

[Shri Pabitra Mohan Pradhan]

or otherwise is till now indefinite. There was one radio broadcast that three people met with death. Another news is that there has not been any death save and except that one person has got a medium injury causing some concern and another person who got a minor injury has been discharged from the hospital.

The armed police mobilisation, the lathi charge coupled with firing is a great concern to the people who are panic-stricken.

The Deogarh area being a backward one and preponderatingly being inhabited by Adivasis and Harijans should have been treated with preferential softness and leniency. Instead of taking such an attitude, sticking to firing means use of arms on unarmed people who may be given justice and fairplay if a judicial inquiry is immediately held, inquiry promptly completed, morale and the spirit of the masses restored and confidence gained.

The wounded and otherwise injured people should be given adequate compensation. The reason for the agitation for which the incident took place may be properly and promptly ascertained and the government may comply with the demands within their policy.

(ii) REPORTED INADEQUATE SUPPLY OF COAL TO WEST BENGAL BY COAL INDIA, LTD.

SHRI ROBIN SEN (Asansol): Since the Coal India Ltd. is not fulfilling its promises to supply the required amount of coal to West Bengal, there is a severe coal crisis in West Bengal. From the last July onwards the Coal India is supplying inadequate coal to West Bengal which has seriously affected the industries in West Bengal and caused immense hardship to the people of West Bengal. Coal India is having dumps in Calcutta, Siliguri, Darjeeling and Badra where they failed to supply adequate coal. Some officers in the collieries have got involved in selling coal in the black-

market. Since the Centre is having the responsibility for the supply of coal to States, I demand that the Centre should take it seriously and supply adequate coal to West Bengal and to stop such black-marketing forthwith.

(iii) EXPANSION OF COCHIN SHIPYARD

SHRI K. A. RAJAN (Trichur): Under Rule 377 I wish to make the following statement.

The Cochin Shipyard had some-time back given a project report for the expansion of the present ship-building facilities with another ship-building dock at a cost of Rs. 20 crores. Till recently there was very favourable response for this from the concerned authority. But it seems that the emphasis as now shifted to the two new shipyards in another State at an estimated investment of Rs. 120 crores for each. I request you that the expansion of the present Cochin Shipyard is in no way given up because of the new projects now being considered by the Planning Ministry.

The Cochin Shipyard deserves expansion because of the following valid reasons.

1. The Cochin Shipyard has to be expanded to make it viable one with a second building dock.

2. The shipyard has got all the infrastructure facilities to expand at a lower cost.

3. This yard has got already the latest technical innovations in ship-building.

(iv) DEMANDS OF OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF HINDUSTAN AERONAUTICS LTD., BHARAT ELECTRONICS, H.M.T. AND INDIAN TELEPHONE INDUSTRIES

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN (Coimbatore): I would like to take this opportunity to draw the attention of the Minister of Defence to the serious situation in the Hindustan Aeronautics, Bangalore, arising out of the high-handed behaviour of the management towards the officers in the concern.

Over the last few months all Officers of the Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd., Bharat Electronics, HMT, Indian Telephone Industries and Hindustan Machine Tools, situated in Bangalore and represented by the Officers' Association, representing 10,000 officers have been urging, appealing, pleading and praying for their reasonable pay revision which is already unduly delayed, by way of clearing alarming anomalies as compared to the pay scales of workers in public sector concerns, which has resulted in a loss of as much as Rs. 300 to 400 in their salaries per month.

Their appeals have fallen on deaf ears and resulted instead in undue harassment. For instance, the Managing Director of the Bangalore complex even went to the extent of refusing the usual Deepavali advance which was due for payment on 29.10.1978, to those officers who had gone on mass leave to bring their grievances to the notice of the authorities. Later he inflicted penal deduction of 4 days' salary. This has been done only in the Hindustan Aeronautics and in none of the other concerns listed above.

The latest position is most serious. Charge sheets have been issued and office-bearers of the Association suspended. This cannot help in settling the issues.

The demands of the officers are:—

1. Negotiated pay revision.
2. Restoration of facilities to the association which have been withdrawn.
3. Stoppage of harassment, victimisation and terrorisation of officers especially in the engineering division.
4. Reinstatement of officers thrown out of job during the emergency.

Labour Minister, will please note that this was during the emergency.

5. Revision of frustrating promotion policy.

6. Encouragement of indigenously designed aircraft, aeroengines and accessories to save the nation from dependence on foreign countries.

I hope the Minister of Defence and other employing ministers will take urgent note of the demands of the officers' association and take the requisite steps to sit down and discuss their problems and demands with them—this is the expected action from any Government which claims to function democratically and in the interests of all sections of the people. Bureaucratic attitudes have to be abandoned once and for all.

The immediate step I would demand of the Minister is the withdrawal of suspension orders against the office-bearers of the association and the withdrawal of charge sheets against the other office-bearers and opening of talks with the Officers' Association in relation to their demands.

(v) REPORTED NON-AVAILABILITY OF SOFT COKE AND KEROSENE OIL IN HIMACHAL PRADESH

श्री बालक राम (शिमला) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आप का बहुत मशकूर हूँ कि आप ने मुझे रूल 377 के तहत हिमाचल प्रदेश और खास कर शिमला में मिट्टी के तेल और कोयले की कमी से पैदा मुश्किलों को संसद के जरिए सरकार के सामने रखने का मौका दिया है। वैसे तो कोयले और मिट्टी के तेल की तंगी का सामना सारे देश को करना पड़ रहा है लेकिन इस तंगी का सब से ज्यादा नुकसान और उस से पैदा होने वाली परेशानियाँ उन पहाड़ी इलाकों में हैं जहाँ कड़कड़ाती सर्दियाँ, बर्फीली हवाओं और बर्फ की वजह से बिना लकड़ी और कोयले के जीना मुश्किल हो जाता है। आजकल वही हालत हिमाचल प्रदेश की राजधानी शिमला में है जहाँ कोयला, मिट्टी के तेल और लकड़ी की इतनी कमी है कि तकरीबन सारे होटल बन्द हो गए हैं। इस के भलावा लोग वहाँ अपने घरों में महंगे दामों पर लकड़ी लेकर जैसे जैसे कड़कड़ाती सर्दियों के दिन काट रहे हैं।

मैं मंत्री महोदय से प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि इन हालात को मद्देनजर रखते हुए शिमला के लिए प्रायः मिट्टी के तेल पर कोयला और मिट्टी का तेल जल्दी से जल्दी पहुंचाने का इंतजाम करें और वहाँ के लोगों को सर्दियों की परेशानियों से बचाने का नेहुरकारी करें।