

लिफ्ट परियोजना, बकहर बेलन डाइवर्सन, वाणसागर, शारदा नहर परियोजना आदि है। यही नहीं, डी० पी० ए० पी० के अन्तर्गत बहुत सी सिंचाई की योजनाएं बनी थीं, जिनमें 34 बांधियां निर्मित भी हो गई हैं, परन्तु घनाभाव के कारण मांड एरिया नहीं सृजित किया जा रहा है। आश्चर्य यह है कि उपर्युक्त कुछ परियोजनाओं पर 75 प्रतिशत धनराशि व्यय हो चुकी है, किन्तु उनके कार्य भी घनाभाव के कारण बन्द हो गए हैं।

उपर्युक्त तथ्यों को देखते हुए मैं केन्द्रीय सरकार से मांग करता हूँ कि इन परियोजनाओं को पूरा करने के लिए घनाभाव के कारण आई रुकावट को तत्काल समाप्त किया जाए, जिससे सबंधा सूखे और बाढ़ से प्रभावित होने वाले जनपद का विकास हो जाए।

(x) Need for financial assistance and employment to people of Ghazipur of in view of famine and floods in recent years

श्री जैनुल बशर (गाजीपुर) : महापति महोदय, उत्तर प्रदेश का गाजीपुर का जिला बहुत ही पिछड़ा है। वहां की जनसंख्या का 90 प्रतिशत भाग खेती पर आधारित है। भूमिहीन, सीमांत तथा लघु कृषकों की संख्या 75 प्रतिशत से ऊपर है। इस वर्ष यह जिला अकाल और बाढ़ की चपेट में रहा। ये प्राकृतिक विपदाएं पिछले पांच वर्षों से लगातार आ रही हैं। सन् 1978 में भयंकर बाढ़ आई थी। सन् 1979-80 के देश-व्यापी अकाल में भी यह जिला प्रभावित हुआ। सन् 1982 में पुनः बहुत बड़ी बाढ़ आई और इस वर्ष अकाल और बाढ़ दोनों ही।

ऐसी दशा में वहां के लोगों की आर्थिक कमर ही टूट गई है। अभी मैं वहां से लौटा हूँ और वहां मैंने देखा कि बड़ी संख्या में लोग रोजगार के लिए परेशान हैं। लोगों का रोजी-रोटी चलना मुश्किल हो रहा है। राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण रोजगार योजना के अन्तर्गत कुछ काम हो रहा है, लेकिन बेरोजगारों की एक बड़ी फौज को देखते हुए ये काम भी बहुत कम हैं— विशेषकर ऐसे समय में, जबकि खरीफ की

फसल नहीं के बराबर हुई है और रबी की फसल भी अच्छी होने की संभावना नहीं है।

मेशा सरकार से अनुरोध है कि वहां की विकट स्थिति को देखते हुए राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण रोजगार योजना के अन्तर्गत अधिक से अधिक धन गाजीपुर को दिया जाए, ताकि वहां रोजगार-परक योजनाओं पर काम शुरू हो। इस मामले में बहुत ही शीघ्रता किए जाने की आवश्यकता है, नहीं तो वहां के लोग भुखमरी के कगार पर खड़े हो जाएंगे।

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now we come to items 15 and 16. They may be discussed together. Shri Krishna Kumar Goyal may move the Resolution.

13 30 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE : DIS-
APPROVAL OF TEA (AMENDMENT)
ORDINANCE AND
TEA (AMENDMENT) BILL

SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL
(Kota) : I beg to move :

“This House disapproves of the Tea (Amendment) ordinance, 1983 (Ordinance No. 7 of 1983) promulgated by the President on the 7th October, 1983.”

महापति महोदय, जहां तक अध्यादेश की भावना का सवाल है मैं किसी सीमा तक उस भावना को स्वीकार करने को तैयार हूँ परन्तु जिस प्रकार से बार-बार इस सदन के माध्यम से सरकार की ताड़ना की गई है कि जब सरकार यह समझती है कि किसी भी वस्तु के लिए कानून बनाना आवश्यक है और उसके लिए विधेयक सदन में पेश किया जा सकता है तो सरकार को विधेयक का ही सहारा लेना चाहिए, अध्यादेश का सहारा नहीं लेना चाहिए और इस आधार पर ही मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि चाय कानून में संशोधन के लिए जो अध्यादेश निकाला गया, जैसा कि सरकार ने अपना स्टेटमेंट दिया उससे पता लगता है कि 10 अक्टूबर, 1983 को जो बीमार चाय बागान थे जिनका मैंने जमेंट सरकार ने अपने हाथ में

लिया था प्रारम्भ में पांच साल के लिए और जैसा कि कानून के अन्दर अधिकार है कि अधिक से अधिक सात साल तक चाय बागान का मैनेजमेंट सरकार अपने हाथ में ले सकती है, एक साल पहले बढ़ाया और उसके बाद एक साल और बढ़ाया, अब सात साल का जो मैक्सिमम अधिकार है आपको वह समाप्त हो रहा है इसलिए आप यह अध्यादेश लेकर आए हैं। मेरा यह कहना है कि ये जो चाय बागान बीमार चल रहे हैं जिनका मैनेजमेंट आप ने लिया क्या 10 अक्टूबर 1983 को जब आर्डिनंस निकाला इसके पहले सरकार को पता नहीं था या यह पता नहीं किया जा सकता था कि ये चाय बागान अभी भी बीमार हैं और अभी तक अपने पैरों पर खड़े नहीं हो सके हैं, इनका मैनेजमेंट कुछ समय तक और सरकार के हाथ में रहे, क्या यह पहले मालूम नहीं किया जा सकता था? मेरा कहना है कि मालूम किया जा सकता था और सरकार को मालूम था कि इनके मैनेजमेंट का समय बढ़ाना पड़ेगा। जब यह पहले से मालूम था तो कोई कारण नहीं था कि अक्टूबर 1983 में ही इसके लिए अध्यादेश निकालते। इससे पहले जो हमारा मानसून सेशन था या उसके पहले जो बजट सेशन था, मैं तो यह कहूंगा कि उस समय भी सरकार को पता था कि इसके मैनेजमेंट को हमें अपने हाथ में लेना पड़ेगा, तो उस समय आसानी से इसके लिए विधेयक लाया जा सकता था। सरकार की इस मनोवृत्ति का कि जो बार-बार सदन की उपेक्षा करने की उसकी आदत पड़ गई है और सदन की पीठ के पीछे यह बहाना लेकर कि चूंकि आवश्यक हो गया था और सदन नहीं चल रहा था इसलिए हमें अध्यादेश निकालना पड़ा, इस मनोवृत्ति की मैं घोर निन्दा करता हूँ और इसीलिए मैंने इस अध्यादेश को निरस्त करने के लिए अपना संशोधन दिया है।

मैं सरकार से पूछना चाहूंगा कि सरकार की स्वयं की उद्घोषित नीति क्या है? जिन चाय बागान को बीमार मान कर या यह केवल चाय बागान का नहीं बल्कि पूरी इंडस्ट्री ऐज

सब का सवाल है, जो उद्योग बीमार हैं भविष्य में उनके बारे में सरकार की नीति क्या है? मैं यह कंटेगोरिकली, स्पष्ट रूप से जानना चाहूंगा कि भविष्य के अन्दर भी जो चाय बागान बीमार हैं उनके मैनेजमेंट को सरकार अपने हाथ में लेगी या सरकार यह तय करेगी कि भविष्य के अन्दर कोई चाय बागान जो बीमार होंगे उनको सरकार अपने हाथ में लेने वाली नहीं है? यह मैं इसलिए कह रहा हूँ कि अनेक बार पश्चिम बंगाल से आने वाले माननीय सदस्यों ने और यहां तक कि आसाम के प्रतिनिधियों ने भी सवाल उठाया है कि हमारे क्षेत्रों के अन्दर अनेक चाय बागान बीमार पड़े हैं और उनके बीमार होने की वजह से मजदूर घर बैठे हुए हैं।

देश को नुकसान हो रहा है। सरकार बराबर घोषणा करती रही है कि केन्द्रीय सरकार की कोई नीति नहीं है। जिन चाय-बागान के मैनेजमेंट को अपने हाथ में लिया है या जो कुछ करना है, वह राज्य सरकारें करें। तो फिर क्या कारण है कि जो मैनेजमेंट आपके पास अभी तक हैं, जो बीमार चाय-बागान की है और जो उनका मैनेजमेंट है, उसको आगे बढ़ाने के लिए सात साल के बजाए आप ग्यारह साल की अवधि लेना चाहते हैं—यह मैं स्पष्ट रूप से कहना चाहता हूँ। दूसरी बात यह है कि जिन मैनेजमेंट को बीमार मानकर सरकार ने अपने हाथ में लिया है, उसके संबंध में भविष्य के लिए सरकार की क्या नीति है। जिस किसी भी चाय-बागान के उद्योग को बीमार मानकर सरकार ने उसके मैनेजमेंट को अपने हाथ में लिया है, तो क्या उन चाय-बागान को फिर से सरकार ठीक करके उन मालिकों को देना चाहती है या नहीं—इस बारे में भी मैं सरकार की स्पष्ट नीति जानना चाहता हूँ।

मेरी तो स्वयं की मान्यता यह है कि चाय बागान के मालिक ब्रदरिनयती के कारण ही मिल को बीमार करते हैं। जिस किसी भी उद्योग को सरकार ने अपने हाथ में लिया है, उसको

सुधारने के बाद किसी भी कीमत पर मालिक को वापिस नहीं लौटाना चाहिए। इस बारे में भी मैं सरकार की नीति के बारे में जानना चाहता हूँ। सभापति जी, मैं तो यहां तक कहूंगा कि सरकार इस बात को कहने में शायद डरे, लेकिन वह भी यही कहेगी जो चाय-बागान बीमार हुए हैं, उनको अपने हाथ में लेकर सुधारने के बाद मालिकों को वापिस नहीं लौटाएगी। इसलिए मेरी मांग है कि बराबर संशोधन लाकर अवधि बढ़ाने के बजाए, सरकार उनका राष्ट्रीयकरण करे। उनको अपने हाथ में लेकर उनकी इकानामिक स्थिति में सुधार करे—इस बारे में भी मैं सरकार की नीति के बारे में जानना चाहता हूँ। एक बात मैं यह भी पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जिन चाय-बागान को आपने अपने हाथ में लिया, जिनको सात साल हो गए हैं, क्या आज वे मुनाफे की स्थिति में आ गए हैं? क्या कोई चाय बागान का मालिक सात साल तक इनवेस्टमेंट करने के बाद इन्तजार कर सकता है? इतना पैसा लगाने के बावजूद भी क्या आप नाप्राफिट ना लास की स्थिति में आ गए हैं; यदि नहीं; तो क्या इसके लिए आपने कोई प्लान तय किया है? अगर सरकार इन चाय-बागान को अपने हाथ में लेकर नुकसान के अन्दर चल रही है, तो कहा जा सकता है कि पब्लिक सैंक्टर की तरह वे भी जनता के पैसे को खा रहे हैं। इस तरफ किसी का भी ध्यान नहीं जा रहा है। जो प्लांट पुराने हो गए हैं, उन को बदल कर नए प्लांट लगाए जायें, लेकिन ऐसी स्थिति नहीं है। ऐशो-आराम की जिन्दगी जिस प्रकार से चाय बागान में बिताई जा सकती है, जिस प्रकार से ब्रिटिश पीरीयड के अन्दर मीनेजर्स बिताया करते थे, उसी प्रकार से अब भी हो रहा है। मैं यह भी पूछना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार ने टडन कमेटी की रिपोर्ट पर क्या कार्यवाही की है? क्या उस रिपोर्ट के आधार पर चाय के कानून में कोई परिवर्तन किया गया है? ऑक्शन सैंटर में चाय के अन्दर जिस प्रकार से मनमानी की जाती थी, वही आज भी

विद्यमान है। मन्त्री महोदया-चाय जबकि कोई लरजरी आइटम नहीं है, वह आज के जीवन के लिए नैसेसिटी हो गई है, लेकिन उस की कीमत आज 40 रु० प्रति किलो हो गई है। बच्चों को आज दूध नहीं दिया जा सकता है, धी नहीं दिया जा सकता है, चाय जरूर पिनाई जा सकती है, लेकिन आज उसकी कीमत 40 रु० प्रति किलो है। मैं माननीय मन्त्री महोदया से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि इन बढ़ती हुई कीमतों को रोकने के लिए आप ने क्या कदम उठाए हैं?

क्या आप ने मालिकों को मजबूर किया कि जितना चाय का उत्पादन होता है, वे आक्शन सैंटर में ले कर आयें? आज वहां पर बहुत ज्यादा एक्साइज की चोरी होती है, लूज टी के नाम पर चाय बाला-बाला चाय-बागान से बिक जाती है और पता नहीं चलता है। यह ठीक है कि आप का फारन-मार्केट बहुत अच्छा है और मैं भी यही चाहूंगा कि फारन-मार्केट खत्म न हो, लेकिन चाय-बागान के मालिकों से सांठगाठ करके 40 रुपए किलो पर चाय पीने के लिए उपभोक्ताओं को मजबूर किया जाय, इससे ज्यादा शर्म की बात नहीं हो सकती। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार क्या कदम उठा रही है? 40 रुपये किलो की चाय आज कौन पी सकता है, क्या हमारा जनसाधारण पी सकता है और वह भी बाजार में घूल जैसी चाय पीने को मिल रही है, कोई स्टेण्डर्ड की चाय नहीं है। इस सम्बन्ध में आपका मंत्रालय क्या कर रहा है? जो मुद्दे मैंने इस समय उठाये हैं, उनके बारे में सरकार की नीति क्या है—इस सम्बन्ध में आप अपने जवाब में बतलायें?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Resolution moved :

“This House disapproves of the Tea (Amendment) Ordinance, 1983 (Ordinance No. 7 of 1983) promulgated by the President on the 7th October, 1983”.

Now, Shrimati Ram Dulari Sinha.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRIMATI
RAM DULARI SINHA) : I beg to move :

“That the Bill further to amend the Tea Act, 1953, be taken into consideration.”

I would like to say that I have heard with great patience the speech delivered by Shri Krishna Kumar Goyal. In the first instance, I would like to say that Chapter III-A of the Tea Act, 1953 provides for the take over of the management of sick tea undertakings or tea units by the Central Government under certain circumstances. This was inserted in the Tea Act in 1976. These provisions are based on the corresponding provisions of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 in respect of sick industrial undertakings or units.

In terms of the provisions of the Tea Act under Sections 16D and 16E, the Central Government is empowered under certain circumstances to take over the management and control of the whole or part of tea undertakings or units for a period of five years, which may be extended by a further period of one year at a time, subject to a maximum of two years. Thus, the total period of takeover prescribed was seven years.

However, the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 provides that the total period for which an industrial undertaking can be taken over is seventeen years, that is, five years in the first instance and thereafter by extensions of two years at a time for a further twelve years. On the basis of the experience of the tea units taken over in 1976 under the provisions of the Act, Government is of the considered view that the period of seven years provided for the continuance of management of sick tea gardens is not adequate to provide effectively for all the managerial and developmental inputs necessary to ensure the gardens back to health. A long gestation period is required for the rejuvenation and rehabilitation of tea bushes. Tea cultivation is an agricultural operation and nature cannot be compelled to conform to our schedules. We must adjust our own schedules according to the course of nature.

Hon. Members will be glad to know that despite all legal hurdles created by the owners of the taken-over gardens which

made implementation of rehabilitation programme difficult, significant improvements in productivity, have been made. After takeover, conditions in the tea factories have been improved by the provision of controlled withering facilities installation of generating sets, repair of irrigation and drainage facilities etc. Large-scale rejuvenation, pruning inter-planting etc have also been undertaken. Modern methods of cultivation have been adopted scientific inputs such as fertilisers, pesticides, weedicides etc have been regularly applied.

Labour welfare measures which as hon. Member Shri Goyal was mentioning in his speech, had fallen into disuse have been reintroduced and construction of pucca labour houses undertaken on a phased basis. Labour from these gardens welcomed the take-over of the management and they have represented against handing them back to the owners who had been responsible for mismanagement and neglect.

I would like to inform hon. Member Shri Goyal that, in view of considerable efforts made by the Government to revitalise these gardens, extension of take-over period is necessary to improve their viability. Then only the socio-economic objectives of the take-over will be served.

Hon. Member Shri Goyal has asked as to why we issued an Ordinance on 7th October. I shall now reply to that. It became imperative to issue the Ordinance on 7th October, 1983, because the maximum period for the take-over allowed in certain cases was coming to an end on 11th October, 1983, and Parliament was not in session at that time. I want to remind you of that. We are now seeking to amend the existing provisions relating to the period of takeover so that the maximum period for which a tea unit is taken over will now be eleven years, that is, for a further period of six years, one year at a time, beyond the initial period of five years.

The hon. Member has made many suggestions and I will reply to all those at the concluding stage.

Now I move for consideration of this Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved !

"That the Bill further to amend the Tea Act, 1943, be taken into consideration."

Shri Ananda Pathak.

SHRI ANANDA PATHAK (Darjeeling):

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are discussing the two items together, one is the Statutory Resolution moved by Shri Krishna Kumar Goyal seeking disapproval of the Tea (Amendment) Ordinance, 1983, and the second is the Tea (Amendment) Bill.

As far as the Resolution is concerned, we generally do not support promulgation of Ordinances just a few days before Parliament is to meet. Hon. Member Shri Goyal has rightly pointed out that the Government was very much callous and unconcerned about the take-over of tea gardens, not only take-over of the tea gardens, but also of the tea industry as a whole. On the eve of the expiry of the period of takeover of the tea gardens they hurriedly came forward with this Ordinance. We do not support the practice of bringing Ordinances in each and every case, every now and then. But in this particular case, maybe, it is due to the Government's callousness or whatever it may be that this had to be done. Had the Ordinance not been promulgated on 7th October, 1983 when Parliament was not in Session, a difficult situation would have arisen because the extended period was due to expire on 10th October, 1983; a very difficult situation would have arisen as regards the four or five tea gardens involving more than 2,000 workers. As a matter of fact, the workers of the tea gardens were very much restive when they came to know that the extended period was going to expire and were afraid that the gardens might be returned to the owners. They submitted a very strong representation to the Prime Minister and the Commerce Minister as far back as May urging upon them not to return these gardens to those owners who had made these units sick. I also made a strong plea to the Prime Minister and the Commerce Minister urging upon them not to return these tea-gardens to the previous owners.

Now, coming to the Bill, though I do not oppose the amending Bill, yet I feel that the proposed period of extension to 11 years still falls short of the requirements. Because the tea industry is an agro-industry, it requires more time to bring it back to health from its sickness. More so, it requires more

time especially in the high altitude like Darjeeling hills where the topographical and climatic conditions are different and where most of the lovely tea gardens are located and have been closed and abandoned now for year together. Therefore, I have proposed to make it 15 years instead of 11 years as proposed by the Government, in my amendment which I hope the hon Minister would seriously consider and accept.

I had already made this suggestion in the course of the discussion on the last Tea (Amendment) Bill in the year 1980, but unfortunately, at that time, they have not accepted it. Now, I find in the Statement of Objects the Government has also realised the gravity of the situation and felt the necessity of extending the period of taking over. The purpose of this Bill being very limited, I have no scope to discuss about the whole matter regarding the tea industry. Therefore, I have made my suggestion in a very limited way. But I feel even this 15 years or even 18 years, whatever it is, may not be sufficient and it is not the solution. The only solution will be outright nationalisation of these tea gardens. How long and how many times do you go on extending the period of taking over in this piecemeal fashion?

Another pertinent question is: what are you going to do after the expiry of the extended period of taking over? Are you going to return these taken over tea gardens to the same owners who mismanaged and ruined them?

The Government have invested and sunk huge amount of money from the public exchequer for bringing these sick tea gardens to health. For what purpose? Just to help these unindustrialist traders and unscrupulous managements who have no sympathy, no love for the workers, for the industry and for the country? They have love only for the money. Sir, this is the unique pattern of our socialism!

However, may I be permitted, Sir, to refer here to the assurance given by the then Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce, Shri Khursheed Alam Khan, on the floor of this House in the course of his reply to the discussion on the last Tea (Amendment) Bill on 19th December, 1980. What he stated then, I quote:

"...I want to assure him that there is no idea of taking over these gardens, investing and sinking money in them and giving them back to the owners."

Further on he has said :

"We do not want to function as a hospital where a patient is restored to health and then handed over to the relatives so that they can again make the unit sick or run it to destruction."

Quite Excellent. I think the Government stands committed by this assurance. So why do you not outright nationalise these taken-over tea-gardens immediately on the expiry of the period of taking over as you have done in the case of some of the jute companies, textile mills; the Bird Co. and some other taken-over under-takings ?

Another thing is : when you take over any sick tea garden, you do so being satisfied that the production is falling, tea bushes are dying and machineries are getting rotten and outdated and the workers are being deprived of their wages and other statutory benefits.

So, you have to spend a lot of money. You have to make capital investment for their rejuvenation and revamping of such sick tea gardens.

But, there is no such provision in the Tea Act. Then, how do you expect to bring such sick unit to health ? So instead of bringing occasional amendments in a piecemeal manner, why is the Government not bringing forward a comprehensive Bill to nationalise such units and remove the lacunae and weaknesses in the existing Act ?

Sir, the tea industry is one of the vital industries. It earns the much-needed foreign exchange worth more than Rs. 400 crores annually ; it pays more than Rs. 150 crores per annum to the Government Exchequer in the form of taxes and duties and it provides direct employment to more than 10 lakhs of people. But, such a vital industry is getting sick due to mismanagement. In Dajreeling, which produces the world-famous flavoury and finest tea, more than 12 tea gardens are still closed and abandoned and many more are getting sick. What are you going to do about these tea gardens ? I urge upon the Government to take over these closed tea gardens under the provisions of the Tea Act and save thousands of workers and their family members from the verge of starvation

and also save this vital industry from ruination.

Before I conclude, I would like to draw your attention to the very disturbing report appearing in the *Statesman* (Calcutta edition) of 24th November, 1983, wherein it is stated that some of the producers of Tea in North East India have misappropriated more than Rs. 150 crores by underinvoicing the private sales either at ex-factory level or by withdrawing from the auction sales.

The Chief Commissioner of Income-tax West Bengal has revealed the above fact after a series of raids conducted by his department simultaneously in Calcutta, Jalpaiguri, Siliguri and also in Madras, Ahmedabad, Delhi and other places. This shows that when the prices come down, these companies close down and abandon the tea gardens. But, when the prices go up, they resort to all sorts of malpractices but they do not care for the development and proper maintenance of tea gardens and thus make them sick.

Transactions are recorded at a price much lower than what they get and the differences are being taken as 'one money' thereby they are cheating not only the shareholders but are also depriving the Government, depriving the industry and also the workers.

So, all the more it is necessary to nationalise these questionable units before it is too late. With these words, I conclude my speech.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, this amendment to the Tea Act which has been brought before the House again proves the Government's casual attitude towards tea industry which is one of the most important industries of the country from the point of view of earning foreign exchange and also from the point of view of employment.

Sir, in our country, there are about 13,345 tea estates and, roughly, we produce now six million K. Gs of tea. The target for our country by 2,080 is of the production of 19 million K. Gs of tea. To achieve this, we have to nourish these huge number of tea gardens. And, at the same time, we have also to look after the labour who are employed there. They are mostly

from the harijan classes or Scheduled Tribes some of whom come from the areas of the hon. Minister, Shrimati Ram Dulari Sinha, namely, Bihar, and some of them come from Orissa while some of them come from U. P. So they have all gone to Assam, West Bengal as well as in certain parts of Kerala. Now, unfortunately, the Government does not give as much importance as they should have given to the tea industry.

14.01 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

My point is that Government has come forward with different legislation for the welfare of the tea estates. Government has given various conveniences to the tea estates but I personally feel that the facilities which have been extend to the tea estates have not been properly utilised and this is why these ad hoc measures are being taken by the Government.

This Tea Act which was introduced long before the idea was to take over the gardens not only from the commercial point of view but from socio-economic point of view as well. As it is a labour oriented industry Government wanted to take care of the huge number of labours appointed there but in doing so the Government is wasting the national exchequer's money in these tea gardens. They have so long taken over five tea gardens. If the Government themselves are to run them in a proper manner in the course of five to seven years—at present the amendment is for 14 years—I think, they are living in a fool's paradise. Tea gardens which cannot be run properly by the management for years together if Government by putting some organisation there tries to improve them in the course of 14 years, I think, they are wrong. Even if they want to improve they are not allowed to improve them because these garden are run by the Government as per existing rules and regulations which are governing the other tea gardens in the country. What happens is—I am saying from my experience—when the Government wants to make any capital expenditure there they are not allowed by the proprietors because the proprietors take order from the court and stop them from doing any development work. Not only that the TTCI

which is doing good work in the tea industry for exporting tea they are also not allowed to buy tea from the gardens. They have to buy tea from the auctions and again sell it. The idea of TTCI taking over or Government taking over is to run them for a particular period and give them back to the industrialists who originally owned the gardens. I think it is basically wrong. Government should be forthright and nationalise these gardens so that these gardens are run properly and efficiently.

Sir, the Tea Board has been fed with certain information by certain association in regard to various schemes which the Tea Board is implementing. Now, all this information which comes before the Tea Board is fictitious and these fictitious reports are the base through which you are giving various grants.

I propose that Government if they do not want to totally nationalise the industry—I am not a supporter of it—if they can manage these gardens properly in the question of development, expermenting and labour welfare that can be the guideline for Government to look after the tea industry and give them help. That can be the guidelines for the Government and also the Finance Ministry to know what is the actual loss and what is the actual gain which the industry is getting.

Now Sir, at the same time I would say that It is high time now that the Govt. of India should consider the tea industry as a priority industry which is very essential. Why it is very essential? It is because the tea industry needs very many inputs like coal, fuel, manure and various other things. Tea industry is there concentrated mostly in the North eastern areas, in West Bengal and in other areas. Their sources of supply are from remote areas and remote places. Now to bring all these inputs extra cost is involved. They can't get all the permission which they will get if they are considered as a priority in dustry. They have to bring all these things either by road or even sometimes by road-cum-steamer-cum-rail. Therefore the cost of production goes up. Same is the case of fuel. Same is the case of other inputs; it is the same problem everywhere. Many of the tea gardens are in

remote areas; and they are getting their products by tanks and lorries. Here another problem is this. The petrol pumps are in the main cities and main towns. So, these problems are arising there. Therefore, tea industry must be considered as a priority industry. If it is considered as a priority industry they will get more facilities in 'Inward' and 'outward' movement of their inputs as well as their finished products.

Secondly, Sir, if the tea industry is considered as priority industry they will get more benefits from financial institutions. Now what is happening is this: The financial institutions are not forthcoming to help tea industry in times when they are in dire necessity. If you go into the history of the tea industry you will find that there have been periods of 'boom' and periods of 'slump'. Now, at present, tea industry is having a boom period. It is being said that the tea industry was earning so much. The other day when they Minister was replying to a question Mr. Somnath Chatterjee was saying that the tea industry was earning so much, earning huge profits and so on, and they must spend more money on modernisation and all that. But at the same time we should also consider the huge backlog and the huge loss which they have to sustain in the last 10 or 15 years. When it is said that they are having huge profits, Government is also getting part of that money by way of incometax and excise duties which they are paying to the Government Exchequer.

Now, Sir, Let me say, the Tea industry needs development; tea industry needs a fresh look there should be fresh thinking bestowed to capture foreign market. It is time we come out with novel ideas to attract foreign buyers. The folly done by the Janata Government was levying excise duty of Rs. 5. But it is ultimately withdrawn. But it took a long time for them to recapture the international market. Sir, it always takes a long time to capture foreign markets, to develop the foreign market; to but in one minute, by one decision, you can lose that market. The Janata Government's decision has created havoc in the tea industry about which I have already made a mention. Sir, they have been able to capture the market because of the present situation in Sri Lanka,— not as politics, but for tea industry, it is a good thing: The

present situation in Sri Lanka is a plus point for the tea industry and we have to take steps to contain the markets, I ask the Government: What steps have the Government taken in this regard? I request the Government that it is high time that they should capture more foreign markets even if it is at loss of some money to our exchequer because foreign exchange is more important than earning money within the country. Government must have dialogue with tea board, with tea manates and tea associations to find out methods by which we can capture foreign market. We must capture that market by taking all necessary steps, Sir, I am a member of the tea Board. If you go to the meeting you will find that there are 45 items. Out of those, 43 items will be only on transfer, posting, promotion, house allowance etc. Nothing about development of tea industry. Even if you ask, let us have some discussion on development, they will say it is coming in next meeting, next meeting, etc. But nothing comes up.

The Tea Board has got a function to do. If it is, considered to be a body to appease certain officials who are in the good books of the Government or the Minister, then I am sure it is not doing good work. But if it is for the cause of the industry and if it is to do good, work then it has really to do good work for the industry. The Tea Board, for the last four years or so has not done a bit for the cause of the tea industry because there has been no scope for discussion for the promotion of tea industry in the meetings held during these years. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister to be courteous and forthright. I am glad that Shrimati Ram Dulari Sinha has moved this Bill and I would request that she should have a motherly attitude towards the tea industry. A child who is sick needs nursing of a lady. The lady Minister can nurse it better than Mr. Viswanath Pratap Singh. I hope the present Minister is taking a lot of interest in the industry and with his magnanimity and his team consisting of Mrs. Ram Dulari Sinha and Mr. Sharma would definitely look after the tea industry and this Bill should not be taken as an *ad hoc* measure. They should think now the tea industry can be revitalised keeping in view this industry which is earning 2/3rds of our foreign exchange which needs better care from the financial institutions and from the Govern-

four such investment companies. The ment at the same time. It is high time the Government stopped siphoning off the money from the industry and misusing it for some other purposes. Once the hon. Finance Minister said "the tea industry has become sick, but the industrialists do not become sick", is That the correct picture and the industrialists are becoming richer and richer day by day at the expense of the industry. With these words, I support the Bill and I hope the suggestions which I have given will be considered by the hon. Minister. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let us compete with Sri Lanka and capture the tea market in the world when normal conditions exist in Sri Lanka because Government of India wants that normal conditions should prevail there. We will not compete with them when they are weak. We will compete with them when they are strong.

* SHRI ERA MOHAN (Coimbatore) : Hon. Mr. Deputy, Speaker, Sir, I rise to make a few suggestions on The Tea (Amendment) Bill, 1983; which seeks to replace the Ordinance promulgated by the President on 7th October, 1983. Sir, at the very outset I would like to say that I am seriously opposed to the recourse being taken by the Government for amending the parent acts through Presidential Ordinances.

As the seven-year period in respect of those tea undertakings, whose managements were acquired by the Government on the ground of mismanagement, is due to expire, the Government has suddenly woken up and realised the need for extending the period to 11 years so that these undertakings could be restored back to health. At the last moment the Government has felt that this seven period has not proved be adequate for restoring them to normalcy. I am surprised that that the highly paid officials in the Tea board and in the Ministry could not foresee the need for extending this period sufficiently in advance so that there would have been no compelling circumstances for issuing Presidential proclamation. All I want to emphasise is that the Government should not resort to proclamation of Presidential Ordinances even for amending parent Acts, like the one under reference. I would like to stress that this authority should be sparingly used.

If the Government takes recourse to Presidential Ordinances so frequently, it is in fact denigrating the authority of the President. It also highlights the ineptitude of the Government. These tea undertakings were over in 1976 and till 7th October 1983 the Government did not realise the need for extending the period of nurturing them back to health. This also does not speak well of the Government.

Sir, the total period for which the management of an industrial undertaking can be taken over under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 is seventeen years, I refer to this because the Government should not again proclaim a Presidential Ordinance just before the expiry of 11 year period extending it to 17 years. I would go to the extent of saying that even now this period of nursing sick tea units can be extended to 17 years through this amending legislation.

I would like to refer to another import issue relevant to this amending Bill. I would like to know the intentions of the Government as to whether after nursing such tea undertakings for 11 years they will be handed over to the same managements which had fleeced them to marrows. The tax-payers' money is invested in these undertakings. The Government have restored them to normal health. After that, in no circumstances they should be given back to the erstwhile managements, whose callousness compelled the Government to acquire them. If they are handed over to the erstwhile managements then the Government is playing foul with public money. The people are done injustice by the Government. I would suggest that the Government should create a public sector organisation to run such tea undertakings.

Under the caption "Tea raids unearth black money hoard", a news item has appeared in BUSINESS STANDARD of 28th November 1983. The recent raids of the Incometax Department have revealed massive tax evasion on the part of tea garden owners in Calcutta, Siliguri, Cochin, Ahmedabad, Surat, Amritsar and New Delhi. The various modes of laundering black money through investment companies have come to notice. In Assam and Darjeeling investment of Rs. 2.5 crores has been made in

Directors of tea companies have diverted corporate funds amounting to Rs. 3.75 crores into their personal accounts. Such mismanagements of tea gardens led to the acquisition by the Government. If after nurturing them back to normalcy they are to be handed over to the very same people, then the Government is placating these plunderers and is giving fillip to these fleecers. That is, why I suggest that a public sector organisation should be created for running these units.

I will now come to another important aspect. In Udhagamandalam, formerly known as The Nilgiris and in Anamalai Hills, there are very fine tea gardens. In fact the whole of the Nilgiris is covered with tea gardens. They were all established by the Britishers. There were thick intractable jungles here. But the Britishers converted them into very good tea gardens. In these places there are small tea garden owners who require financial assistance for their working. All these tea gardens are very old now. The tea plants are not yielding the same quantum of tea, as they were in the initial stages. There is urgent need for undertaking replantation on a wide scale. This has been brought to the notice at the Ministry several times. Here I have to point out the owners of tea gardens. Udhagamandalam and in Anamalai Hills are not getting adequate financial assistance from the Tea Replantation Finance Scheme being implemented by the Government. This neglect of tea gardens in South appears grave consequence when it is found that the replantation financial assistance being given to tea gardens in North-east parts is comparatively large. Tea is the largest foreign exchange earner for our country. The Government should not only give protection to the existing tea gardens but also ensure substantial replantation programme so that the future of tea estates is not jeopardised. The foreign exchange earnings of our country should not get depleted due to neglect of such replantation programme. In addition, we have to ensure that the workers are not thrown out of employment because of the continuous neglect of tea gardens. I would like to appeal to the hon. Minister that adequate replantation financial assistance should be extended to tea gardens in Udhagamandalam and Anamalai Hills.

The hon. Member, Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev, who preceded me, referred to the compe-

tition from Sri Lankan tea. At that time, the hon. Deputy Speaker intervened to say that we should compete with Sri Lankan tea after normalcy is restored in Sri Lanka and we should not take advantage of the present position in Sri Lanka. I honour the sentiments of our Deputy Speaker. We should make an all-out effort in competing with Sri Lankan tea only after Sri Lanka achieves peace and tranquillity. Here I have to refer to the plight of refugees from Sri Lanka, who take shelter in India. We know that they are the hapless victims of racial conflagrations in Sri Lanka. We also know that they have given their blood and sweat in the tea gardens of Sri Lanka for generations together. They are export tea pluckers in the world. Their expertise is not being utilised by the Government of India. More tea gardens should be set up in Udhagamandalam and Anamalai Hills, where there is ample opportunity for this. These refugees from Sri Lanka can be rehabilitated in these gardens. We will be able to augment our tea production.

* While concluding, I would urge upon the Government not to hand over the restored and revived tea gardens to the former managements, as that will prevent an incentive for further mismanagement and it will also be doing injustice to the people whose taxes have been invested in the sick tea gardens. There should be replantation of tea plants, expansion of tea gardens and also nursing of sick gardens. With these words I conclude my speech.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Era Mohan, You have not said whether you are supporting or opposing it. It is left to you.

Now. Mr. Xavier Arakal.

SHRI XAVIER ARAKAL (Ernakulam): This short Bill aims at extending the management of the sick tea industries which are taken over by Government. Nevertheless, the scope of the Bill is much larger, going deep into the causes and effect, as also the problems and their solutions of the tea industry as a whole.

I would like to emphasise on the preventive measures which the government ought to take if they want to protect, encourage and promote the tea industry as a whole in India. I have been drawing the attention of the government for a long time

through 377 matter and supplementaries on various aspects of the tea industry. If you refer to the 6th Five Year Plan, you will see that the Sixth Five Year Plan aims at 5 per cent growth rate in the tea production; and it has a target of 705 million kgs., out of which 438 million kgs are for domestic consumption and 216 million kgs are for export. On page 125, it says, "Development of these crops is handled by the respective commodities boards under the Ministry of Commerce." Therefore, the question arises what the Board has done in this matter to achieve the target of 5 per cent growth rate? Have they handled effectually the problem of drought and allied problems? Have they given any substantial assistance to them? The Board has assessed that 52,250 cash croppers will be available in north for new plantation and 15,350 hectares of land in south for new cultivation. Now, I would like to ask the hon. Minister what the Board has done in this matter? Further, 2,600 hectares of land will be cultivated in non-traditional areas of north eastern region. Therefore, is the takidg over the manegement, the answer to the problem or the implementation of the 6th Five Year Plan? I would like to know from the hon. Minister what they have done about it,? The basis measure to solve this problem according to me is to declare it as a priority sector because of the land and labour involved, SC & ST and weaker sections are largely employed there in remote hilly and other areas. More over, 500 of the labour force is women.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It seems that the labour is exploited. To a great extent, labour is also being exploited in these areas.

SHRI XAVIER ARAKAL : We have been repeatedly saying that. If it is declared as a priority sector, many of the ailments, sickness can be reduced to a larger extent. I have been asking since 20th July, 1982, that the rebate or reduction of the excise duty and central excise should be done or the amount collected should be converted into soft loan purpose. I would like to know what they have done about it? The government has enunciated three things; full rebate on excise duty and the tea exported; rebate on excise duty of 44 paise per kg. by marchant exported; draw back custom/excise duty paid on packing

material, etc. in the export of tea. May I ask the hon. Minister who is benefiting by this? Is it the producer or the exporter? What is the policy of the government? Is it to protect, encourage and patronise exporters or the producers? When you answer the points, you please answer these points also.

The cost of production of tea is very high in India Rs. 11.05 per kg, whereas in Sri Lanka, it is Rs. 6.86; in Bengladesh, it is Rs. 7.92; in Indonesia, it is Rs. 9.05 and in Kenya, it is Rs. 8.38. Recently, China has come in the world market in a larger way. So, the production, prices, distribution and export are adversely affected. What is the government doing in this matter? Now, the world competition is very keen.

London is the market for the determination of the prices for all these crop commodities. Now, I would like to suggest that for the developing countries, it is high time we have a world market of commodities, for different commedities of crops of onsoun. Will the Government take an initiative in this matter? Instead of London, for determining the prices of crop commodities, for cash crops of the developing countries, can we not first have our own world market? Forty per cent of the commodity produced is exported. There is lot of money involved in this. Have we got a control over the world market? Naturally this can be thoughtabout. We can determine what the world price will be. If you examine the industry, there are various sources of financing it, like IDBI, IRCI, IFCI, ICICI, so many agencies are there. A large extent of finance is diverted to the industrial sector. May I ask, what is the percentage given to the agricultural sector? Therefore, my second submission is that there should be a special banking facility for commodity crops. Then only we can accelerate giving impetus to the agricultural production and give financial assistance to the farmers. Therefore, will the Government take an initiative in that matter also?

Another basic problem is, there are dual policies and procedures so far as taxation is concerned. There is the Central Government excise duty, income-tax, the State Government's sales tax, plantation tax and what not. Can anyone take it lightly? She is taking is lightly.

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA : Who is taking it lightly ? At least not ?

SHRI XAVIER ARAKAL : We are discussing very seriously.

Can we not have a rational taxation policy in this matter ? You come to think about it. The State Sales Tax is a matter of hurdle. Plantation tax is another hurdle. There are so many other taxes in this sector. So also the Central Government excise duty, central sales tax duty any other taxes also are there. Therefore, there should be a rational, reasonable taxation policy and procedure. They are given some rebater. I am told that it is very difficult to get a rebate or any concession given by the Central Government. It is rather impossible to get the money refunded. Therefore, there should be a proper arrangement to reduce problem in this matter.

This industry is a regional industry, as it is in some regions only, like north-eastern region, Western Ghats ; To solve their problems there should be a regional autonomous bodies with full authority of finance. All the cultivators and producers have now to come from Cochin to Calcutta for sanction of any amount or assistance. It is very difficult. We have experienced a severe drought in the Tea Estates in Kerala. What have you done for that ? What assistance has the Board given ? You say everything will be channelised by the Board which is located at Calcutta. Why cannot we have an autonomous regional body with full authority in Kerala or anywhere according to the region, for that matter ? I am not parochial. There should be bifurcation of funds. This will be one more point to be brought to your notice. Of course, I am not very keen to say that all the industries should be nationalised. Whatever action the Government has taken is welcome. But it should not be at the cost of the tax payers. It should be implemented and managed properly now. Any expert will now say that to have a proper crop it does not require 14 years ; what I understand is three to four is maximum period for yield. Even if you should start with a new plant, it will also yield results in two or three years.

This Bill is seeking to have 14 years. Anyway, they may have their own reasons. But I take this occasion to say something

about the industry as a whole. I hope, my suggestions will be taken note of and something will be done in this matter urgently.

With these words, I support the Bill.

श्री राम लाल राही (मिसरिख) उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, वैसे तो मुझे इस बिल का समर्थन करना चाहिए था, लेकिन बिल को देखने और पढ़ने के बाद मैं इस निष्कर्ष पर पहुंचा हूँ कि निजी किन्हीं उद्योगों के अधिग्रहण करने की जो प्रक्रिया चल पड़ी है हमारे देश में दृग्गण उद्योगों की, वह बड़ी खतरनाक है। श्रीमन्, चाय उद्योग पहले प्राइवेट सैक्टर में था, अच्छा खाता उद्योग चलता था, इसके मालिकान अच्छा मुनाफा कमाते थे। लेकिन दुर्भाग्य यह था कि मालिक मुनाफा कमाते थे और काम करने वाले मजदूरों को उस मुनाफे का समुचित लाभ नहीं मिल पाता था। कमाई के लालच में उद्योगपति मालामाल होता चला गया लेकिन मजदूर भूखों मरता चला गया और जब देखा कि सरकार इसमें हस्तक्षेप करेगी या पब्लिक इसमें हस्तक्षेप करेगी या मजदूर यूनियन इसमें हस्तक्षेप करेगी तो अधिग्रहण का सवाल सामने आ गया।

आजकल उद्यमी बड़े होशियार हो गए हैं। चाहे चाय उद्योग में हो, चीनी उद्योग में हो या मारुति उद्योग में लगे हों, इन सब का काम एक हो गया है कि उद्योगों में जो पूंजी इन्होंने लगाई है उससे कहीं अधिक पूंजी सरकार से मिलती है तो ऐसी स्थिति उत्पन्न करते हैं ताकि सरकार के सर यानि जनता के सर यह बोझ चला जाए और जो इन्होंने कमाई की है वह तो की है और सरकार के खजाने से अधिक एंठ लें। मान्यवर यह पूंजीपति का, उद्योगपति का उद्देश्य है जिसको यह सरकार या तो समझ पाने में समर्थ नहीं है या समझता है और समझने के बावजूद उद्योगपतियों को लाभ पहुंचाना चाहती है। इसलिए मैं इस बिल का विरोध करता हूँ।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आप सही कह रहे थे कि मैं काफी पीता हूँ या चाय। हम तो ऐसे ब्याक्त हैं कि जो मिलता है वही पी लेते हैं।

मैं तो मजदूर परिवार का हूँ। मजदूर को जो कुछ खाने को मिल जाता है उसी से अपनी क्षुधा शांत करता है। अगर आप अशोका होटल में ले जाएंगे तो वहाँ जो मिलेगा वह भी खा लेंगे और खेत में चलें तो गुड़ का शरबत भी पी लूँगा।

मैं चाय पीता हूँ इसलिए मेरी इच्छा हुई कि मैं कुछ बातें इस बिल के सम्बन्ध में कहूँ। पहली बात तो मैं माननीय मंत्री जी का ध्यान इस बात की तरफ दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि आपने अधिग्रहण कर लिया और ऐसी स्थिति आ गई एक अध्यादेश लाना पड़ा क्योंकि अधिग्रहण की मियाद समाप्त हो रही है और उसके आधार पर बिल लाए हैं।

माननीय सदस्य गायल साहब बता रहे थे कि इस चाय की कीमत 40 रुपये किलो हो गई है। मेरी समझ में तो शायद गायल साहब जानते ही नहीं। अब तो आधे पौण्ड का डब्बा 40 रुपए में मिलता है। उसमें भी गारन्टी नहीं है कि चाय की पत्ती, चाय के पेड़ की पत्ती है या किसी पेड़ की पत्ती का बुरादा या लकड़ी का बुरादा होगा। जब इतनी ऊँची कीमत वाली चाय की यह हालत है तो बाजारों में साधारण आदमी को जो चाय मिलती है, उसकी क्या हालत होगी? मैं दावे के साथ कहता हूँ और मंत्री जी चाहें तो मंत्री के रूप में नहीं नागरिक के भेष में चलें। मैं बता सकता हूँ कि पचास फीसदी चाय के तरीके की पत्ती अथवा बुरादा चाय में मिलाया जाता है और बेचा जाता है। इस विधेयक में यह प्रोविजन नहीं रखा कि जो इस तरह की चोर बाजारी या मिलावट करेंगे, उन पर रोक लगायी जायेगी। इसलिए, मैंने सोचा कि मैं मंत्री जी से कहूँ कि इस तरफ भी इनका ध्यान जाना चाहिए। जो प्राईवेट मिल-मालिक थे, मुनाफा तो मजदूर का पेट काट कर कमाते थे पर गनीमत थी, उनसे चाय शुद्ध मिल जाती थी। आपने जब इस उद्योग का खुद चलाना शुरू कर दिया और खुद ही मिलावट करने लगे। इसका मतलब साफ है कि निजी उद्यमी पवित्र है और आपके उद्योग में मिलावट

है। आपके सरकारी अधिकारी गड़बड़ करते हैं और आप चैक नहीं कर पाते। निजी क्षेत्र का उद्यमी चैक करता है। जिससे मिलावट नहीं हो पाती। इसका राज जानते हैं साफ है। जबसे आजादी आयी है तब से यह मांग हो रही है कि उद्योगों का राष्ट्रीयकरण किया जाये। आप ऐसी स्थिति पैदा कर रहे हैं कि उद्योगों का अधिग्रहण करें जिससे अधिक मिलावट व गड़बड़ हो ताकि जनता का रुझान इस तरफ राष्ट्रीयकरण की मांग से हटे कि यह उद्योग प्राईवेट सैक्टर में रहना चाहिये और पब्लिक सैक्टर में न आए यह सरकार की नियत में है। इस विचार को आपको बदलना होगा अन्यथा आप को समाजवाद का नारा भी बदलना पड़ेगा। आप अपने आपको पूंजीवादी न कहकर समाजवादी कहते हैं। यह सरकार पक्ष का कोरा भूटा जनता को भ्रमित करने वाला है।

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Say some words about the amendment also.

श्री राम लाल राही : हमारे देश में चाय की पैदावार बढ़ाने के बहुत से क्षेत्र हैं। राष्ट्रीयकरण के बाद भी मंत्री जी ने कह दिया कि हम कुछ नए बाग लगा रहे हैं और कुछ पुराने उखाड़ रहे हैं और कुछ नयी व्यवस्था कर रहे हैं। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि

उत्पादन बढ़ाने पर भी दाम ज्यादा क्यों बढ़ रहे हैं? कुमायूँ क्षेत्र में सन् 1841 में चाय पैदा होती थी उसके बाद सन् 1864 में अंग्रेजों ने चाय पैदा करने की कोशिश की। लेकिन, आपके प्रयास जो इस आजादी के बाद हुए, वह सफल नहीं हो सके। मैंने एक रिपोर्ट "नवभारत टाइम्स" 23 जनवरी 1983 में पढ़ी है। इसमें शीपक लिखा है, कुमायुँनी चाय बागानों में अंधेरा।

इसमें लिखा है मौजूदा चाय बागानों में भी कई स्थानों पर चीड़ के पेड़ों के नीचे चाय के पौधे लगे हैं। इसलिए यह कहना गलत हागा कि चीड़ के जंगलों में चाय नहीं लगाई जा सकती है। क्या यह जानकारी प्राप्त करने के

प्रयास किए गए हैं कि चीड़ के जंगलों में दोहरी फसलें पैदा की जा सकती हैं? बढ़ती हुई आबादी को देखते हुए सरकार सोचे और इस तरह की दोहरी फसलें पैदा करने के लिए अनुसन्धान करवाए और पता लगवाए कि चीड़ के जंगलों में दोहरी आपकी फसल पैदा हो सकती है? मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस क्षेत्र में आपने कोई प्रयास किया है? कुमायुं गढ़ वाले क्षेत्र की तरफ भी आप ध्यान न दें, वहीं जांच न करवाएं बल्कि जहां-जहां चीड़ के पेड़ हैं, चीड़ के जंगल हैं वहां-वहां चाय पैदा हो सकती हो तो करवाने का प्रयास करें। अगर आप ऐसा नहीं करते हैं तो मैं समझूंगा कि यह बिल आपका निरर्थक है। चाय उद्योग का आप अधिग्रहण करें। और भी जितने निजी उद्योग हैं उनका आप अधिग्रहण करें, उनका राष्ट्रीकरण करें। लेकिन डर आप को टाटा का है, बिड़ला का है, दूसरे बड़े-बड़े उद्योगपतियों का है कि अगर कल को कहीं चुनाव हो जाते हैं तो उनके ही पास आपको हाथ पसारने के लिये जाना पड़ेगा। इस वास्ते नीति और नियत साफ होनी चाहिए। ऐसे काम आप करें जिन का लाभ देश की गरीब आम जनता पाए। तब देश के लोग निश्चित रूप से आपके गुण गाएंगे। आपने ही नहीं सारे देश ने समझ लिया है कि आप कुछ करने वाले नहीं हैं, आपसे कुछ हो नहीं सकता है।

आप देखें कि आप कौन कौन से वाद चलाते रहे हैं। 15 अगस्त 1947 को देश आजाद हुआ। जब देश में संवैधानिक सरकार बनी। तब आपने हरिजनवाद का नारा चलाया, कहा कि हरिजनों का उद्धार करो, उनका कल्याण करो। खूब बोट पाये। 35 साल बीत गए, हरिजन बेचारा आज भी अछूत है, हरिजन है, उसका उद्धार नहीं हुआ। उसमें आप फँसे हुए। तब आपने बेरोजगारी दूर करने का नारा दिया। सन 1971 में दिया। उसमें भी आप फेल हुए। अब आप साम्प्रदायिकता की बात सारे देश में फँसा रहे हैं और उसका नाना दे रहे हैं। यह पुन सत्ता में आने का अपना षड्यंत्र

है, साजिश है और उसमें भी आप फेल होंगे।

श्री मूलचन्द डागा (पाली) : मैं दो तीन बातें ही कहना चाहता हूँ। जब भी आप कोई बिल लाते हैं उसको पढ़ने से ऐसा लगता है कि कभी कभी आप उसके बारे में सोचते नहीं हैं। अगर आप थोड़ा सा भी ध्यान देते...

श्रीमती राम दुलारी सिन्हा : बराबर सोचते हैं।

श्री मूल चन्द डागा : ज्यादा सोचने से भी कभी कभी नुकसान हो जाता है। इस बिल में आपने कहा है :

“Experience with respect to certain tea undertakings the management whereof had been taken over in 1976 has revealed that for nursing of a sick tea unit or tea undertaking back to health, the maximum period of seven years would not be adequate.”

1976 में भी आप एक अमेंडमेंट लेकर आये। आपके एक्सपटेंस ने यह सोचा कि यह ठीक नहीं है। अगर आपको यह मालूम होता है कि टी का डैवलपमेंट इतने पीरियड में होता है, एक छोटे से परपज के लिए, एक लाइन के लिये—

“As the seven-year period in respect of these tea undertakings was due to expire, the President promulgated the Tea (Amendment) Ordinance on the 7th October, 1983, to increase the maximum period for which the mangement of a tea undertaking or a tea unit can be retained by the Government to eleven years.

इससे मालूम होता है कि आपका डिपार्टमेंट इस तरह से काम करता है। आप इस अमेंडमेंट को कितनी बार करेंगे, आपको अभी तक मालूम नहीं हो सका है कि टी का विकास कितने समय में हो सकता है।

अभी टी बोर्ड के एक सदस्य श्री संतोष मोहन देव बोल रहे थे। उन्होंने बताया था कि कोई किस प्रकार फंक्शन कर रहा है। उन्होंने बताया कि बोर्ड केवल अपनी प्रमोशन और

सर्विसेज का काम करता है। यही कारण है जिससे हमारी टी का एक्सपोर्ट ठीक नहीं हो रहा है। 22 अप्रैल, 1983 को आपने जवाब दिया था कि 1981 में हमारी टी एक्सपोर्ट की क्वान्टिटी 231,74 मिलियन किलोग्राम थी और वैल्यू 435.27 करोड़ रु० थी। 81-82 में कहा गया कि एक्सपोर्ट 223.09 मि० किलोग्राम हो गई और वैल्यू हो गई 404.61 करोड़।

हिन्दुस्तान एक्सपोर्ट में बहुत आगे था, लेकिन अब स्टेगनेशन हो गया है। हमारे माननीय सदस्य ने ठीक कहा कि हमारा बोर्ड बिल्कुल ठीक से फंक्शन नहीं करता है। कलकत्ता में इनका बोर्ड रखा गया है।

इन्होंने सोचा था कि एक बोर्ड आसाम में रहेगा और दक्षिण में रखेंगे और दोनों जगह वाइस चेयरमैन रखे जायेंगे। मैनेजमेंट का यह परपज था कि दक्षिण में भी एक फुल फ्लैज्ड चेयरमैन काम करता रहे एक और असम में करता रहे। क्या कारण है कि आप कलकत्ता में ही बोर्ड रखे हुए हैं? शिलांग में बोर्ड होना चाहिए जहां कि चाय का उत्पादन होता है, लेकिन आप वहां रख नहीं रहे हैं।

आज टी का डेवलपमेंट नहीं हो रहा है, कारण यही है कि मंत्री जी कुछ नहीं कर पाते। कामर्स मिनिस्ट्री डिपार्टमेंट्स की मिनिस्ट्री है। मंत्री जी फ्री हैं, इनको कुछ काम नहीं करना। गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से ये आटोनामस बोर्ड बना दिये जाते हैं, कहीं भी इनका इंटरफीयरेंस नहीं होता। अगर कहीं होता भी है तो ये कुछ नहीं कर पाते। इनकी डायरेक्शन मानने वाला कोई नहीं है। हजारों बोर्ड बन गये, खर्चा करोड़ों का और वे सर्विस व प्रमोशन की बातें करते हैं इसीलिए आज टी का यह हालत हो गई है।

हमारा टी का डोमेस्टिक कंजम्पशन बहुत बढ़ गया है और इतना कि इसे बाहर नहीं भेजा जा सकता है। हमने कभी यह नहीं सोचा कि हम टी की तरह का और कोई तरीका निकालें जिससे लोगों को उसकी आदत पड़े और वह आदत बदलें।

आज गांव गांव में टी के होटल बन गए हैं और टी का डोमेस्टिक कंजम्पशन बहुत बढ़ गया है। वैंस्ट बंगाल वाले बड़ी क्रान्ति की बात करते हैं, लेकिन वे मजदूरों के साथ जैसा व्यवहार करते हैं, उससे उनकी गरदन नीची हो जानी चाहिए। जब मजदूरों ने बोनस मांगा, तो उनको गोली मिली और दो मजदूर मारे गये। उनकी मांगों की तरफ ध्यान नहीं दिया गया।

श्री अमर राय प्रधान (कूच बिहार) :
कहां ?

श्री मूलचन्द डागा : सरकार पहले इंडस्ट्री को ले लेती हैं, मगर वह उसको रिटर्न क्यों करती है ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Daga can make a reference to the workers. There is no harm. But it is a rare thing that Shri Daga speaks on behalf of the workers. I think, it is the first occasion. You must appreciate it.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA :
Minister, in reply to the question said :

“15 Tea Estates have so far come under the purview of the Tea Act and out of this the Government have taken over the management of only 5 Tea Estates. Management of other Tea states which was taken over under these provisions had to be handed over back to the owners due to legal difficulties.”

सरकार टी एस्टेट को ले लेती है और जब उनका डेवलपमेंट हो जाता है, तो वह उसे मालिक को वापस कर देती है। मंत्री महोदय ने कहा है कि लीगल डिफिकल्टीज की वजह से टी एस्टेट्स वापस की गईं। वे लीगल डिफिकल्टीज क्या थीं, यह एक्सप्लेन नहीं किया गया है।

कहा गया है कि स्टेट मिनिस्टर थोड़े दिन के लिए टी गार्डन में जाएं और स्थिति को देखें।

श्री राम प्यारे पनिका (राबर्ट्सगंज) :
और हम लोगों को भी साथ ले जाएं।

श्री मूलचन्द डागा : पहले हम लोगों को अच्छी टी उपलब्ध कराएं। मेम्बरों को बताएं कि टी कैसे बनती है और टी गार्डन्ज में किस तरह काम हो रहा है। सरकार को माडल टी गार्डन बनाने चाहिए।

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : More of the ladies work in the tea garden. Therefore, the hon. lady Minister is the fittest person to work in the Ministry of Commerce.

श्री हरीश रावत (अल्मोड़ा) : टी बोर्ड माननीय सदस्य के और सुझावों को माने या न माने, लेकिन वह इस सुझाव को जरूर मान लेगा।

श्री मूलचन्द डागा : चाय हिन्दुस्तान का पेय बन चुका है। टी के क्षेत्र में बहुत विकास की जरूरत है। उसका काफी विकास किया जा सकता है। और हमें उससे काफी फारेन एक्सचेंज मिल सकता है।

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN (Cooch Bihar) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, tea industry is a vital industry in our country and it earns about Rs. 300 crores of foreign money every year. But regarding the proclamation, I must say it is the callousness and indifference of the Government. But yet I am supporting this Bill because there is no other alternative. I don't think this Bill is the best. But what I think is, it is good rather than worse.

I do not have the same view as hon. Mr. Santosh Mohan Dev. I could have lent my best support to the hon. Minister had she come forward with a Bill to nationalise all the tea gardens. The present Bill simply contains the taking over the management of the sick and uneconomic tea industries under the provisions contained in the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951. But I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether she is at all serious about the development of tea. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether she is at all serious about the world market for the tea and foreign money. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether she is at all serious about the tea trade in the world market. I would like to ask whether the hon. Minister is aware of the fact

of mismanagement in the private tea gardens. I would like to ask from the hon. Minister she is aware how the workers are being exploited in the tea gardens.

15.01 hrs.

[SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE
in the Chair]

It is a matter of great regret and shame to say that after 37 years of our independence, we are still in those days which remind us of the novel of renowned writer Mulek Raj Anand *Two leaves and a bud*. We are in the same category as before. If you visit those tea gardens, you will come to know about this. But the hon. Minister and your Government will not do anything for the development of the tea industry and for the improvement of the workers because of the fact that you are committed to capitalistic socialism. (*Interruptions*). You should have explained it to your people because you have given so many calls in those days, socialistic pattern of society and all that. After that, your great leader Mrs. Indira Gandhi gave a clarion call for socialism and all these things. (*Interruptions*). So, it is not possible for you to do all these things.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is a matter of great regret and shame to say that the time is not far away when they will have to set some memorial stone with the heading. "There was a tea garden here—the golden tea leaves which brought gold from foreign countries". This is the sad and miserable plight of the workers,

Those who are supporting for the private entrepreneurs must know what amount the Government has spent since March, 1981 to September, 1982. How much money the Government has spent for the development of tea gardens, rather say for the development of tea owners? I am reading few lines from the report of the Ministry of Commerce under the heading Comprehensive paper on Government Assistance to Tea Industry—October, 1982. I do not like to read all this. In brief, I would like to quote some figures.

Loans and subsidies for Tea Plantation and Manufacture : (Loan at the rate of interest maximum 10.2%).

Loan	
Plantation	— Rs. 7.79 crores
Hire purchase	— Rs. 38.34 crores
for tea machinery	

Subsidy

Tea Replantation — Rs. 3.96 crores

Tea Rejuvenation — Rs. 49.16 lakhs

It is also notable that this is not assessable to central Income-tax. Mr. Sontosh Mohan Dev, you are advocating for the private entrepreneurs. You should know that A. R. D. C. (Agriculture Refinance and Development Corporation) has sanctioned Rs. 103.79 crores with rate of interest not exceeding 12.5%.

He should know that the Industrial Development Bank has sanctioned Rs. 139 crores at the rate of 10 per cent and out of that, the assistance money is Rs. 8.61 crores. The Government have spent Rs. 14.61 crores for Tea Development in non-traditional areas—Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, etc.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Are you speaking on behalf of the Government ?

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : I am not speaking on behalf of the Government. I am saying what the Government has done and how you are advocating for the private entrepreneurs.

The total outlay on Tea Rejuvenation Scheme in Darjeeling is Rs. 43 crores....

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Out of Rs. 43 crores, how much money has been given ?

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Special assistance to nine clonal nurseries (Tamil Nadu and Kerala) in the order of Rs. 9 lakhs each (Rs. 4.5 lakhs as loan and Rs. 4.5 lakhs as subsidy).

What are the fiscal reliefs granted by the Central Government with effect from 1st April, 1981 ? The Development Allowance under the Central Income-tax Act is as follows :

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Tea gardens in plains | Rs. 15,000 per hectare |
| 2. Tea gardens in hills | Rs. 17,500 ,, ,, |
| 3. Tea gardens in Darjeeling | Ks. 20,000 ,, ,, |

The Surcharge on Central Income-tax in respect of companies has been reduced from

7.5 per cent to 2.5 per cent.

There is lesser excise duty at the production point, that is, 25 paise in place of 40 paise per kg.

With the abolition of excise duty, the revenue loss on account of this measure has been of the order of Rs. 100 crores.

With all this, after so much loan, assistance, subsidy, abolition of excise duty, etc., the hon. Minister must explain to the public what is the net result because it is the public money that is involved. After all this, what is the tea development ?

What about the tea bushes ? It is known to us that after 3 years, the leaves begin to come out—two leaves and one bud. That is the plucking point. From 5 years to 20 years is the best period for a tea bush, in quality as well as in quantity. A tea bush can live upto 80 years and even more, upto 100 years. But what is the average age of our tea bushes in India ? Let the hon. Members who are advocating for the private entrepreneurs know that. What is the condition of tea plantation in our country ? Upto 5 years, it is 4.9 per cent ; from 5 to 20 years, it is 19.7 per cent only ; from 20 to 50 years, it is 22.9 per cent and above 50 years, it is 52.5 per cent. That is, above 20 years, it is 75.4 per cent which means 3/4th of the total tea plantation. So, one can easily imagine what is the future of our tea industry ? What will be the quality and quantity of our tea ? Can you tell us that when all the tea garden owners are fleecing money ? Can you tell us whether our tea industry will be able to compete in the world market and whether, at the same time, it will be able to meet the country's consumer demand ?

Again, we should know that except six cooperatives in the south and five tea gardens (Peshok, Vantukvar, Polong, Looksan and Chargola) under Central Government management and four tea gardens in West Bengal under State Government management, all the tea gardens are in the hands of private entrepreneurs who are looting and bungling with tea gardens. This is the state of affairs.

In this connection, I would like to draw the attention of the House fact which has been drawn by my comrade friend Mr. Ananda Pathak, I have got the newspaper.

We are all opposing you.

(Interruptions)

Revenue of about Rs. 150 crores has gone underground in North-Eastern India in the last six months as a result of the evasion of auction system of tea companies, brokers and exporters, according to an estimate of the Income Tax Department. The Income Tax Department has.....

(Interruptions)

Yes, yes. I am coming to the fact. What you are doing to the private entrepreneur, to the private owner of the tea gardens, to the tea industries and how you are squeezing the tea gardens and tea labourers.

(Interruptions)

That should be examined.

To curb this malpractice, Income-tax Officers swung into action today in Calcutta, Siliguri, Jalpaiguri and other places.

Till this evening in Calcutta, the IT officials detected that an executive of a reputed tea company had a deposit of 35,000 pounds with a London bank. Another 1030 dollars and travellers' cheques for 70 pounds were found in his place. Altogether 16 lockers of different account-holders were seized. In Siliguri, jewellery worth Rs. 2.5 lakh were seized from a tea trader's house.

You just imagine the total money. How you are squeezing. After all, this.....

(Interruptions)

I am asking all these questions through Chairman to the Hon. Minister.

Through I may support this Bill. I must say, that it will not Serve the purpose. The only purpose can be served only by nationalisation and that should be done and I hope that within a short time, you will bring that Bill in the House.

(Interruptions)

श्री गिरधारी लाल व्यास (भीलवाड़ा) : माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैं इस चाय संशोधन विधेयक का समर्थन करता हूँ। इस बिल के सम्बन्ध में अभी कई माननीय सदस्यों ने कहा कि पहले इसकी मियाद 7 साल थी और अब 11 साल की व्यवस्था की गई है—मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि पहले सात

सालों में आपने इन चाय बागानों की जो व्यवस्था की है उससे क्या प्राप्ति हुई है? आपको क्या फायदा हुआ है या क्या नुकसान हुआ है और अब आने वाले चार सालों के लिए आपका क्या प्रोग्राम है?

मेरा दूसरा सवाल यह है कि क्या 11 सालों के बाद जब आप का करोड़ों रुपया इसमें इन्वेस्ट हो जायगा, क्या इसको पूंजीपतियों को लौटा देंगे, जिसकी वजह से सरकार का करोड़ों रुपया इसमें इन्वेस्ट हो जाय और उसके बाद इसका फायदा पूंजीपति उठायें? इसी तरह की व्यवस्था पहले भी इस कामर्स डिपार्टमेंट द्वारा कई दफा की गई है, जो कि निश्चित तरीके से नहीं होनी चाहिये थी। जब किसी इण्डस्ट्री को आप अपने हाथ में ले लेते हैं तो उसका मतलब होता है कि उसका मनेजमेन्ट खराब है, वह लेबर के इन्टरैस्ट को नहीं देख सकती है, जितनी फैसिलिटीज उनको मिलनी चाहिए, वे नहीं मिलती हैं, इन सारी व्यवस्थाओं को पूंजीपति ठीक तरीके से नहीं कर सकता है, उसको बराबर फेल करता जा रहा है, तब सरकार उसको टेक-ओवर करती है। मगर टेक ओवर करने की ही हमारी मंशा नहीं होना चाहिए। टेक ओवर करने के बाद आप वापस मालिक को हैंड ओवर कर देते हैं। इसका मतलब तो यह हुआ कि किसी मरीज का आपने इलाज कर दिया और उस पर लाखों रुपया खर्च कर दिया फिर उसे खुला छोड़ दिया। इससे आपकी इण्डस्ट्रीज की व्यवस्था ठीक प्रकार से नहीं चल सकती है।

सरकार की धारणा यह होनी चाहिए कि टेक ओवर करने के बाद वह अपने हाथ में ही रखे जिससे कि ऐसी इंडस्ट्री का सारा लाभ राष्ट्र को मिले, उस इण्डस्ट्री में काम करने वाले मजदूरों को मिले उपभोक्ताओं को मिले। अगर किसी इण्डस्ट्री का माल विदेशों में भेजा जाता है और उससे फोरेन एक्सचेंज कमाया जाता है तो उस फोरेन एक्सचेंज का लाभ भी देश को मिलना चाहिए। इस प्रकार की व्यवस्था आपको निश्चित तरीके से करनी चाहिए।

ये जो चाय बागान आपने टेक ओवर किए हैं इन चाय बागान का 11 साल के बाद निश्चित तरीके से नेशनेलाइजेशन किया जाना चाहिए जिससे कि उनका लाभ देश को मिल सके।

मेरा एक यह भी कहना है कि टी बोर्ड के बारे में एक माननीय सदस्य ने भी बहुत सारी बातें कही हैं। ये जो बोर्ड बनते हैं—चाहे टी बोर्ड हो, चाहे सिल्क बोर्ड हो, चाहे ओपियम बोर्ड हो, कोई भी बोर्ड हो इनमें जो अधिकारी मुकर्रर किए जाते हैं उनको ज्यादा से ज्यादा सुविधाएं देने का ही ये बोर्ड काम करते हैं। क्या आप बतायेंगे कि आपका टी बोर्ड किस तरह से काम कर रहा है? उसने टी प्लान्टेशन का विकास करने के लिए क्या क्या काम किए हैं? वहां भी बड़े-बड़े अधिकारी बैठ गए हैं। बड़े बड़े अधिकारियों को भत्ते या दूसरी फैसिलिटीज देने पर इन बोर्डों में लाखों-करोड़ों रुपए खर्च किए जाते हैं। इन अधिकारियों को कार देने पर, बंगला देने पर और बहुत सी दूसरी सुविधाओं को देने पर ही ये बोर्ड लगे रहते हैं। जब बोर्ड स्थापित हो जाते हैं तो उसके बाद में उन्हें आटो-नोमस बना दिया जाता है। फिर तो वे मालिक बन जाते हैं, जितना चाहे पैसा खर्च करें, कोई पूछने वाला नहीं है। इस प्रकार की स्थिति इन बोर्डों में है। इनको ज्यादा से ज्यादा अधिकार देने से देश का कोई भला नहीं होगा। होना तो यह चाहिए था कि इनसे मजदूरों को और इंडस्ट्री को ज्यादा से ज्यादा लाभ मिलता।

मैं आपसे पूछना चाहता हूँ कि आपका जो यह टी बोर्ड है, इसने टी-प्लान्टेशन को बढ़ाने के लिए क्या क्या काम किए हैं, किस तरीके से इसने प्रोडक्शन से बढ़ोत्तरी की है? आगे यह क्या काम करने वाला है जिससे कि देश को ज्यादा से ज्यादा लाभ हो? ऐसी व्यवस्था आपको निश्चित तरीके से करनी चाहिए।

आज मनेजमेंट की क्या हालत है? जितना जितना भी वहां पर मनेजमेंट है...

15.19 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the chair.*]

MR. SPEAKER : There is no quorum in the House, Let the quorum bell be rung. ...Now there is quorum in the House.

15.20 hrs.

WELCOME TO SYRIAN PARLIAMEN- TARY DELEGATION

MR. SPEAKER : Hon'ble Members, I have to make an announcement. On my own behalf and on behalf of the Hon'ble Members of the House, I have great pleasure in welcoming His Excellency Mr. Mohmoud Al-Zoabi, Speaker of the People's Council of the Syrian Arab Republic and the Hon'ble Members of the Syrian Parliamentary Delegation who are on a visit to India as our honoured guests.

The other Hon'ble Members of the delegation are :—

1. Mr. Nazir Doweidary, M.P.
2. Mrs. Hajar Sadeq, M.P.
3. Mr. Mahoude Nasif, M.P.
4. Mr. Ahmed Dasho, M.P.
5. Mr. Ibrahim Alouzy, M.P.
6. Mr. Abdo Hoddad, M.P.

The delegation arrived here this morning They are now seated in the Special Box. We wish them a happy and fruitful stay in our country. Through them we convey our greetings and best wishes to the People's Council, Government and the friendly people of the Syrian Arab Republic.

15.23 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE. DISAP- PROVAL OF TEA (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE AND TEA (AMENDMENT) BILL

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY (Bombay North East) : Sir, we hear that the President of Syria, Mr. Assad, is not well. so, we send him good wishes for speedy recovery and that should be conveyed.

MR. SPEAKER : The good wishes will be conveyed. Now, Mr. Girdhari Lal Vyas will continue with his speech.

श्री गिरधारी लाल व्यास : माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय, चाय बागानों के बारे में जो यह बिल है, जिनको इन्होंने अधिग्रहण किया है, उनके माडर्नाइजेशन के संबंध में इन्होंने क्या

व्यवस्था की है। कोई नए प्लांटेशन लगाए गए हैं, आमदनी बढ़ी है या नहीं। इस बारे में क्या व्यवस्था की गई है, इसका कोई जिक्र नहीं आया। यह जिक्र आवश्यक था। जब तक यह व्यवस्था नहीं करे तो तब तक भविष्य में भी जो चाय बागान टेक ओवर किए जाएंगे, टेक ओवर करने के बाद भी किसी प्रकार का कोई लाभ नहीं होगा।

इसी तरीके से मजदूर के संबंध में आपने क्या व्यवस्था की है। यह सबसे ज्यादा लेकर ओरिएण्टेड इन्डस्ट्री है। लेबर इन्डस्ट्री होने के बाद जिन मालिकों के जमाने में यह उद्योग आपने ले लिया था, उसके इ०एस्०आई० प्रोविडेंट फण्ड और ग्रेच्युटी आदि के बारे में आपने क्या किया? सारे मजदूरों को इससे लाभान्वित किया या नहीं? वेस्ट बंगाल के बारे में आपको बताना चाहता हूँ। वहाँ पर कोयले के साथ-साथ चाय की भी स्मगलिंग होती है। उसको रोकने में आपने क्या व्यवस्था की है जिससे आपका फारेन एक्सचेंज बढ़े।

मेरा दूसरा निवेदन खासतौर से प्राइसेज के बारे में है। इस संबंध में सभी माननीय सदस्यों ने जिक्र किया है। इसकी प्राइसेज बराबर बढ़ती जा रही है। आज यह गरीब आदमी का पेय हो गया है। बाहर से आप जितनी मर्जी चाहे कीमत वसूल करें लेकिन डोमेस्टिक परपज के लिए कीमत कम कर सकते हैं। इस तरह की व्यवस्था नितान्त आवश्यक है। सभी माननीय सदस्यों ने कहा है कि इसको एग्नीकल्चर की तरह प्रायोरिटी सैक्टर में लिया जाना चाहिए क्योंकि लाखों मजदूर जो इस पर पलते हैं और शेड्यूल्ट कास्ट्स, शेड्यूल्ट ट्राइव्स तथा वीकर सैकशन्स के लोग, जिनकी रोजी-रोटी इस पर चलती है, उनकी व्यवस्था करने के लिए आप इसे प्रायोरिटी सैक्टर में लें। कम इंटररेस्ट पर लोन देने के लिए आपने क्या व्यवस्था की है जिससे यह इन्डस्ट्री फलती-फूलती रहे। कल भी मैंने प्राइवेट इन्डस्ट्रीज के बारे में कहा था कि ऐसी इन्डस्ट्रीज को जान-बुझकर सिक बना दिया

जाता है और वे लोग इसके असेट्स को भी ट्रांसफर कर देते हैं। आपने इनके असेट्स को ट्रांसफर न होने देने के लिए और गलत तरीके से फाइनेंशियल इंस्टीट्यूशन्स से पैसा लेकर जो दुरुपयोग करते आ रहे हैं, इसको रोकने की क्या व्यवस्था की है। अध्यक्ष महोदय ने घंटी बजा दी है, इसलिए मैं इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस सारी इन्स्ट्री को नेशनलाइज किया जाए जिससे मजदूर और सारे देश को फायदा पहुंच सकता है।

MR. SPEAKER : Now, the Minister.

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I like to thank all the hon Members who have participated in the discussion.

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Minister may continue later.

Now, the Minister of External Affairs will make a statement.

15.30 hrs.

STATEMENT COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT MEETING HELD IN NEW DELHI FROM 23rd TO 29th NOVEMBER, 1983

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon'ble Members would have seen the texts of all the various documents issued at the end of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in New Delhi from 23 to 29 November. These are the Goa Declaration on International Security; the New Delhi Statement on Economic Action and the Final Communiqué. (Copies have since been kept in the Parliament Library). 42 out of 44 full members of the Commonwealth participated in the meeting; 34 at the level of President or Prime Minister. It was the largest summit meeting in Commonwealth history. The majority of Commonwealth members are nonaligned nations. A few belong to the industrial North and military alliances. There is great diversity in their size, population and stages of development. Nearly half the countries are small states with less than 600,000 population. It was therefore, natural that this gathering should represent