इस तरह से कुल 43 आदमियों की मृत्यु पिछले पांच महीने में गोलीकांडों से हुई है। मैं चाहूँगा कि इस पर सरकार का एक वक्तव्य आना चाहिए कि इस तरह का गोली का राज वहाँ क्यों चल रहा है और वहाँ के मुख्य मंत्री क्या कर रहे हैं?

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): I want to raise an important issue. Of course, you can say that that matter can be taken while we discuss the Railway Budget. I refer to the question of struggle of loco men. You are also associated with the trade union movement of our country. You should have sympathy. It is in regard to the implementation of the agreement which had been reached between the Railway authorities and the Loco Men Association on the demand of 10 hour work. Then the grievance Committee was also set up to settle other demands of the loco men. But to our surprise, neither the August 1973 Agreement regarding working hours has been implemented nor the Grievance Committee which was set up was allowed to function. Rather it was sabotaged.

The Chairman of the Railway Board gave certain commitments on March 26, 1979 about the implementation of duty hours and change in the pay scales and other allowances also.

The Committee on Running allowances submitted its report in April 1980 and the re-structuring of the pay scales was agreed upon in July 1980. This has also not been implemented.

The Railway authorities have not implemented the already agreed upon items of dispute. On the other hand the locomen, finding no other alternative, have to resort to legal legitimate struggle or protest action and the authorities have started victimisation. 400 employees—locomen have already been discharged. The intimidations are on. Their family members are being intimidated in various ways—Not only that. The National Security Act has been applied to locomen despite the very assurance that this Act shall not be applied against any democratic legitimate movement of the workers.

I want that there should be a discussion on this very important issue for which I have given notice also.

My second point is regarding a serious development that has taken place in the Aligarh Muslim University.

A serious situation has developed following the closure of the University. The Vice-Chancellor has charge-sheeted Prof. Irfan Habib, a forward looking academician with progressive views for expressing his views in the press on the malfunctioning of the University. It is his right to give expression to his views through the platform or through any place or forum. That is his fundamental right; that is his democratic right. To my great surprise, I find that an inquiry has been instituted against Prof. Habib and the saddest part of the story is that the said inquiry is going to be headed by a person who himself brought allegations against Prof. Habib. It is a strange thing that the complainant himself is to sit in judgment. We can understand what justice will be done.

The communal elements belonging to both Hindus and Muslims are taking advantage of the situation and creating tension in the campus. In the interest that the University may be re-opened as soon as possible, that the communal forces be curbed in a proper way and that a healthy academic atmosphere is restored so that there would be no tention in the campus, it is necessary that the Government should come out with a statement in this regard.

श्रीमती प्रमिला बंडवते (बम्बई-उत्तर-मध्य) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं दो आइटम्स आने वाले सप्ताह में चर्चा करने के लिए आपके सामने रख रही हूँ । पहला आइटम है—प्रावलम आफ कंजर्वेशन आफ पेट्रोल ऐंड डीजल । अपने देश में ही नहीं पूरी दुनियां में आज एनर्जी क्राइसिस चल रही है । पेट्रो डालर कन्ट्रीज वराबर दाम बढ़ाते जा रहे हैं । कहा जाता है कि जमीन के अन्दर इसका जितना स्टॉक है वह भी एग्जास्ट हो रहा है । ऐसी हालत में हमारे देश में पेट्रोल और डीजल का कंजर्वेशन वार फुटिंग पर होना चाहिये । इसके विपरीत अभी 17 फरवरी को

'इंडियन एक्सप्रेस' में जो न्यूज आई है उसके अनुसार पुलिस ने कहा है कि 35 हजार ट्रक्स और बसेज का इस्तेमाल किया गया जिनमें 28 लाख लीटर डीजल की खपत हुई और इस तरह से 76 लाख डीजल एक दिन में बर्बाद कर दिया गया । जहाँ तक पेट्रोल और डीजल के कंजर्वेशन की बात है, इसके लिए हमारे देश में कोई कोड आफ कंडक्ट होना चाहिये और वह सभी पोलिटिकल पार्टिज के लिये हो बल्कि रूलिंग पार्टी की ज्यादा जिम्मेदारी बनती है । इस विषय पर चर्चा करने के लिए मैंने कालिग अटेंशन दिया, एडजर्नमेंट मोशन भी दिया लेकिन आप मंजूर ही नहीं करते हैं । इसलिए इस विषय पर अगले सप्ताह किसी भी रूप में चर्चा होनी चाहिये ।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That is a constitutional right of the working class and the peasants in the country. They can demonstrate. You cannot stop it in a democracy. It is their constitutional right.

श्रीमती प्रमिला बंडवते : मेरा दूसरा आइटम है—नान-अवेलेबिलिटी आफ एसे-शियल कमाडिटीज इन राशन शाप्स । इस सम्बन्ध में मेरे पास सारे देश से बहुत सारे खत आए हैं । जहाँ तक दिल्ली की बात है, यहाँ साउथ दिल्ली में दो महीने से राशन शाप्स पर कोई अनाज वगैरह नहीं मिल रहा है । आप फिर कहेंगे कि मैं राजनीतिक बात कहती हूँ । मुझे फोन पर बताया गया कि दो महीने से राशन में पाम-आयल नहीं मिलता है । जब उनसे पूछा जाता है, तो कहते हैं कि स्टॉक नहीं मिलता है । दिल्ली एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन की तरफ से इस सम्बन्ध में कोई जवाब नहीं है । राशन की दुकानों पर चीनी नहीं, चावल नहीं, गेहूँ नहीं । मैं उस दुकानदार का नाम ले सकती हूँ, लेकिन मैं देना नहीं चाहती हूँ और कहा कि किसान-रैली में सारा अनाज लग गया

[श्रीमती प्रमिला दंडवते]

है। पूरे देश में the vulnerable sections of the society are not getting their rations in the fair price shops, उसके ऊपर डिस्कसन होना चाहिये। मैंने इस पर कालिंग-मूवमेंट दिया है, लेकिन वह मंजूर नहीं करते हैं।

Non-availability of essential commodities through fair price shops and ration shops and collapse of the distribution system उस पर किसी न किसी रूप में डिस्कसन करने की व्यवस्था कीजिए।

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY (Bombay North-East): This parliament is actually the protector of the Scheduled Castes...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What is the item on which you are going to speak?

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY. Reservations in Gujarat.

This House is the custodian and protector of the Scheduled Castes in the country. There is a violent agitation going on in Gujarat which has now taken the shape of a general anti-reservation agitation. We must make it absolutely clear that, under no circumstances, this country will ever entertain the question of an anti-reservation policy. We are totally for reservation, and this House must say that. My Calling Attention Notice has been rejected.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: This is a very good statement by you, coming from a Brahmin.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: Sometimes Brahmins also talk sense, and sometimes non-Brahmins also do not talk sense; that also happens; both are there. I agree with you, Sir. But this is the responsibility of the House.

All my notices have been rejected. Also what I speak on this issue, they are blacking out. The ruling party wants to create an impression outside the Parliament that they are the only ones for it and everybody else is against reservation. That is wrong. (Interruptions) The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs has said in the House that one Janata MLA supported the reservation policy. The Janata Party is totally committed to it. In Sarnath we have said that. We want an opportunity in this House, as Members of Parliament representing the people of India, to categorically reaffirm our faith and to reaffirm the necessity for continuing the reservation policy till the caste system is destroyed in this country.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur): Yesterday in the House the question of settlement of the strike of the Bangalore-based public sector employees was raised. Unfortunately, the strike continues and there has been no attempt on the part of the Government of India to bring about a settlement.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The Business Advisory Committee has taken a decision....

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: There has been no settlement. We pleaded yesterday that the Government must invite the leaders of the movement for talks. I would like to make a submission through you to the Government that the leaders of the strike be invited for talks and an effort at bringing about a settlement be made. As I said, the issues that divide the government position from the workers' position are narrow and it is possible to bring about a settlement. Those of us on this side of the House are prepared to cooperate with the Government. Government keeps on asking for cooperation. They should invite the leaders for talks immediately and bring about a settlement.

I also want to refer, again, to the strike by the loco running staff. I want to give an emphasis to that; I would like the Government to see that the kind of harassment to which the

workers are subjected is ended.

Lastly, the hon. Minister referred to the discussion on the Railway Budget.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You have referred to two items.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: This is related to the second item. The hon. Minister referred to the discussion on the Railway Budget. The Railway Budget has been leaked. It is necessary that this House immediately takes this matter into consideration. I want, through you, to convey to the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs that the resignation of the Railway Minister is imperative on the basis of the Budget leak that has occurred. We were discussing this matter earlier and a point was made that this could not be a question of privilege. The precedents of the House of Commons are always cited. I am sure the hon. Minister is aware that, when there was a budget leak in Britain, the concerned Minister, the Finance Minister, resigned immediately. The least that we expect from Mr. Kedar Pandey is that he resigns because of the budget leak for which. I am sure, he should take the responsibility.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH): I am grateful to the hon. Members....

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: Make a commitment.

SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH: ...for their valuable suggestions. As you know, whatever you suggest here, I pass it on, after going through the proceedings,....

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: You are not a post-office.

SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH: ...to the Business Advisory Committee,....

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: Sir, under Rule 355...

SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH: ... if necessary. Yesterday, you had
3656 LS—10

mentioned about a discussion on our foreign policy. After the financial business is over—the Business Advisory Committee has already discussed about it—we will try to have a discussion on our foreign policy. We will try. This is the position.

Thank you very much.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Dr. Swamy, you wanted to raise something under Rule 355.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: Under Rule 355 I can ask a question from the Minister. Sir, is it not that he must take up our point of view and campaign for it in the Business Advisory Committee? He cannot just close it by simply saying that he will place it before the Business Advisory Committee. He is a not a post-office.

12.57 hrs.

ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

COFFEE BOARD

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN): I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of sub-section (2) (b) of Section 4 of the Coffee Act, 1942, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Coffee Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act."

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: (Bombay North-East): As long as you make me, I agree with it.

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN: Most welcome.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of sub-section (2) (b) of Section 4 of the Coffee Act, 1942, the members of