

[Shri C. M. Stephen]

is no less firm than that of the Prime Minister. He may rest assured that it will be non-violent. But we will take it to the people. Let there be no doubt about it. (Interruptions).**

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)**

Rule 377 is not for a debate. You are a leader of a very responsible party.

(ii) PRICES OF VARIOUS QUALITIES OF SYNTHETIC RUBBERS MANUFACTURED BY SYNTHETICS AND CHEMICALS LTD., BAREILLY.

SHRI SURENDRA BIKRAM (Saha-jahanpur): The prices of various qualities of synthetic rubbers manufactured by Synthetics & Chemicals Ltd., Bareilly, were under control probably till 1974 after which the Company developed new qualities giving new names with slight changes in formulas and took out the prices out of control and started charging high prices from rubber consuming industries. This factory has been continuously increasing its prices and being a monopoly industry, rubber consuming industries have to purchase these rubbers at any cost resulting into high cost of tyres, tubes and other rubber products. The Government must control the prices of synthetic rubbers and reduce the present prices by at least Re. 1/- per kg. and no more price rise be allowed in the public interest. The Company is raising prices and this excessive profitability is spent in various ways including high rise in salaries, wages and perks etc. In 1977, alone the salary, wage and perks bill of this Company increased by Rs. 51 lakhs. The employees are already being given high salaries and wages. Also, in view of huge shareholding of LIC, GIC and nationalised banks in this Company, there is an urgent need to place at least two Government nominees on the Board of this Company to keep a watch

over the affairs and stop wastages and squandering of funds in various ways.

The Minister concerned is here. I would request him through you to let the House know as to what action Government is going to take on this.

(iii) REPORTED RETRENCHMENT OF WORKERS BY MANAGEMENT OF HINDALCO, MIZAPUR, U.P.

श्री उमेश (देवरिया) : प्रमत्त यहीव, हिंडालको (मिर्जापुर), उत्तर प्रदेश के माणिकान, बिड़ला शालवे, ने 1100 मजदूरों की ह्रास ही में घटती कर दी है। यह उन्होंने इस लिए किया है कि उन्हें उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार से बिजली नहीं मिलती थी, लेकिन सुप्रीम कोर्ट के आदेशानुसार दिनांक 8-5-78 से उन्हें 20 मेगावाट बिजली मिल रही है। फिर भी उन्होंने मजदूरों को नहीं रखा। उन्होंने 1952 में उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार से समझौता कर के 1.99 पैसे प्रति युनिट बिजली से कर प्रदेश की सरकार का 35 करोड़ खर्चा बूटा है। सन् 1975 में तत्कालीन ऊर्जा मंत्री, भारत सरकार ने उन्हें 11 पैसे प्रति युनिट बिजली दी, जबकि सागत मूल्य 17 पैसे प्रति युनिट था। इस प्रकार उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार को 57 लाख रुपये का भाविक घाटा हो रहा है। प्रदेश में बिजली की कमी है। 400 पी० को कीर्ई 2100 मेगावाट बिजली की जरूरत है, लेकिन वहाँ केवल 1700 मेगावाट बिजली ही बनती है।

इसलिए मैं इस विषय में माननीय ऊर्जा मंत्री का ध्यान आकषित करना चाहता हूँ और मांग करता हूँ कि हिंडालको (मिर्जापुर) का तत्काल अधिवहन कर लिया जाये।

(iv) REPORTED SLOW PROGRESS IN THE COMPLETION OF SALAL PROJECT.

SHRI BALDEV SINGH JASROTIA (Jammu): With your permission, Sir, I am raising the following matter of importance under rule 377.

Of all the problems, facing the economy of the country, perhaps the most irritating and one for which there is the least excuse is the problem of power shortage. Further, power is such an essential input today, not for industry but also for agriculture, which is life of the country and the economic structure of India.

There are three Central hydro-electric projects, Loktak, Baira, Sital and

Salal. We see their working and position.

Loktak is situated in Manipur which has come to a halt after spending Rs. 800 millions and the work started in 1970.

The position of Baira Siul hydro-electric project in Himachal Pradesh is no better, rather to say more correctly that that is sick and this is why now these projects are being handed over to the National Hydro-Electric Power Corporation.

Before we see the achievements of Salal project, mention may also be made about lower Jhelum. On the hydro-electric project in Jammu and Kashmir State, Rs. 70 crores have been spent and few days ago it has been closed down.

Salal project is of national, rather international importance on account of recent accord with Pakistan which too is going on with a snail speed. They say that the project is also being handed over to the National Hydro-Electric Power Corporation and that speaks of its sickness.

In the Government of India, the only work of this nature was taken up by the Department in 1970 with an estimate of Rs. 55 crores with the hope that it will be commissioned in 1976-77. But the snail speed with which the work proceeded, it was felt after three years for an increase of the funds and revised estimates were put up at Rs. 113 crores and, again, the estimates went upto Rs. 222 crores without knowing where it will end.

In the beginning the work was started with two divisions but today we are having more than 22 divisions and we are told that further more divisions are required to build up the tempo on the project. More staff,

more budget, is the coined answer of those who are in-charge of the project but without any progress. The growing feeling is that men at the helm of affairs have miserably mis-managed the project and even the Central Government people are equally guilty as they did not ask the reason for poor progress.

In March, 1977, more than Rs. 2 crores were surrendered for want of planning. Machinery worth crores of rupees could not work for more than 12/13 hours in a year which should have been 2,000 hours and this has further caused loss as the staff remained idle, so also the machinery.

15.30 hrs.

[Mr. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

First phase of the project making diversion of the River was scheduled to be in 1976 and is doubtful if this would be achieved even in 1978. The quantum of work required to be completed on rockfill Dam before effecting diversion is far short of target and even the design of the Dam is not there according to best information but the work has been allotted to a company and with a further information that company is demanding damages. For the earth bund no quarry arrangement has been made so far.

Power House machinery supplied by N.H.E.L.C. Hardwar is said to be diverted because there was no power House building and the warranty of the Power House machinery is to expire before the building comes up. They say that Salal Project will be commissioned in 1982. But other things remaining the same it cannot be commissioned by the Department for another 12 years. Unless Government of India takes extraordinary measures it may not be commissioned before 1982.

[Shri Baldev Singh Jasrotia]

In the national interest, it is urged upon the Government that a High Power Committee be appointed to look into the matter. 690 Megawatts should come up as early as possible and change the destiny of the Northern India and if circumstances require CBI assistance may also be called for to bring the guilty to book as there seems to be great bungling in the project.

(v) REPORTED DISPUTE BETWEEN WORKERS AND MANAGEMENT OF PULP DIVISION OF GWALIOR RAYONS AND SILK MFG. & WEAVING CO., MAVOOR (KERALA)

SHRI K. A. RAJAN (Trichur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Pulp Division of the Gwalior Rayons and Silk Manufacturing and Weaving Company, Mavoor, an industrial undertaking engaged in the manufacture of rayon pulp, employing about 2,500 workers, besides about 25,000 workers employed indirectly on contract and through contractors through the State, is not functioning since 30-11-1977. The long-term agreement between the management and the workers had expired on 26-10-1975. There was also much discontentment among the workers in view of the steep fall in the emoluments of workmen over a period of two years due to the decrease in the cost of living index. Though negotiations were started for a fresh long term agreement and a series of conferences were held by the officers of the Labour Department, no agreement could be reached even

after two years of strenuous efforts, in view of the recalcitrant attitude of the management. In the circumstances, the workers went on strike from 30-11-77. Since then several conciliation conferences were held in the presence of the Labour Minister to bring about a settlement. As these negotiations failed, a number of conferences were held in the presence of the Labour Minister and Industries Minister. But these also failed due to the adamant and non-cooperative attitude of the management.

Now the position is very grave in that thousands of workers and their families are in utter distress due to the uncompromising attitude of the management. Further, as the concern is not functioning, the Central Government and the State Government are losing crores of rupees by way of excise duty and sales tax. All this forced the State Government to step in to make some temporary arrangements for the functioning of the factory. Accordingly, the State Government are taking immediate steps to take over the management of the concern temporarily and for this necessary ordinance is being promulgated. I request the Central Government to extend all support to the steps taken by the State Government in the matter.

(vi) PRODUCTION OF LEATHER AND RUBBER WEAR FOR EXPORT AS WELL AS FOR INTERNAL CONSUMPTION

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): The country's production of leather and rubber wear