

16.34 hrs.

**PUBLIC SECTOR IRON AND STEEL COMPANIES (RESTRUCTURING AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) Bill**

**THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK):** Sir, I beg to move:

“That the Bill to provide for restructuring of the Iron Steel companies in the public sector so as to secure better management and greater efficiency in their working and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration.”

Sir, in this connection, all I would like to state is that at the stage of introduction my esteemed friend, Shri Stephen made a few points and in answering those points—before the Bill was introduced—I have taken care to see that certain amendments are brought forward from the Treasury Benches. I have nothing more to add. This is merely an enabling Bill to bring to fruition what was started by my illustrious friend, Shri Mohan Kumaramanglam, when he was Minister of Steel.

Sir, he started the Steel Authority of India as a holding company ultimately with the object of making the production units as units of this. This is all that is sought to be done. One thing that was left out about refractories is being corrected through certain amendments being brought forward from the treasury benches. Then clauses 6, 8 and 10 need to be dropped and certain consequential drafting amendments will have to be taken up. With these words I move.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Motion moved:

“That the Bill to provide for restructuring of the iron and steel companies in the public sector so as to

secure better management and greater efficiency in their working and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto be taken into consideration.”

Is Mr. A. K. Roy here? He is not here. Then Mr. Rama Chandra Mallick.

**SHRI RAMA CHANDRA MALLICK (Jaipur):** Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for the opportunity you have given to me to speak and move my amendments to the Bill, that is, The Public Sector Iron and Steel Companies (Restructuring) and Miscellaneous Provisions Bill, 1977, which has already been introduced by the Hon'ble Minister of Steel and Mines, Shri Biju Patnaik. My amendments are very simple and I hope the Hon'ble Minister will kindly accept my amendments as printed under item No. 3 of the Amendments List.

Sir, the Statement of Objects and Reasons given at the end of the Bill are very clear. The hon. Minister has clearly explained in para 3 of page 12 of the Bill. It says:

“3. Restructuring as aforesaid is undertaken to secure better management of, and greater efficiency in, the working of public sector steel plants. The terms and conditions applicable to the employees would remain unaltered.”

The Bill seeks to achieve the above object. Sir, so many Companies are there in the country like Hindustan Steel Limited, Bokaro Steel Ltd., Salem Steel Ltd., SAIL International Ltd, Bhilai Ispat Ltd., Rourkela Ispat Ltd. and Durgapur Mishra Ispat Ltd. which are wholly owned subsidiaries of Steel Authority of India Ltd. These will be merged with SAIL and will function as units of SAIL. Sir there are so many companies in this country but unfortunately no company is functioning efficiently and properly we and as desired by the Government as well as the people of our country.

[Ram Chandrao Mallick]

Sir, the Hon'ble Minister has introduced this Bill at the appropriate time. I must say through you, Mr. Chairman, that the Hon'ble Minister has always been considered by the Nation to be dynamic and pains taking leaders to one of the most efficient, energetic, hold the heavy responsibilities which require confidence and trust of the people and much of what he has done is a reflection of his ability to see goodness in others.

Sir, our country has produced many diamonds and jewels who could find suitable place in the Crown of India and his name also will certainly shine with splendour in the Crown of India and his name also will certainly shine with splendour in the Crown as a distinguished person of deep learning, a great thinker and popular foresighted eminent politician. The Bill which the hon. Minister has brought forward will definitely solve the problems.

Steel plays an important role in nation development and this Ministry is dealing with that subject. I visited so many steel plants as a member of a committee and I talked to many employees. It is a matter of regret that local people are not getting chances of employment in steel mills and I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to this. I visited Rourkela Steel Plant also and had a talk with the general manager. The population of Scheduled Castes and Tribes in Orissa is more than 40 lakhs. They started a training centre for Scheduled Tribes only; there is not a single student belonging to the Scheduled Caste and I suggested to the manager and he promised to make provision in this regard. I urge upon the hon. Minister to direct the steel plant authorities to take in more local people, especially Scheduled Castes and Tribes. With these words I support the Bill. I have moved amendments Nos. 6 to 14 printed in List No. 3 which I request the hon. Minister to accept.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN (Idukki): I rise to oppose the Bill as strongly and vehemently as possible.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: Last time he went on record that he does not oppose the Bill. Is it the division which now makes him oppose?

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: I am opposed to this Bill in principle because the basic national policy is involved and I should appeal to all sides to examine this Bill dispassionately and objectively. I opposed it at the introduction stage as an indication of the strong feelings that I had. All that glitters is not gold and the Bill is not all that innocent as it appears. The importance of steel is too well known to be emphasised. Before independence it was in private hands and our production was so low and so minimal and we had to make strong efforts, after Pandit Nehru emphasised the importance of heavy industries and the development of self sufficiency in iron and steel and mining. But the history of our effort has been a chequered one, it has not been very successful. With foreign collaboration steel mills were put up by us. There was HSL, which ran three units viz., Durgapur, Bhilai and Rourkela. Subsequently Bokaro came in; a new company came in there. There was the Burnpur factory which was under the auspices of a private hand. From '64 to '74' if you see our production capacity was around 8.5 million tonnes, our production stagnated at or around 4.5 million tonnes and excepting for Bhilai, most of the other concerns were working in a very bad way. A Committee was appointed in 1972 to go into the question of the malady which is besetting the industry and why it is that inspite of expert knowledge and skill of our workmen and sufficient production capacity availability of inputs and all that, we are not able to make a breakthrough. So, this question was considered by a high level committee under the Chairmanship of Mr. Pathak, Member of Planning Commission and with such

distinguished persons as Mr. Rajyadhaksha as its Member. They consulted the international area, consulted experts, had a very detailed investigation and they submitted a report. Their finding was that there was lack of coordination between different areas and units which are to make for the contribution of the production of steel. That was where the whole thing floundered and that has got to be corrected. They also recommended a very massive investment for technical development and this was the recommendation that came. Mr. Mohan Kumaramangalam, after he assumed charge, examined this and he had a very detailed discussion and he came to the conclusion that a massive investment was not called for at that stage unless those deficiencies were rectified. What was necessary according to him and according to the Committee also was that production units, units which would be giving inputs as also projecting from out of this enterprise, designing and planning efforts and taking over the turnkey projects even in the international area, coal mining—all these things must be taken together so that the managements of the units may not have to be hunting from Ministry to Ministry trying to resolve their problems going after the files. Therefore, a consolidated sort of arrangement must be there. One important principle that was incorporated was this. Rather than putting this mammoth enterprise under the charge of bureaucrats in the Ministry, there must be industrial units, industrial units which are concerned with these different disciplines and there must be a holding company which would coordinate, guide, supervise iron out and ease out the frictions that may be developing from unit to unit, from the supply of inputs, from the taking of the inputs and selling out the products—all these things must come together and this was the proposition that was put forward. The concept of a holding company came in and the holding company what is now known as the SAIL was established which is

described in this Bill as an Integral Company SAIL was established. SAIL took under its wing the HSL, which means the three plants I mentioned viz., Durgapur, Rourela and Bhilai, then Bokaro and then other areas where efforts were being made like MECON which is engaged in the designing and planning. NMDC which is engaged in coal mining, HSCL engaged in putting up plants in the country and outside, and Bharat Refractories engaged in production of bricks for the furnaces of all the mills. The entire picture is there. The advantage was, there is autonomy as far as production is concerned. There is non-official and official combined supervision going on. So much so, there is checking at two places. Bureaucratic bungling and corruption has not got a large place. There is screening. SAIL is ironing out the frictions developing. Expertise is being transferred from unit to unit for carrying on the entire huge enterprise. The result is there for everybody to see. Whereas our production stagnated at 4.5 million tonnes from 1965 to 1974, after SAIL came into being, within 4 years, we had a breakthrough. Even in the first year 1973-74 we had an increase of production to the tune of 13 per cent in 1974-75 to the extent of 19 per cent and in 1975-76 to the extent of 20 per cent. So, within three years, time our production jumped up from 4.5 to 7.6 million tonnes against a production capacity of 8.5 million tonnes. This was a marvelous achievement. Until then we were importing steel and iron to the tune of Rs. 400 crores. This import was stopped and it was confined to the import of Rs. 50 crores worth of specialised steel only.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: Come to the Bill now.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: This is a fundamental matter. You may pass this Bill with your majority, but we are going hammer and tongs at it. This is a deviation against the nation.

[Shri C. M. Stephen]  
 nal policy. That is why I do not want to be beckled that way.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN (Arkonam): Why is the minister in a hurry? 2/1/2 hours have been allotted for this.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: As I said, the import of steel was stopped and we managed to start exporting steel and steel products to the tune of Rs. 400 crores. This is the four-years achievement of SAIL. When you say it must be restructured, you must explain how it has failed and why a new policy is necessary. The entire concept of holding company is being given up. There can be difference of opinion. One may say that consolidation of all the units under one monolithic management is not good. Others may say consolidation is good. I do not want to comment about that. But you are taking away from SAIL and putting directly under the ministry a very sensitive area. First is mining. The entire NDMC is being put directly under the Ministry. Then, in respect of international contracts and taking over big and turn-key projects, you are handing over directly to the Ministry the huge contracts in the international field. You are handing over to the Ministry refractories. You must realise that there is a competitor in this country, Dastur & Co. Dastur & Co. was having the whole field here. MECON is now coming. Dastur & Company has been shown its place. Now you are taking MECON away. Under SAIL Dastur & Company was fried. Today you are putting MECON under your Ministry Dastur and Company will be having a flourishing period. Their private enterprise will go ahead. An area where SAIL proved to be a No. 1 concern and produced a result, there complete reversal is taking place. You are speaking about decentralisation of power. Is this decentralisation of power? Something which was decentralised, which proved its worth, which proved its competence, which challenged the international competi-

tors, which put the private profiteer in his place—the whole thing is being dismantled and you are taking it away under the wings of your Ministry. I do not want to cast aspersions against anybody, but doubts come up when Mr. Biju Patnaik wants to take over the NMDC under the direct wing of the Ministry. Knowing as we do the interest of Mr. Patnaik in the mining industry, doubts do come. Why this is being done, I do not know. If that is not, I withdraw.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: You had better withdraw. You withdraw many things.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: In the international field, we are now able to stand up against any competitor. Why? One of the factors is, this is a part of a huge enterprise, about Rs. 2200 crores worth of an enterprise, there is part of which our HSL eats or MECON eats. Therefore, backed up with that huge enterprise we go to the international field, put up our quotation against the US Steel or the German firm. Against those firms we put up our proposals and we get our quotations accepted. Then contracts are being concluded. Will that advantage be available? Once you take it away from this huge enterprise, once you put it under the direct charge of the Ministry with no other know-how at their command, is this advantage any more available? Mr. Patnaik will have to explain as to why it has become necessary. Here is a picture of a period 1973 onwards where a particular arrangement completely proved its worth. In the national picture you cannot find any other area where this has been completely proved—Rs. 400 crores worth of goods exported every year. 4.5 million tonnes of production increase to 7.5 million tonnes of production. Dastur & Co. put in its place. The international firms are put in their place and we are making a break-through on the international field for purposes of contracts and taking over the turn-key projects. In the Arab world we are today a favourite. Why? The Arab world looks

us to who is making the offer. The SAIL is making the offer. What is their capacity and financial capability? Their investment is Rs. 22000 million and production units are giving accountability for 8.5 million tonnes today and production capacity, as stated in the Objects and Reasons, is 12.35 million tonnes. With experts' galore experience sufficient, it has been proved today that we are able to challenge the biggest of cartels in the world and get the products to the different areas. Why is this process being reversed? This is a complete dismantling of something that is achieved. Is that the policy of the Janata Party—dismantling everything. You are dismantling everything; CSIR, Samachar and SAIL. Is this your policy? Is this decentralization, i.e., taking over the whole thing under your wing—MEKON, NMDC, HSCL i.e. all separate companies today under the supervisory eye of the SAIL? You are taking them away completely and putting them in your pocket. Is it decentralization? What a wonderful idea of decentralization? It is concentration, it is grabbing, it is swallowing and putting them completely in your stomach. It is not decentralization. It is centralization with a vengeance. It is not decentralization. This is dismantling for bureaucratization, this is de-nationalization for officialization. This is not decentralization. This is going against the interests of the nation. This is the reversal of the national policy which stood the test of experience and proved its worth by sheer performance. Therefore, Sir, this reversal of the national policy has got to be opposed tooth and nail. Unless you are able to say: "This was the defect of it", there is no justification at all.

17 hrs.

I am reminded of an argument Mr. Patnaik put forward at the introduction stage. He said that nowhere in the world were construction, designing international sales handled by the producing concerns. May I say that it is not the case at all? For example

let us take United Steel and the Kaisers. They have got their subsidiary companies who take over this contract. And the Canadian concern "Mitchell" which is a subsidiary of the United Steel. We have entered into contract with them. It is not as if international companies don't have their subsidiaries engaged in these disciplines. They have. All these big concerns have their subsidiaries engaged in it. Expertise is developing in the steel industry. It has got to remain as an integrated whole and it must be available in the service of the nation. It is this way that the U.S., Japan and Germany flourished. If you want to clear the way for those cartels to come along, I have nothing to say. Multi-nationals have their free play in this country. I don't want to go into the question as to who was responsible. Let us look at the national interests and see whether multi-nationals should have a free play. We are a developing country. Here we have the capability to challenge the multi-nationals. We are being disabled. Wherever national interests are involved, let us not go ahead with adventurism and the hazardous enterprise of dismantling and destroying things. It is easy to destroy; and not easy to build up. Here is something which has been built up; and it has proved its worth. There is a team of officers. By their working together, an atmosphere has developed. They know who is who. Top management, middle management, lower management and workers are working together. A sort of consultative arrangement has come about. A sort of workers' participation has come about. An integrated thinking has come about. Everybody is feeling that the other unit is his own, as well. That atmosphere is being finished. You are creating a competition as between them, not in the national interest, but in self-interest. It is a very miserable state of affairs. It is destruction par excellence. Let us not do that; that is all the appeal I have to make. This is the beginning

[Shri C. M. Stephen]

of a very disastrous course, and the time will prove that we are launching out on a disastrous course, which will be to the detriment of the national interest. Let us go ahead in the international field, where we can make our impact felt. If any interest there is, any arrangement there is, understanding there is, if we want to make the way clear for the international cartels, be it of Germany, Japan or United States, so that they may have their contracts and everything, and reduce India to a situation in which we must be satisfied with cottage industries and small-scale industries only, I have nothing else to say. If, on the other hand, the 60 crores of people of this nation with all their expertise and scientific knowledge, if you want that nation to march forward with giant strides as it is capable of, for heaven's sake, do not tear it into pieces and do not dismantle the beautiful structure, the magnificent structure that has been raised.

It is in this anxiety, in this earnestness that I raise my voice of protest against the Bill, and I do appeal with folded hands to the Minister to have a second look into the whole thing. Many progressive friends I find today in the Janata Benches. I would appeal to them to have an objective look and consider whether this is in the national interest, whether, after all, this disastrous course is necessary. I tell them that it is not necessary, and am very sure their conscience will I am sure they have got the courage to say "thus far and no farther".

With these words, I oppose this Bill as vehemently, as strongly, as passionately, as irreconcilably as possible, and I appeal to the Minister to withdraw the Bill. Finally, I record my opposition to this Bill.

श्री मृत्युंजय प्रसाद वर्मा (सीवान) :  
चेयरमैन साहब, मैंने स्टीफन साहब के काल्पनिक ध्यान से सुना है और समझने भी कोशिश की है। मेरे पास वह खाम

विशेष ज्ञान नहीं है जोकि उनके पास है और उसका सबसे बड़ा कारण यह है कि मैं 6 साल से यहां पर नहीं था और वे थे। किन्तु उसके पहले की मैं कुछ बात कह सकता हूँ। मैं जमशेदपुर में 1930 से, 48 सालों से आता जाता रहा हूँ और देखता रहा हूँ कि दिनो दिन इस्पात के दाम बढ़ते जा रहे हैं। क्यों बढ़े, कैसे बढ़े—यह मेरी समझ में नहीं आया जबकि दिनो दिन उसका उत्पादन बढ़ता गया। और जैसा आपने कहा, बड़ी खुशी की बात है कि बाहर से आयात बन्द हो गया और निर्यात होने लगा किन्तु फिर भी दाम गिरने के बजाये बढ़ते ही चले गए। यह तब हुआ जब हमारी सभी सरकारी उपक्रमों वाली कम्पनियों में ताज्जा से ताज्जा तकनीक ली गई है, ताज्जा से ताज्जा उपकरण लिए गए हैं और नये से नये तरीके से काम किया जा रहा है तथा नयी से नयी तकनीक जानने वाले आदमी वहां पर काम कर रहे हैं। फिर भी न मालूम क्यों दाम बढ़ते गए है। दाम जो बढ़े वह इसीलिए बढ़े कि आप घाट में जा रहे थे। घाटे को कम करने के लिए आपको दाम बढ़ाने पड़े और जब आपने दाम बढ़ाये तो टाटा के दाम भी बढ़े। आपके दाम बढ़ाने के पहले भी वे मुनाफे में थे। यही एक चीज मेरी समझ में आती है और उससे अधिक जानने का दावा मैं नहीं करता। मैं कोई विशेषज्ञ नहीं हूँ, मैं केवल वहीं समझता हूँ कि कहीं न कहीं हमारी प्रबन्ध कुशलता से कमी थी। उसमें सबसे बड़ी कमी यह रही है कि अगर हमारी कई कम्पनियां रहें तो वह अलग अलग रास्ते चलेंगी। विभिन्न देशों से हमने अलग अलग तकनीक ली, विभिन्न देशों की सहायता से हम ने अलग अलग कम्पनियां बनाई और उसका जो नतीजा हुआ वह हमने देखा। इसको अगर आप कर सकें, तो मैं बीजू बाबू से बहुत साफ़ शब्दों में कहूंगा कि आप के आगे एक बहुत बड़ी कसीटी है और वह कसीटी यह है कि यदि आप अपनी प्रबन्ध कुशलता से सब को इकट्ठा कर के यह दिखा सकें कि

हमारी क्वालिटी बढ़ी, हमारा उत्पादन बढ़ा, दाम गिर गया—तो यह बहुत बड़ी सफलता होगी। आप के सामने यह बहुत बड़ी चुनौती है—हम आज तक बहुत बड़ी मिकदार में आयरन—अगर जापान भेजते रहे है, यहां तक कि उस को भेजने के लिये पिछली सरकार ने नई रेलवे लाइन बना डाली, नया बन्दरगाह बना डाला कि किसी तरह से यह माल जा सके और इस बात का ख्याल नहीं किया कि मिनरल्स ऐसी चीज है, जो एक बार खर्च हो जाय, तो फिर उस की पूर्ति नहीं हो सकती है, उस के बागजूद भी जापान उस को यहां से ले जाता रहा और ले जा कर उससे वहां स्टील बनाता था और वह स्टील फिर यहां भेजता था, लाने-ले जाने में खर्चा पड़ता था, तब भी हम उस के मुकाबले में महंगा बेचते थे और वह अपना माल हमारे यहां भेज सकता था।

दूसरी बात मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ—यद्यपि यह टेकनालाजी काफी आगे बढ़ गई है, फिर भी आज हम को कुछ स्पेशल स्टील्स बाहर से मंगानी पड़ती है। इस के क्या मायने हैं? जरूर कहीं पर कोई कमी है, उस कमी को दूर किया जाना चाहिये। आप इस विभाग के अध्यक्ष हैं—आप के लिये यह कसौटी है, यदि आप इस को कर सकें तो आप का नाम आने वाले समय में लिया जायेगा।

मैंने अभी बतलाया था कि मैं सन 1930 से जमशेदपुर आता-जाता रहा हूँ। जमशेदपुर को देख कर मुझे बराबर यही लगता है कि यह बिहार में नहीं है, किसी दूसरी जगह है। मैं रूरकेला भी पिछले कई वर्षों में कई बार गया हूँ। वहां तो मुझे ऐसा नहीं लगा कि वह उड़ीसा से बाहर है। दुर्गापुर भी दो-चार बार गया हूँ—वहां भी मुझे ऐसा नहीं लगा कि वह बंगाल से

बाहर है—तो जमशेदपुर के बारे में मुझे ऐसा क्यों लगता है, इसके क्या मायने है? इस के मायने स्पष्ट है कि टाटा वालों ने उस समय यह ख्याल नहीं किया कि स्थानीय लोगों को काम में लगाया जाय, यदि काम दिया भी तो मजदूरों का काम दिया, दूसरे कामों में उनको नहीं आने दिया, उनको कोई ट्रेनिंग नहीं मिली जिसे कि वे ऊंचे पदों पर पहुँच सकें। आज भी यह बात बहुत हद तक हो रही है। मैं केवल बिहार की टाटा फैक्टरी की बात नहीं कहता हूँ बल्कि बोकारो के लिए भी कहता हूँ, बल्कि सभी जगहों की बात कहता हूँ। रूरकेला उड़ीसा से बाहर का समझा जाय, ऐसा नहीं होना चाहिये, अगर ऐसा समझा जायेगा तो वह गलत होगा और इस के लिये उपाय होना चाहिये। वहां पर उड़ीसा के आदिमियों को लगाया जाना चाहिये। हम बोकारो को बिहार के बाहर का क्यों समझें, लेकिन जब हम वहां की स्थिति को देखते हैं तो यह भावना हमारे मन में पदा होती है। जो जहां पर है, वहां के लोगों को उस में पूरा रोजगार मिलना चाहिये। जब तक यह नहीं होगा, तब तक आप के विरुद्ध बहुत कुछ कहा जायगा और आज भी कहा जाता है। इस लिये इस की ओर मैं विशेष रूप से आप का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ। आप ने सब को इकट्ठा किया—मैं इस को अच्छा समझता था, लेकिन स्टीफन साहब की बातों को सुन कर मन में कुछ शंका पैदा होने लगी है।

श्री बीजू पटनायक : मैं उस शंका को दूर कर दूंगा।

श्री मत्स्यंजय प्रसाद वर्मा : आप जरूर दूर कीजियेगा, लेकिन यह केवल इस सदन में ही दूर नहीं होनी चाहिये, बल्कि दो वर्षों के भीतर हमें फल से मालूम हो जाना चाहिए कि जो आपने किया है, बहुत अच्छा किया है। हम तो आप पर विश्वास कर के आप का समर्थन करते हैं और समर्थन

[श्री सत्युंजय प्रसाद वर्मा]

करते रहेंगे। यह विश्वास कर के आपका समर्थन करते रहेंगे कि आप सही रास्ते पर जा रहे हैं। किन्तु आपके रास्ते और तीस वर्ष में जिस रास्ते से हमने जो कुछ पाया है, वे रास्ते इस मामले में बहुत तेजी से मिल रहे हैं। स्टीफन साहब की बात आज भी आ रही है। उन्हीं के रास्ते पर आप चल रहे हैं। उनके रास्ते और आपके रास्ते में जो थोड़ा बहुत भेद है, उसको समझने की तो मेरे पास बुद्धि नहीं है। हो सकता है थोड़ा बहुत भेद हो। भीतर में कुछ भेद हो, जिसमें मैं नहीं जाना चाहता।

अन्त में मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करते हुए इतना जरूर कहना चाहता हूँ कि इसका असली लाभ हमें देखने को मिले। साथ ही साथ सभी में आपस के सहयोग से काम हो। ऐसा न हो कि राऊरकेला और भिलाई के बीच अनहेल्दी कम्पीटीशन शुरू हो जाए। राऊरकेला जो बनाना हो, वही भिलाई बनाता हो और इन दोनों में कम्पीटीशन हो जाए। यह भी न हो कि राऊरकेला दुर्गापुर को दबा ले। एक संगठन होने पर यह सब नहीं होना। जब तक अलग अलग संगठन रहेंगे तब तक कम्पीटीशन में लगे रहेंगे। इससे सारे देश का काम खराब होगा।

SHRI R. KOLANTHAIVELU (Tiruchengode): Mr. Chairman, Sir I want to say a few points for the consideration of the Minister. As has been pointed out by hon. Members, by merging these companies, the Minister should not forget to recruit workers from the State. The previous Members have already mentioned that by recruiting staff and workmen importance must be given not only to the workers and unskilled people of the locality but also to the administrative staff on the executive side also. Some of the limited companies are recruiting persons from among the local people in unskilled jobs only. The hon. Minister must take

into consideration that at least some of the members of the executive must be recruited locally to form core in the executive side. To my knowledge, the Minister has praised the efforts of Shri K. Mohan Kumaramangalam for formulating plans for steel plants, I, as a member of Salem District, request the hon. Minister that the Salem Steel Plant must not be disturbed in its work by merging all these plants. I want to remind the hon. Minister that the Salem Steel Plant has taken some shape because of the efforts of Shri Mohan Kumaramangalam. So, I wish that Mr. Patnaik's name must also be mentioned in executing the Salem Steel Plant. So far as this Steel Plant is concerned, for a long time, the Members of Tamil Nadu have been asking the Ministry to enlighten them on certain aspects. But in spite of repeated efforts, the Ministry is silent about that and they are not inclined to give details to the Members of Parliament even.

I take this opportunity to urge upon the hon. Minister to give some consideration to Tamil Nadu and to expedite the Salem Steel Plant so that Tamil Nadu also may be benefited. Progressively, India will have a say in the international calibre also. If this is encouraged, undoubtedly, India will become progressive like other countries.

By merging all these companies, their share must also be taken into consideration by way of dividend and, in the matter of calculating and auditing, this process should not be disturbed. The execution of the work and the progress of the work must not be delayed. As a representative from Tamil Nadu, I should say that the Government must give some importance to Tamil Nadu. For a long time, we have been asking for the Salem Steel Plant. In spite of all that, only the present Government has been kind enough to consider our request. I hope, the Janata Government will also see to it that it is expedited. It is a well-known fact that Tamil Nadu is a very backward State in the industrial field.

If the work on the Salem Steel Plant is executed expeditiously, it will undoubtedly develop industrially.

Sometime back, some two men delegation from China (M.M.I.C.) and expert committee visited Tamil Nadu and enquired about the progress of the Salem Steel Plant. But the committee is yet to give its findings. I hope, the hon. Minister will do justice to Tamil Nadu and expedite the work on the Salem Steel Plant.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: Agreed .

SHRI R. KOLANTHAIVELU: I thank the hon. Minister for that. He is inclined to look into whatever I have said. I would again request him to do justice to Tamil Nadu and to expedite the Salem Steel Plant. If that is done, it will surely meet the expectations of the people of Tamil Nadu.

With these words, I conclude.

श्री दुर्गा चन्द (बांगडा) : सभापति महोदय, यह जो बिल पेश हुआ है इसके मुतालिक डाइवर्जेंट व्यूज सदन में आए हैं। इसके आबजैक्ट्स एंड रीजन्स में यह दिया हुआ है कि जितनी स्टील कम्पनियाँ थीं, एंजिलरी, कांटीब्यूटरी या एट्रीब्यूटरी उन सब को इंटैग्रेट किया गया है। हमारे माननीय स्टीफंज साहब ने कहा है कि लोहे की पैदावार 1974 और 1975 में ठीक नहीं चल रही थी, हमारे स्टील प्लांट घाटे में चल रहे थे। उस वक्त इस चीज को सीरियस थाट दिया गया। श्री मोहन कुमारमंगलम ने स्टील अथॉरिटी आफ इंडिया का गठन किया और उसके बाद पैदावार बढ़ गई। अब ये सभी कम्पनियाँ स्टील अथॉरिटी आफ इंडिया में मर्ज हो रही हैं और पैदावार भी बढ़ रही है तो इसमें हर्ज की क्या बात है। इससे पैदावार और भी बढ़ेगी। यह कहा गया है कि राउरकेला, बोकारो, दुर्गापुर, भिलाई आदि की पैदा करने की कैपैसिटी बहुत ज्यादा है। इस वक्त 10.6 मिलियन टन स्टील पैदा हो रहा है। लेकिन

उनकी कैपैसिटी को बढ़ाने के लिए यह सारा इंतजाम किया जा रहा है और इसमें यह कहा गया है कि थोड़े समय के अन्दर उत्पादन 12.6 मिलियन टन हो जायगा। इतनी पैदावार होने से भी देश का मसला हल होने वाला नहीं है, क्योंकि लोहे के उत्पादन पर ही देश की तरक्की का अन्दाजा लगाया जा सकता है। आज जापान जैसा छोटा मुल्क हमसे कच्चा लोहा ले जाता है और उसको अच्छी स्टील बना कर के दूसरे देशों की जरूरत को पूरा करता है। तो जापान जैसे छोटे देश का उत्पादन भी हमारे देश से ज्यादा है। चाइना जिसको अनडरडेवलप्ड कहा जाता था उसका उत्पादन भी हमसे तीन गुना है। तो हमारे देश में पर कैपिटा स्टील का कंजप्शन बहुत कम है। बढ़ने हुए हालात में, माइंस और टेक्नोलाजी के युग में स्टील का इस्तेमाल बहुत ज्यादा बढ़ता जा रहा है। लेकिन हमारे यहां अभी उतना नहीं है। लोग मकान बनाने के लिये स्टील का ज्यादा इस्तेमाल करने लगे हैं, यहां तक कि बर्तन भी स्टील के बनने लगे हैं, जब कि पहले तांबा, पीतल के बर्तन होते थे। तो साइंस और टेक्नोलाजी के कारण कितना डाइवर्सिफिकेशन हो गया है जरूरियायत को पूरा करने के लिये।

स्टेटमेंट आफ आबजैक्ट्स और रीजन्स के आइटम 1, 2, 3 में सारी कम्पनियों का नाम दिया गया है और वह कम्पनियाँ स्टील अथॉरिटी आफ इंडिया से सब्सिडाइज्ड हैं पहले से ही। तो उन कम्पनियों को जो इंडिपेंडेंट थीं और थोड़ी सब्सिडाइज्ड हैं उनको कम्पनी का दर्जा दिया गया है और सेल की मातहत रहेंगी। माननीय सदस्य ने एतराज यह उठाया कि सारा मिनिस्ट्री के अन्दर चला जायगा। तो सेल का जैसा प्रबन्ध होता है, कौरपोरेट बौडी होती है, उस तरह उसका फ़ोरमेशन है। यों तो गवर्नमेंट आफ इंडिया एक्ट के मातहत देश के सारे काम होते हैं, लेकिन यह सेपरेट

[श्री दुर्गा चन्द]

अथारिटी है जो मिनिस्ट्री से अलग है, जो कंट्रोल करेगी। मिनिस्ट्री का तो सुपरवीजन है ही। लेकिन अगर सैल ने अच्छे परिणाम दिखाये हैं, इंतजाम बढ़ा है तो क्यों महसूस करते हैं कि जो इंटग्रेसन हुआ है उससे और फायदा नहीं होगा ?

स्टीफन साहब ने बताया कि इतनी बड़ी कम्पनियों में स्टील प्लांट्स में अरबों रुपया लगा है, करीब 22,000 करोड़ रु० का इनवस्टमेंट हुआ है, और बाकी जो कम्पनियां इसमें शामिल की जा रही हैं उनके इनवस्टमेंट का अन्दाजा लगायें तो 30,000 करोड़ रुपये का इनवस्टमेंट हुआ है। तो मेरा कहना है कि स्टील अथारिटी आफ इंडिया के विंग्स बनाये जायें ताकि स्टील प्लांट्स की जो जरूरियात हैं उनको वह पूरा कर सके और हमारे कारखाने अपने मकसद को पूरा कर सकें।

मैं मंत्री जी को बधाई देता हूँ कि उन्होंने बहुत अच्छा कदम उठाया है, यह देश की इकोनामी और उत्पादन के हित में है और इससे अच्छा बिल और कोई नहीं हो सकता है।

मैं उनको बधाई देता हूँ कि एक बहुत अच्छा कदम उन्होंने उठाया है जो देश के हित में है, मुल्क की इकोनामी और पैदावार के हित में है। मैं समझता हूँ कि इससे अच्छा बिल और कोई नहीं हो सकता है।

SHRI VENUGOPAL GOUNDER (Wandiwash): Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the Statement of Objects it is stated that this Bill has been introduced with a view to bringing about greater efficiency, better management, better planning, and so on. It is admitted that the present set-up is inefficient or improperly planned or managed and, therefore, the Minister says, this Bill has been introduced. If you are unable to manage a small house, I would ask

you, how you are going to manage a bigger house. That is the question. All these companies are now sought to be brought under a single unit. This will be a big problem for management. Even in the case of small units, there have been lot of complaints about favouritism, nepotism, and so on. Instead of bringing about improvement in the present set-up, you are bringing all these units under one single unit. You have to consider whether it is possible to achieve efficiency or proper planning or proper management with the present set up. The steel industry today is exporting to the maximum extent possible. Therefore, you cannot say that it is inefficient or is improperly managed. If it had been improperly managed, it could not have exported to the maximum possible extent. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister to consider whether it is possible to retain the present set-up. If all these companies are consolidated and brought under one single unit, the officials will never take decisions; the competitive spirit will not be there; there will be only favouritism nepotism, and so on. Therefore, kindly consider whether it is at all advisable to dismantle the present set-up. My submission is that the present set-up may be retained.

There are many complaints particularly in regard to execution of works and giving contracts to foreign countries. If rules are framed in such a manner as to prevent such things, favouritism and nepotism and so on, it would enable the steel industry to function more efficiently even with the present set-up. There are a lot of reports that, even to CIA agents, contracts were given. These things should be avoided. We should have stricter control in this regard. We can do that even with the present set-up.

The Salem Plant was announced and executed. But it is only on paper. They are doing only road works. There is no progress at all there. I request the hon. Minister to look into this matter also.

डा० रामजी सिंह (माग-नपुन) :  
सभापति महोदय, अपने अत्यन्त माननीय मित्र श्री स्टीफन के चमत्कारिक भाषण के बाद सचमुच मैं पटनायक साहब को उसका उत्तर देना चाहिये, लेकिन उन्होंने जो यह कहा कि इस्पात उद्योग के पुनर्गठन की समस्या को उठा कर एक प्रकार से केन्द्रीयकरण और अफसरीकरण को बढ़ावा दिया जा रहा है, तो मैं बहुत विनम्रता के साथ यह कहना चाहूंगा कि इस्पात उद्योग के पुनर्गठन का यह पहला प्रयास नहीं है, यह छठा प्रयास है।

उनको मालूम होना चाहिये, उनको ज्यादा मालूम भी है कि इस्पात उद्योग का पुनर्गठन पहली बार भिलाई, राउरकेला और दुर्गापुर को स्वायत्तता देकर किया गया था। दूसरा चरण तब हुआ जब हिन्दुस्तान स्टील के अन्तर्गत इसको लाया गया। इस्पात उद्योग के पुनर्गठन का तीसरा चरण तब हुआ, जब स्टील एथारिटी आफ इंडिया की दिवंगत श्री कुमारमंगलम ने स्थापना की। उस के पुनर्गठन का चौथा चरण तब हुआ, जब वर्तमान इस्पात मंत्री, श्री पटनायक, ने मैकन और एन० एम० डी० सी० को अलग किया। अब पांचवीं पबार इस्पात उद्योग का पुनर्गठन हो रहा है।

इस लिए पुनर्गठन के शब्द और उसके प्रयास के आधार पर किसी पर शंका करना गलत है। अगर पुनर्गठन के आधार पर शंका की जा सकती है, तो पहले श्री कुमारमंगलम द्वारा जो पुनर्गठन किये गये थे, उन के बारे में भी शंका करनी चाहिए।

आज हमारे बड़े बड़े पब्लिक एन्टरप्राइज की क्या स्थिति है? उनकी प्राइसिज का पैराडाक्स यह है कि 1960 में टाटा का रेट 1180 रुपये प्रति टन, हिन्दुस्तान स्टील का 1900 रुपये प्रति-टन, बोकारों का 4100 रुपये प्रति-टन और विशाखापत्तनम स्टील प्लांट का 600 रुपये प्रति-टन था। एक ही पब्लिक एन्टरप्राइज में प्राइसिज के इस वेरियेशन

का क्या कारण है? ऐसा लगता है कि उसमें एकरूपता का अभाव है। इसलिये यह आवश्यक है कि इस्पात उद्योग का पुनर्गठन किया जाये। माननीय सदस्य, श्री स्टीफन इस बात पर विचार करें कि एकरूपता के लिये इस्पात उद्योग का पुनर्गठन आवश्यक है।

मैं श्री स्टीफन की सेवा में निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि इस सम्बन्ध में छः अध्ययन दल नियुक्त किये गये थे और उनकी सिफारिशें आ गई हैं। माननीय सदस्य की यह दुश्चिन्ता गलत है कि यह राष्ट्रीयकरण के विरुद्ध मोर्चा है। उन सिफारिशों में स्पष्ट कहा गया है कि हम फ़ारेन एंड लेंगे—लेकिन फ़ारेन एंड टु स्टील यूनिट्स थ्रू गवर्नमेंट फंड्स और नाट थ्रू मल्टी-नेशनलज। मैं श्री स्टीफन से कहना चाहता हूँ कि जनता पार्टी उन से ज्यादा मल्टी-नेशनलज के विरुद्ध है। इस बात का प्रमाण तो यही है कि इन्दिरा जी के शानदार दशन में यहां पर मल्टी-नेशनलज का जितना इनवस्टमेंट हुआ, उतना किसी दूसरे का नहीं हुआ। सी० पी० एम० की कलकत्ता कांग्रेस ने इस बात को एक्सपोज़ कर दिया है।

भूतपूर्व इस्पात मंत्री, श्री चन्द्रजीत यादव, ने इस्पात उद्योग के सम्बन्ध में एक बहुत महत्वाकांक्षी प्लान रखा था। लेकिन वर्तमान इस्पात मंत्री यथार्थवादी हैं। यह तो मानना ही पड़ेगा कि इस्पात मंत्री को इस्पात उद्योग का पूरा अनुभव है। यही कारण है कि इस्पात उद्योग में कुशलता, क्षमता और दक्षता लाने के लिए वह उसका पुनर्गठन कर रहे हैं।

माननीय सदस्य पूछ सकते हैं कि इस पुनर्गठन से क्या लाभ हो सकता है। जैसा कि अखबारों में भी कहा गया है, पहला लाभ तो यह हो सकता है कि लास एडनसिग्नीफिकेंट हो जायेंगे और एकरूपता की स्थापना होगी। इसके अलावा इनकम टैक्स 10 करोड़ रुपये होगा। ये दो बातें तो हैं ही, लेकिन सब से बड़ी

[डा० रामजी सिंह]

मब से बड़ी बात यह है कि पिछले दस वर्षों में हमने देखा कि चाहे कोई भी उद्योग खड़ा किया गया, वह क्षेत्रीयता का शिकार हो गया। लोग कहते थे कि हमें अमृक उद्योग चाहिए, नहीं तो हम बन्द कर देंगे। पिछले प्रशासन में हम देखते थे कि क्षेत्रीयता के कारण हर जगह स्टील उद्योग की मांग हो रही है। श्री स्टीफन देखेंगे कि अब इस उद्योग को छः भागों में बांटा जा रहा है और उन्हीं छः भागों का इतना विस्तार किया जायेगा कि भारत की इस्पात की आवश्यकता को परिपूर्ण किया जा सकेगा। इसलिए आज दूसरे नये नये प्लांट स्थापित करने की आवश्यकता नहीं है। एक और चीज मैं आपसे कहूंगा कि बड़े इस्पात उद्योगों के पुनर्गठन की व्यापकता के पीछे एक और काम है और वह है छोटे छोटे उद्योगों का। यह प्रश्न बराबर आता है कि छोटे छोटे इस्पात के उद्योग चलें या नहीं। मैं इस पर ज्यादा नहीं कहना कहूंगा। केवल इतना ही कहना चाहूंगा कि छोटे छोटे इस्पात उद्योगों का भविष्य बहुत बुरा है और 190 छोटे इस्पात उद्योगों में से केवल 120 चालू हुए हैं। 90 आंशिक रूप से चल रहे हैं जिसमें केवल 44 प्रतिशत उत्पादन होता है। इस दृष्टि से छोटे इस्पात उद्योग बहुत सारे बीमार हैं। चाइना और दूसरे देशों के इस्पात उद्योगों का जो रेकार्ड है वह आपको ज्यादा मालूम होगा। हमारा जो है वह यू एस ए और यू एस एस आर क्या चाइना और फ्रांस से भी कम है। इसलिए आवश्यक है कि हम इस्पात उद्योग का व्यापक ढंग से पुनर्गठन करें और उस में हम उसके खर्च को भी घटाएंगे, उसमें प्रशासनिक क्षमता भी लाएंगे। उसका जो ज्यादा वैज्ञानिकरण है उसका भी उपयोग करेंगे। इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं माननीय स्टीफन साहब से कहूंगा कि वे जिस भी अपदृश्य होने के आक्रोश से ग्रसित हैं कृपा करके उस को वापस कर लें और इस अच्छे बिल का समर्थन करें।

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN (Coimbatore): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I join my friends on this side of the House in opposing this measure. I have listened very carefully to the speeches that have been made. What disappointed me particularly and what makes me feel rather doubtful about the whole thing is that the Minister had promised at the time of the introduction of the Bill that we would have a fuller discussion at the time of the consideration of the Bill; Yet, all the did was to get up and move the Bill and not tell us what exactly is behind the Bill. It is no good having his running commentary; that does not help us. I know that he is very good in this running commentary even when the subject is not his. He may be a crown jewel or a diamond or a star or a ruby in all his little remarks that he makes here and there, but I cannot understand why on a serious matter like this, he could not take the House into confidence and tell us exactly what is meant by this Bill. I have come to my conclusions .....

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I do not know whether you were present in the House when I introduced the Bill. When Shri Stephen opposed it at the introduction stage, I gave a detailed explanation why it is required. I do not think, you were there at that time.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: The convention is that when you move the Bill for consideration, you tell us why this Bill.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: I was present at that time. You spoke for five-ten minutes and you think that it was a detailed explanation. You touched on the fringe of the matter. That is why, when I started, Mr. Minister—it would do you good sometimes if you hear what other people say—I said that you had promised a fuller discussion and surely a fuller discussion would be on the basis of a fuller contribution from you, not just ten words, which was your

introductory statement. I was present at that time and I am present today also and I have heard what you said when you introduced the Bill. You did not say anything.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN (Arkonam): That exactly is our charge also.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I shall reply after hearing the hon. Members.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: Then, can we reply also after hearing you?

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: What should we speak on?

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: I have no objection to his replying but we should also be able to reply to him after hearing him. We have not heard him on this Bill.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Quite right.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: The Bill is there.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: There is a limit, Mr. Minister, to your policy of "hearing no evil, seeing no evil and speaking no evil." You did not speak. The evil may be that you speak at the end. But anyway, to come back to the Bill itself now that we have had this little passage-at-arms, always pleasant with a Minister of Mr. Patnaik's qualification and his ...

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: attainments.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: Attainments, I would not say, but decorations—he is being given a lot of decoration to-day.... (*Interruptions*) Mr. Ramachandran, you were not here. Many decorations were showered on him—crowns, rubies and the like.

Anyway, coming back to the Bill, I would agree with Mr. Stephen that this Bill has really in it much more than meets the eye because the whole

idea of SAIL when it was set up, as we understood it and continue to understand it, is that SAIL would be a holding company to coordinate the activities of the various Branches that were required for steel production and co-ordinate the different steel companies. Now, on the one hand, one step that you are taking now is to bring these various autonomous steel companies under one management, that is, the SAIL. Hindustan Steel, Bokaro Steel Salem Steel, Sail International Bhilai Ispat, Rourkela Ispat, Durgapur Mishra Ispat, the wholly owned subsidiaries of the Steel Authority of India Ltd will be merged in SAIL and that the whole idea of SAIL being the co-ordinating factor now goes as far as this is concerned. Perhaps a single management may bring more efficiency—I do not know, but, at the moment, as I see it, these being in different areas and functioning as they have been doing, certain decisions have been more speedily taken because of the decentralisation. Now, you will centralise the whole thing and, therefore, with the experience that one has with things like the Railway Board, you will have to wait a long time for even a small decision to come. Will this not happen? Is that danger not there? It is one thing for you to shake your head, but I would like to be convinced how that danger is not there. ...

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: If you mean the south, it is there.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: Yes, it is a danger. You will agree with me. Then come with another amendment. You have already given some 20 amendments only 10 minutes ago. Come with a few more amendments or withdraw the Bill altogether. ...

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: Sir, I request that time of the House may be extended to complete this Bill because there will be no other opportunity as tomorrow the discussion on President's Address being. I would beg of the House that the time of the House be extended by one hour. ...

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: You cannot rush it through that way.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I would like to point out to you that the hon. Minister has been from the beginning wanting to push through this Bill to-day and wants to hurry us.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I am only requesting the House.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I want to make a submission. The time allotted for the discussion and disposal of this Bill is 2 1/2 hours. Now hardly 1 1/2 hours have been taken to-day and another hour remains. Some of us on this side want to speak on this Bill and express our opinion. The hon. Minister cannot hustle us through this Bill in this manner.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I am not hustling. I am only saying that the time be extended.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: We are not prepared for that.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: No, we are not prepared. Not one minute we are prepared to sit overtime. You can continue tomorrow.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: Then let us take the vote of the House. Tomorrow it cannot be done because discussion on the President's Address starts. That is the problem. Otherwise I would have no objection.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: We cannot help it.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I request that the time of the House be extended by one hour.

SHRIMATI PARVATI KRISHNAN: You cannot have the House extended. We are agreeing to it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The discussion on the Bill started at 4.33 p.m. By 6 p.m. 1 hour 2 minutes will be left. Now,

there are two courses open. Either we adjourn at 6 p. m. as usual or the time of the House may be extended for at least 1 hour 5 minutes.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: No, Sir, we do not agree.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA (Patan): The time of the House may be extended by one hour. The discussion on the Motion of Thanks will start tomorrow. So the Bill should be completed to-day.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am in the hands of the House.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: There are certain conventions which are observed in this House. We are liable to sit in this House only upto the time the Speaker has prescribed. If the House is to sit beyond that, it has never happened that the extension is accomplished by a vote.

The views of the Opposition must also be taken. If the Opposition oppose the extension, then you can have the vote of the House and forget about us.

For my party I say, we are opposed to it.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I request the Opposition to see to the convenience of the Government.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: We are not prepared.

SRI BIJU PATNAIK: Then we should put it to the vote of the House.

SHRIMATI PARVATI KRISHNAN: The discussion on the President's Address is to be taken up at 2 O' Clock.

श्री युवराज (कटिहार) : सभापति महोदय, इस बिल को दूसरे दिन एक घण्टे के लिये बढ़ा दिया जाये ।

**SHRI C. M. STEPHEN:** Let it go to Monday.

This is very important Bill. We are going to ask for further time for discussion on the Bill. There will be speeches on clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

श्रम तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री लारंग साय) : संसदीय कार्य के महत्व को ध्यान में रखते हुए, श्रीमन्, यह ज्यादा उचित होगा कि इस बिल का काम आज ही पूरा कर लिया जाय। मैं विरोध पक्ष के माननीय सदस्यों से बड़ी विनम्रता के साथ अपील करना चाहता हूँ कि ऐसे समय में उनको सहयोग करना चाहिये और मैं अपने इधर के मित्रों से भी कहता हूँ कि वे इसको मान लें।

**SHRI C. M. STEPHEN:** We are not prepared.

श्री युवराज : यह सवाल बिहार का है, इस तरह से नहीं होना चाहिये। ये इसको हमारे यहां से उठा कर भिलाई ले जा रहे हैं।

श्री लारंग साय : ज्यादा उचित तो यही होगा, श्रीमन्, कि एक घन्टा बढ़ा कर इसको आज ही पूरा कर लिया जाय। मैं सारे हाउस से इसको लिये प्रार्थना करता हूँ।

सभापति महोदय : ज्यादा उचित यही होगा कि आप सब की सहमति से करें।

**SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE:** It should not be passed to-day. Let it continue tomorrow.

श्री लारंग साय : मैं सब की सहमति से करना चाहता हूँ, इसीलिये प्रार्थना कर रहा हूँ।

**SHRI C. M. STEPHEN:** None among the Opposition Parties is prepared for that. We are not prepared for that.

Even some of the Members from the Ruling Party also wanted that it should be taken up later on.

**SHRI BIJU PATNAIK:** There is none amongst us who wants like that.

श्री लारंग साय : कल यह संभव नहीं है।

**SHRI C. M. STEPHEN:** The Minister is taking it in a very casual way. We have to protest against that.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** I do not think it will be proper to decide it on vote. If there is agreement .....

**SHRI C. M. STEPHEN:** No, there is no agreement.

**SHRI BIJU PATNAIK:** Unfortunately, then the Budget comes. The whole Session will go like that. It is the difficulty of the Government Business. I would plead with the Opposition Members to co-operate with us.

**SHRI C. M. STEPHEN:** Heavens are not going to fall.

**SHRI BIJU PATNAIK:** When the Government brings the Bill, they can oppose it, they can discuss it, but they cannot block us in this fashion. We will have to request for further extension of time.

**SHRI C. M. STEPHEN:** To accommodate you in the matter of a Bill against which we have the strongest opposition, you want us to sit over time and help you!

**SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN:** The practice normally is when there is something which the Government considers so important that it has to be taken up here and now and it is likely to be delayed by the Budget, then the Government should also consult the Opposition earlier during the day or it could be brought in the Business Advisory Committee

[Shrimati Parvathi Krishanan]

where it was not put in this way. Hours were to be fixed in the Business Advisory Committee and at that time also it was clear that it was not going to be finished by six O'Clock. Why at this late hour are we asked to sit late when many of our Members have gone away? If the voting comes they are not here. How can we do it? We think this Bill is a matter of important policy.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: We propose to force Division on this and even Division on clause by clause every clause.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: If the Government considered that this was absolutely important and had to be completed before the Budget, was taken up, there are ways to do that as has always been done in Parliament. Very often we know in advance. We agree also that one has to sit late. Yesterday, for instance, it was agreed that everybody would sit till 7 O'Clock. It was done by agreement earlier. Everybody knew about it. They were all prepared for it. Now, at the eleventh hour, just three or four minutes before 6 O'clock, why do you ask us to sit till 7 O'clock? We cannot agree.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am trying to see whether there is an agreement or not.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: No, Sir, definitely, we are saying no.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I would request that the time of the House may be extended today till the Bill is passed.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: Then we will walk out. That is all. How can you cooperate in this way?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let us try to avoid this unhappy situation.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: Government would have no objection to postpone it to another day. But long gap is there. The President's Address will be coming up tomorrow. There will be no time tomorrow. Then it will go on for three days. After that the Budget has to be passed. The Budget Discussion will take place. So, it will be postponed. Rule 377 and other things will come in. So, it is not possible tomorrow.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: If Government had been so serious, the Hon. Minister could have got priority for this Bill. There were several other things which came up earlier.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: Sir, Government did not think that there will be so much of unnecessary heat on this thing.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: It is treating the House in a casual way. He is treating this House in a casual way.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: Sir, it should have been done earlier. We cannot allow this as a precedent. All this shows that the Government is undecided. This has never happened before.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: You have already taken 10 minutes. You could have finished within these 10 minutes.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: I am very sorry. Mr. Minister, as I said, at the Business Advisory Committee if the point had been put, the Business Advisory Committee would have found some time for it. Now, we have adopted the Business Advisory Committee's Report. At that time, Mr. Minister, you could have said it.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: The Business Advisory Committee gave us 2 1/2 hours today but the other things elongated taking more time.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: One difficulty is there which you will understand.

श्री लारंग साय : सभापति महोदय, अग्रे के कार्यक्रम को ध्यान में रखते हुए हम ऐसा नहीं पाते कि यह बिल अग्रे 31 मार्च तक आ पायेगा। इसलिये मैं चाहता कि इसको आज ही पास कर दिया जाए अगर हाउस के सभी माननीय सदस्य चाहें तो आज हाउस का समय बढ़ा दिया जाए। यही अन्धा होगा।

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: I want to make a submission here. We make our own calculation. We knew 2 1/2 hours were allotted to this. It was known. The discussion started at 4 p.m. It was very clear to us that the voting cannot take place before 6 O'clock. This is a subject on which we will call for Division.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think that Mrs. Parvathi Krishnan has said all that, what you are saying now. What I think is this. If some agreeable solution is found out, that will be better. I will try to know what is the sense of the House.

I would like to know what is the sense of the House—whether it should sit upto 7-05?

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: No.  
SOME HON. MEMBERS: No.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is the opinion on this side?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: Yes. Extend it.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: I say, the 'Noes' have it. Sir, I rise on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The time of the House will have to be extended upto 7-05.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: How can you have the sense of the House in this way? You are taking the sense of the House and they said 'Yes' and we said 'No'. I say, the 'Noes' have it. A motion is coming here without any understanding. Under what provisions are you putting the motion to the vote? Under what provision are you putting it, without notice? Sir, by understanding, everything is possible. What I say is, you cannot put the motion to the vote of the House without notice at all. How can you take this motion? It is most unfortunate. (*Interruptions*).

18 hrs.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR (Gandhinagar): May I submit that usually; when the House is to be extended beyond six the practice has been that the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs or his colleague consults various groups and leaders of the Opposition including the Independents in the House. But; I find that that has not taken place today. Now; suddenly just before six; you ask us to go on. We have our own programmes and meetings. We cannot go on sitting like this. That is our difficulty. Please do not go by majority or minority. After all you must also look to the convenience of the entire House. If were had told this ahead of time, that we may have to go beyond six, it would have been all right. My request is this. Don't let the House and the Majority Party follow this kind of procedure. By majority you can extend. But let us not also forget one thing more. Every extension beyond six also is a burden on the entire Secretariat and office staff who are working here. This point also needs to be mentioned here.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will just request all of you not to be adamant. You just come to an agreement.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: We are not adamant. I am here rising on a

[Shri C. M. Stephen]

point of order. The point of order is this. You cannot vote the motion verbally. Where is the motion? Let us see it. What is the motion for? Who considers the admissibility of the motion. There is certain procedure for the motion. Where is the motion? What is the motion? Who has admitted it? Where is the notice for that? Without that, how can you put it to the vote?

श्री लारंग साय : सभी मित्रों से मैंने रिक्वेस्ट की है कि वे बैठने के लिए तैयार हो जाएं। सब की राय को देखते हुए, मामले के काम को देखते हुए इस बिल के महत्व को देखते हुए सभी मित्रों से मैंने रिक्वेस्ट की है इसके बारे में।

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: You cannot put the motion that way. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI GAURI SHANKER RAI (Ghazipur): The motion has already been voted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am in the hands of the House for whatever you decide. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: I say No. When you ask us to say Ayes or Noes, some say Ayes while some others say 'Noes'. Under what authority can you say that before you call for the division? So, I rise on a point of order. This is a dangerous thing.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: Mr. Chairman, Sir, (*Interruptions*). It is not dangerous. The Janata Party does not want to make a precedent. The hon. Member, when he was in the Congress Party, not only did many precedents like that and wiped off the Opposition and sent us to jails. So, let us not talk of precedents from those benches. We are not prepared to hear them. I would like to strike a compromise. That is, we may sit

late on Monday. (*Interruptions*). Let us keep our places. I am prepared.... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: We are not here to take it like that.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I am not speaking to you. I thought.... (*Interruptions*). Let them not teach us the norms of democracy.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: Norms I can teach you. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: We can also shout like that.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: Shouting was not started by me. (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: All of you please sit down. I am on my legs. I would request the House not to go into the controversy.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I am making a proposal. If the Opposition agrees, on Monday, after six of the clock, if they are prepared to sit for one or one and-half hours, that is all right.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: No. There should be negotiation.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: No negotiation. It should be accepted.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: You cannot carry on business like that. You talk to the Leader of the Opposition; you talk to me and talk to other leaders.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: Excepting Mr. Stephen everybody agrees.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: You talk to me. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think Mr. Stephen should agree to this.

**SHRI C. M. STEPHEN:** If the Parliamentary Affairs Minister puts to us formally, we will be agreeable. Let it be formally put to us. If it is put at the bargaining counter, then we won't agree. The Parliamentary Minister must talk to the leaders. We will certainly be amenable. Let there be a formal motion.

श्री सारंग साय : श्रीमन्, मैं सोमवार के लिये 6 बजे के बाद 1 घंटा 5 मिनट समय बढ़ाने के लिए प्रस्ताव करता हूँ ।

**SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN:** We are not prepared to bow to the arrogance of this Minister.

**SHRI BIJU PATNAIK:** I was prepared to bow for nineteen months in their prison and he is talking about the arrogance of the Minister!

(Interruptions).

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Minister has moved the motion. Is it acceptable to the House?

**PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR:** On Monday we should sit only for one extra hour and not an hour and a half.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The motion is to extend the time by one hour and five minutes. The time left for this Bill is also one hour and five minutes. I think it may be agreed to.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:** Yes.

**MR. CHAIRMAN** So, it is agreed. The House stands adjourned to meet at eleven of the clock on Friday, the 24th February, 1978.

18.07 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, February, 24, 1978/Phalguna 5, 1899 (Saka).*