

mittee on Public Undertakings of this House for the unexpired portion of the term of the Committee ending on the 30th April, 1980 in the vacancy caused by the resignation of Dr. Rafiq Zakaria from the Committee on the 18th May, 1979 and communicate to this House the name of the member so nominated by Rajya Sabha."

—
The motion was adopted.
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12.58 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(1) NEED TO ESTABLISH PAPER FACTORIES IN CERTAIN PARTS OF UTTAR PRADESH

SHRI SURENDRA BIKRAM (Shah-jahanpur) Sir, the Government of India has been giving several licences to various private sector entrepreneurs for setting up factories for the manufacture of various kinds of papers in the country particularly in the Uttar Pradesh State. I have been noticing that most of such projects are being located in Western parts of Uttar Pradesh in view of availability of raw materials. Several other parts of Uttar Pradesh also have raw materials for paper industry in abundance with other facilities required for paper industries. Such places are Shah-jahanpur, Hardoi, Pilibhit, Budaun, Faizabad, Gonda, Jaunpur, etc. where new paper projects of large capacity may be established. The Central Government must see to this matter on top priority so that several new paper plants are not located at few selected centres and these are distributed at several places in the country for the good of the people as well as paper industry. In Uttar Pradesh many paper industries are coming up in Ghazilabad, Sikandrabad area which is not justified and proper. As such concentration of paper industries at one or two locations is bound to create problems of shortage of raw materials, difficulties of disposal of effluents and such other industrial problems.

13 hrs.

(ii) REPORTED PANIC AMONG PEOPLE FEARING FALL OF SKYLAB SPLINTERS.

PROF. SAMAR GUHA (Contai): Mr. Speaker, Sir, confusing and contradictory reports about the areas where the splinters of the Skylab are likely to fall out have created great anxiety, uncertainty and alarm all over India, as in other parts of the world. Different Space and scientific agencies are circulating different reports about the nature, time and the areas of the probable fall out of the splinters of the Skylab, which have added to the worries and alarm facing the people, particularly in our country.

The Space Department of India or the Government of India have not made any specific statement or given any positive information about the probability of fall-out of Skylab parts over the Indian territory.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA (Serampore) Yesterday, it was made by the Prime Minister.

PROF. SAMAR GUHA: Not a clear statement. Various press reports have created such an atmosphere of terror in the mind of the people that many people are hectically moving out to different places in search of some areas of security from Skylab fall-outs.

It is an urgent duty for the Government to come out with a statement followed by necessary actions regarding the hazard that may be caused to the Indian people due to fall-out of the high speed splinters from the crashing Skylab. The Government should immediately inform in as much details as they are capable of

(1) Whether the Skylab splinters are likely to fall out over the territory of India. If so, the areas where the splinters may fall.

(2) Whether the Concerned authorities of various potentially endangered areas of our country have been properly alerted? If so, the nature of the warning given to them?

[Prof. Samar Guha]

(3) What are the precautionary measures the Central Government have asked the various State Governments to adopt to meet the danger if it overtakes some parts of India?

(4) What are the information about the Skylab fall-out received by the Space Department of India from NASA and other international space agencies and Governments as well?

The Government should make a prompt and informative statement today about all aspects of danger, apprehension and hazards connected with the question of crashing of Skylab and fall-out of its splinters.

MR. SPEAKER: A proper reply will be possible only next week.

13.02 hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377—Contd.

(iii) LOCK-OUT BY MESSRS. BENNET COLEMAN AND CO., THE PUBLISHERS OF THE *Times of India* PUBLICATIONS.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): Under Rule 377 I wish to raise the following, namely:

The management of Bennett Coleman and Company, publishers of *Times of India* allied publications, has declared a lock out throwing nearly 4500 employees out of employment. The employees were agitating on the demand for interim relief. The lock out in Delhi, Ahmedabad and Calcutta and the efforts to take similar action in Bombay came in the wake of the unions in the four centres going on strike after the complete breakdown of

the two and half months of negotiations with the management. The management was adopting delaying tactics not to reach any accord. Meeting of the employees' demands has become urgently necessary, especially since the presentation of the Union budget for 1979-80.

The demands of the employees are quite legitimate, reasonable and should be accepted by the management without delay. The Central Government should not remain as a passive spectator and should immediately intervene in favour of the employees and see that the dispute is settled in their favour.

(iv) RE. CONVERSION OF NATIONAL INSTRUMENTS LTD, CALCUTTA, INTO A GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT

SHRI SAUGATA ROY (Barrackpore): Under Rule 377 I would like to raise the following matters in Parliament:

The National Instruments Limited, Calcutta, is Government of India undertaking under the Ministry of Industrial Development. It manufactures items for the Defence Ministry, Survey of India and also consumer items like cameras etc.

The number of employees is about 1300.

For the last 3 years the company has been suffering losses and the cumulative loss now stands at Rs. 6 crores. The present range of production will not be able to wipe out the loss. The situation in the Company has been made more difficult by the recent formation of the CITU union which is causing indiscipline, violence and loss of production in the company.

The department of Science and Technology has already recommended that the company may be converted into a Government Department and placed under the control of Survey of India as one of the specialised branches. The Defence Production Minis-