श्री राम विलास पासवान (हाजीपुर) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मुझे इस पर विशेष नहीं बोलना था । अभी-अभी मंत्री महोदय ने अपने जबाव में दो बातें कही हैं । एक तो उन्होंने यह कहा है कि कुल मिलाकर 50 हजार से ज्यादा मजदूर हैं, जिनके लिए यह कानून बना रहे हैं । आपने यह भी कहा है कि अभी तक जो मजदूरों के लिये मकान बनाये गये हैं, वे कुल मिलाकर 1905 हैं। आपने यह भी कहा है कि मजदूरों को मकान के लिए जो हम सहायता दे रहे हैं, वह 1500 रु. है । मैं आपसे यह जानना चाहता हूं कि आज कल के युग में क्या 1500 रु. में मकान बन सकता है । अच्छा है, आप मकान का नाम न लें । वह मकान भी किसके द्वारा बनाया जाता है । 1500 रु. देते हैं कन्ट्रैक्टर को उसमें से सात सौ रुपया उसकी जेब में चला जाएगा और बाकी का वह बांस ला कर रखेगा । दूसरी बात आपने पलामू जिले के सम्बन्ध में कही है कि वहां हेल्थ की सुविधा है, हास्पिटल है । हकीकत यह नहीं है। कागजों में आपके होगा, लेकिन ऐसी बात है नहीं । इसलिये मैं आपसे निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि जहां तक मजदूरों का मामला है, इसमें आपको स्वयं दिलचस्पी लेनी चाहिये । आप अपने से दिलचस्पी लें। माइंस के मजदूरों के सम्बन्ध में हम को जानकारी है कि उनका शोषण किया जाता है । यह ठीक है कि जब से माईंस का राष्ट्रीयकरण हुआ है तब से उन्हें कुछ राहत मिली है । अब आपको उनके बारे में यह भी देखना चाहिए कि उन्हें साईकिल भत्ता मिल रहा है या नहीं मिल रहा है, मजदूरों को पूरा वेतन मिल रहा है या नहीं मिल रहा है ।

आपने कहा कि वहां लेबरलाज के मुताबिक काम किया जाता है । जब आप लेबर लाज की बात करते हैं तो क्या आप उनको चूना-पत्थर के मजदूरों के कानून के मुताबिक दे रहे हैं? मुझ को जानकारी है कि इन मजदूरों के बीच में इन लेबर लाज को लागू नहीं किया जा रहा है। इस को भी आप देखें ।

उनके स्वास्थ्य का, हाउसिंग का, साइकिल भत्ते का और दूसरी सुविधाओं का मामला है । उनका स्वास्थ्य काफी दयनीय है वे जिस रूप में वहां काम करते हैं उसमें उनके स्वास्थ्य और जीवन के लिए बहुत ही खतरा है । इसलिए मैं आग्रह करूंगा कि आप इसको भी देखें और उनके लिए अधिक से अधिक पैसे का प्रावधान करें । मजदूरों के लिए अधिक फण्ड की व्यवस्था करने के लिए जब आप हम से सहयोग मांगेंगे तो हम लोग जरूर आपका साथ देंगे । आप यह देखें कि मजदूरों के हितों की सही मायनों में रक्षा हो और उनके लिए निर्धारित धन उनके कार्यों पर ही लगे ।

श्री धर्मबीर: मान्यवर, माननीय, सदस्य ने कहा कि श्रमिकों को सुविधाएं कम हैं। मैं उनसे इतना ही निवेदन करूंगा कि वे भी इस देश के रहने वाले हैं, इस देश की सामाजिक-आर्थिक परिस्थितियों को वे अच्छी तरह से जानते हैं । हमने भी यह स्वीकार किया है कि यह हमारा केवल प्रयास मात्र है, यह पर्याप्त नहीं है । लेकिन जितनी भी अधिक से अधिक सुविधाएं हम श्रमिक बन्धुओं को दे सकते हैं, उसकी तरफ हमारे कदम हैं । मैं समझता हूं कि उनको सुविधाएं देने के जो भी हमारे प्रयास हैं उनमें आपका हमें सहयोग मिलना चाहिये ।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

16·10 hrs.

MOTION *RE*: SUSPENSION OF PROVISO TO RULE 66.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): I beg to move:

"That this House do suspend the proviso to rule 66 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in its application to the motions for taking into consideration and passing of the Sugar Cess (Amendmnt) Bill, 1982, and the Sugar Development Fund (Amendment) Bill, 1982."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is :

"That this house do suspend the proviso to rule 66 of the Rules of Procedure

[Mr. Deputy Speaker]

and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in its application to the motons for taking into consideration and passing the Sugar Cess (Amendment) Bill 1982, and the Sugar Development Fund (Amendment) Bill, 1982."

The motion was adopted.

16·11 hrs.

SUGAR CESS (AMENDMENT) BILL AND SUGAR DEVELOPMENT FUND (AMENDMENT) BILL

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): I beg to move: *

"That the Bill to amend the Sugar Cess Act, 1982, be taken into consideration."

I beg to move: *

"That the Bill to amend the Sugar Development Fund Act, 1982, be taken into consideration.".

These are very simple amendments to the Acts which Parliament passed only in the month of March this year. We have since created a buffer stock of sugar of five lakh tonnes and with a view to pay for the holding charges of this buffer stock, we thought it necessary to increase the rate of duty realised as cess from Rs. 5/- to Rs. 14/- per quintal. We have also provided that the proceeds of the additional cess collected should be utilised towards the payment of charges for holding this bufferstock. These are simple amendments and I hope, the House will accept them.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Motions moved :

"That the Bill to amend the Sugar Cess Act, 1982, be taken into consideration."

"That the Bill to amend the Sugar Development Fund Act, 1982, be taken into consideration."

*SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN (Jangipur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the Bill under discussion viz., The Sugar Cess (Amendment) Bill, 1982, provision has been made to create a buffer stock of sugar and an additional cess is sought to be levied for that purpose. Now, a buffer stock of sugar is necessary and there cannot be two opinions on that. Sir, at the very outset I would like to quote a portion from the inaugural address delivered by the hon. Minister of Agriculture at the 48th Annual General Meeting of the Indian Sugar Mills Association held on the 3rd February, 1982. This will prove that the idea of a buffer stock did not strike hte Government just overnight, the idea had taken root a long time back. This will also prove what is the attitude of the Government towards the sugar mills and the sugar mill owners. The hon. Minister in his address had said, I quote :

"We have also taken a decision to maintain buffer stock and that should help us to keep your free sale sugar prices at a level which will be in the interest of mills as well as the farmers as also the consumers. We could have raised the level percentage from 65 to 70 per cent but we have not done it : but you have not appreciated that point at all. There is a demand for larger quantity of ration from our Fair Prics Shops. The population has increased tremendously. At present sugar quota per head is 425 grams. At the present level of population to maintain that 425 grams, we need at least 70 per cent of your sugar to be taken over. If you allow us we shall thank you but because we knew that you would not like it, without your asking for it we have not done it. We shall try and make both ends meet somehow because we always keep in mind your good response when we needed sugar from your free sale stock."

Sir, the original Act which is sought to be amended through this Bill, was passed by this House on the 4th March, 1982 and the same was passed by Rajya Sabha on the 9th March, 1982. But only a month prior to that i.e. in February 1982, the hon. Minister had delivered the above address. My question is that when a thinking about creating a buffer stock was already there, then why a provision was not made to that effect in the original Act itself which we are now amending ? Within seven months of the original Act, we are making this amendment. This provision was not kept in that Bill because at that time you were imposing a cess in the name of rehabilitation and modernisation of the sugar industry. If an additional cess for buffer stock was also imposed at that time, then the price of sugar would have gone up considerably and that would have created an adverse effect in the minds of the people

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.