

- (iv) The Indian Police Service (Uniform) Third Amendment Rules, 1975, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 272 in Gazette of India dated the 1st March 1975.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-9152/75]

(2) A copy each of the following Presidential Orders (Hindi and English versions) in relation to the Union Territory of Pondicherry, issued under section 51 of the Union Territories Act, 1963:—

- (i) S.O. 572(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th September, 1974.
- (ii) S.O. 128(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 7th March, 1975.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-9153/75].

NOTIFICATION *re.* CONTINUANCE OF CONTROL OVER MANAGEMENT OF SAMASTIPUR CENTRAL SUGAR CO. LTD. AND A STATEMENT

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI ZIAUR RAHMAN ANSARI): I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy of Notification No. S.O. 374(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th November, 1974 regarding the continuance of control over the management of Messrs Samastipur Central Sugar Company Limited, Samastipur (Bihar), under sub-section (2) of section 18(A) of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951.

(2) A statement showing reasons for delay in laying the above Notification. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-9154/75].

INDIAN TELEGRAPH (AMENDMENT) RULES, 1975

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

(SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Rules, 1975 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 196 in Gazette of India dated the 8th February, 1975, under sub-section (5) of section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-9155/75].

12.15 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

INDUSTRIAL RAW MATERIALS ETC., WORTH CRORES OF RUPEES IMPORTED BY M.M.T.C. REPORTED LYING UNCLEARED AT MAJOR PORTS,

SHRI SAT PAL KAPUR (Patiala): Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Commerce to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:—

"The situation arising out of the reported industrial raw material worth rupees one hundred crores, imported by Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation lying uncleared in the godowns and docks of the major ports."

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA). Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation have stocks of non-ferrous metals, steel, rough diamonds and industrial raw materials valued at about Rs. 130 crores. These stocks have accumulated due to slowing down of the off-take by the industry. The factors responsible for this declining trend are credit squeeze and lack of demand for the finishing products in the country. Another factor has been shrinkage of speculative demand for these commodities due to fall in international prices. This situation has

not developed because of excess purchases by MMTC. It had planned the import programme on the basis of assessment of normal demand of the industry.

Import of these commodities is canalised through the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation and the Corporation has, therefore, to maintain adequate stocks to meet requirements of the indigenous industry on a continuing basis. It has entered into long term arrangements with foreign suppliers which should not be terminated on account of the difficulties which industry is facing and which are of temporary nature.

The Corporation has, however, taken the following steps to liquidate the accumulated stocks:—

- (i) Spot purchases of non-ferrous metals and steel have been stopped;
- (ii) Efforts to defer shipments of non-ferrous metals under long term contracts are being made in consultation with the foreign suppliers;
- (iii) Prices of non-ferrous metals have been reduced; and
- (iv) Actual Users are being afforded deferred payment facility.

Chief Controller of Imports and Exports has also issued a Public Notice enjoying upon Actual Users, to register their release orders within sixty days of the date of issue of fresh release orders or within sixty days from the date of the Public Notice in respect of release orders issued earlier.

It is hoped that with these measures, the stocks of industrial raw materials with the Minerals and Metal Trading Corporation would be reduced to normal level

श्री सतपाल कपूर : अध्यक्ष महोदय, खखबारों में जो खबर छपी थी उस में तो सिर्फ़ सौ करोड़ के फारेन एक्मचेंज का जो माल खरीदा गया उस का ही चर्चा थी, लेकिन मिनिस्टर साहब के स्टेटमेंट में 130 करोड़ रुपए की बात कही गई है और उस में दो बैसिक कारण उन्होंने स्टेटमेंट में दिए हैं— एक क्रेडिट स्क्वीज न होने की वजह से और दूसरे इण्टरनेशनल प्राइस कम होने की वजह से यह माल उठ न सका। तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि ये जो आर्डर दिए गए इम्पोर्ट के, ये किस वक्त दिए गए? क्या उस वक्त बैंक के कर्ज का जो क्रेडिट वह लागू हो चुका था या नहीं और कब यह माल आप को मिला? कब आप ने रिसीव किया? ये जो आर्डर दिये गए किस बसिस पर दिए गए? क्या रिक्वायरमेंट ग्रसेस करने के लिए कोई मार्केट सर्वे किया या आलरेडी आप के पास डिमांड आई हुई थ? इसके साथ साथ मैं यह भी जानना चाहूंगा कि इस वक्त तक कितना डैमरेज आप दे चुके हैं और इस के लिए कोई फूलप्रूफ़ मिस्टम भी बनाया जा सकता है क्या जिस में आइन्दा आने वाले वक्त में ऐसी दिक्कत आप को न आए?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA:  
 Sir, the credit policy was there already. I have said that this accumulation started right from June. Therefore, the credit policy is one factor in the situation. The other factor is that the offtake has been reduced, as I have said. The hon. Member raised the question whether we anticipated this decline. This could be anticipated somewhat, but we had already contracted; we had to contract some bulk imports long before. We cannot suddenly terminate this sort of contract.

The other aspect of the matter is that, as per the release orders, the actual users who have to lift these raw

[Prof. D. P. Chattopadhyaya] materials can exercise their option at any time in one year. So, it was on the basis of the firm demands placed by them that we imported it. But within the space of one year they may lift this; they may lift after one month or after two months or maybe, after six months. It is not that, without any information, or in a vacuum, just on our own imagination, we have imported this. On the basis of the firm demands placed by them we have imported these materials. They are lifting them, but rather slowly.

I would also say that we have now offered certain facilities, so that the offtake improves, and as a result of that, the situation has started improving in the last one month. (*Interruptions*). In a huge organisation like that, two months' stockpiling is not much; compared to the total turnover of this Corporation, two months' stockpiling is not a big stock. Even last year, when credit squeeze was not there, even at that time the accumulated stock was 55 lakhs. It is not a very big rise. I would also like to submit that this is not a peculiar phenomenon to India; it is prevalent in other countries also. Accumulation of stocks of non-ferrous metals because of decline in demand is a worldwide phenomenon. For example, the stocks held by the London Metal Exchange have gone up considerably during the last few months. The stock holding of different metals in September 1974 was about 81,000 tonnes. This figure has gone up to over 1,66,000 tonnes by the beginning of March, 1975. This means that the stock have more than doubled. Sir, it is a phenomenon which is being experienced by all such Corporations in other countries. So, whoever is conversant with the demand situations and the production situations of the non-ferrous metals and ferrous metals also, know that this is nothing disturbing. But we are taking appropriate measures, as a result of which the things have started improving in the last one month. We

hope that within 3-4 months, the situation will become normal. We have to take a longer view of the whole thing and we cannot because of temporary difficulties change our policy drastically; in that case, we may land ourselves in a difficult situation.

श्री सतपाल कपूर : अब कितनी बैल्यू का माल ग्राप ने क्लियर कर दिया है, इस बात को क्लेरिफाई कर दीजिये।

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: I will give the figures with regard to the latest stock position. The turnover of sale by MMTC in January, 1975, in respect of copper was 1555 M.T. last year it was 3534 M.T. In respect of zinc, the turnover in January, 1975 was 4728 M.T.

श्री सतपाल कपूर : मैं तो इतना जानना चाहता हूँ कि उस वक्त 130 करोड़ रुपये का स्टॉक ग्राप के पास था, इस में से कितने बैल्यू का स्टॉक ग्राप ने अब डैफरपेमेंट बैसिस पर क्लियर कर दिया है ?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: I have said that this is the latest stock position. Now, I am saying how we are liquidating that. For example, formerly we used to have cash down payments; now we have offered on deferred payment basis, i.e., one month, two months or three months. We have reduced the prices somewhat. For example, the prices of copper and zinc have been reduced.

SHRI JAGANNATH RAO (Chattrapur): What is the result of these measures?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: The latest stock position is 130 crores. Last year at about this time it was 55 crores.

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister may please listen to me. The rules are that you have to reply to the Member who has put the question. Any person who speaks from any corner, you turn to him and start replying. This is not a very good practice.

Shri Bosu.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): Sir, this MMTC has become a big playground of the vested interests and a cockpit of corruption. I know about Mr. Bhagwan Singh, what he did in Tea Board and I will recite a few things and I will also tell the House what the Minister had promised to give to Parliament. The only thing is that I have behaved with you as I should behave with a lady. If you have any complaints, you can say so... (*Interrupts*).

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): That Bengali utterance should be expunged. It was very objectionable.

MR. SPEAKER. I would request other hon. Members not to intervene.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: According to my information, MMTC is carrying a stock of 13,470 metric tonnes of copper valued at Rs. 27 crores in Bombay, 11,113 tonnes of zinc valued at about Rs. 12 crores—these are all listed values. Black market values are much more than this....

AN HON. MEMBER: What is the black market price?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: You know much more than I do.

They have also stocks of 142 tonnes of tin, 357 tonnes of Palladium stainless steel worth about Rs. 8.67 crores, and diamonds—Rs. 3 crores. These are all lying therefrom 6 to 12 months and the demurrage to the Bombay Port Trust has been around Rs. 60 lakhs per month. Then they have to pay bank interest at the rate of 14.5 per cent which will amount to

Rs. 1 crore per month. Unplanned operations, anxiety to serve the vested interests and at the same time, to fill the pockets—all these have been responsible for this. That is how through unplanned operations these things are happening, but, Sir, some elements from outside are trying to sabotage the public sector.

A CBI inquiry took place. Under mysterious circumstances a bag full of superior diamonds was changed for cheaper and inferior ones and 15 days after that, the dead body of an employee of the Diamond Department was found on the rail track in Bombay and he had handed it over to another person who actually delivered the bag full of diamonds.

In the other House, complaints were made on 6th September, 1974 against Mr. C. R. Das. The complaint was that nearly 700 tonnes of zinc were released in favour of Kamani Group in total disregard of the acknowledged procedure. Another complaint was that one M/s. D.S.S. Industries, New Delhi had been helped to obtain an export permit for 1 lakh tonnes of hard coke and that this was granted to them without calling any tender whatsoever.

A firm of Goa, viz., M/s. Figueiredo Mineral Corporation is another party which has been favoured and in one deal MMTC lost Rs. 8-10 lakhs.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is about the huge accumulation of industrial raw materials in the godowns of MMTC. It cannot be a discussion of everything about MMTC. You please come to your point immediately.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I am only dealing with the operations of MMTC, Sir.

Then, Sir, when Mr. Das was the Regional Manager of MMTC at Goa, a firm by name M/s. Agencia Com-

[Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu]

mercial Maritini were appointed MMTC's handling agents for iron ore, through his intervention....

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry I cannot allow it unless I have notice. This is not at all relevant to the question raised in the call attention.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Allegations were being inquired into by CBI. I would like to know what happened to that inquiry

MR. SPEAKER: The question here is about the accumulated stocks with the MMTC.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: What are the reasons? The hon. Minister has given an assurance on the floor of the House on 6th of September that a CBI inquiry has been conducted and that he would place the matter before the House. I would like to know what is happening with MMTC, what they have done and what is the reply with regard to the charges that have been made. In July, 1974 ... Sir, I am coming back to the original subject ...

MR. SPEAKER: What all you have been saying was not original?

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA (Serampore) It was the background.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I was saying something in reply to what the hon. lady member on that side remarked.

Now, Sir, 4592.37 carats of diamonds were supplied to B. Arun Kumar....

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot allow it because it is much beyond the scope of the call-attention. The call-attention is about imported minerals lying uncleared in the godowns of MMTC.

Do not try to hoodwink everybody. Please do not do it. Do not dodge the real question.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I am on the real question. You kindly hear patiently for ten minutes.

MR. SPEAKER: I will not hear patiently this type of questions which are not relevant at all.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I am posing questions to the Minister connected with M.M.T.C. that a bagful of superior diamonds was replaced by inferior variety of diamonds. I want to know what is the case for that? Then, Sir, due to this, there is serious....

MR. SPEAKER: Minister is ready only with this question. Kindly sit down, do not be irrelevant

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I only humbly want to submit before you certain more important features of M.M.T.C. M.M.T.C. is in serious financial difficulties because of the accumulated stocks, mismanagement, corruption and vested interests. Its funds have been hoarded by the unaccounted pile of imported non-ferrous metals. These imported non-ferrous metals have been piled up beyond its capacity. There has been a shortfall in iron ore export, the principal foreign exchange earner, context being the continuous inflow of imported materials in the face of poor off-take by trade and industry locked up by its funds to the extent of Rs 100 crores, although unlifted stocks are stated to be of the order of Rs. 50 crores. This may go down a little bit.

I would like to ask the hon. Minister certain questions:

Is it a fact or not that the M.M.T.C. had suffered a huge loss of Rs. 6 crores in one year and also is it a fact that M.M.T.C. had suffered in mica export trade? I am dealing only with M.M.T.C.

MR. SPEAKER: I say this is not the time to deal with M.M.T.C. The question is about the clearance of goods. I would ask the Minister not to reply to those parts. I am sorry.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I had written a letter to the Minister on 5th October, 1974. The firm was favoured. He was asked to investigate about the export of manganese ore from Vizag Port. So far he has not given us true and inside picture because the firm is much favoured.

MR. SPEAKER: I do not understand what you mean. I am unable to understand what you are doing.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: My specific question is about the value of goods purchased direct and through the sight holders.

MR. SPEAKER: If they are lying in the godown or depot.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: All this is paid in advance or in cash by the M.M.T.C. What is the rate of interest they charge on such goods they sell. What is the present stock unsold as on 30th December, 1974. Out of the above stock what is the value of December, 1974 stock? Are the MMTC charging interest on DTC '73 purchase now? If not from what month and why? Is it a fact that goods were taken from sight holders?

MR. SPEAKER: These are all irrelevant.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: These are relevant.

Is it a fact that goods were taken from sight holders and if MMTC had not taken as per their (sight holders) undertaking to CCI they were to export 15 per cent of the value in 3 months. In other words out of the total purchase of 218 lakhs the exporter would have exported goods 320 lakhs about to fulfil their guarantee against exports to CCI.

MR. SPEAKER: You are not relevant at all. You may sit down. You are absolutely not relevant. Kindly sit down.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Is it a fact that the Deputy Chief Controller said that the whole thing should be expedited? I would request you to direct the Minister to reply to that....

MR. SPEAKER: This is not relevant.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: This is relevant.

MR. SPEAKER: If you are to judge relevancy, you better sit here, I will go there; please come and sit here. The Calling Attention is regarding goods lying uncleared in the godowns and docks of the major ports. It is not to be treated as discussion on MMTC. You put questions after questions involving various other points which are not within the scope of the Calling Attention Motion. It is irrelevant on both sides. After all, I am not sitting just as a dud man. Simple by raising your voice, you don't make it relevant.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: My specific question is this. I want to know whether in the Consultative Committee Meeting the CCI has said that the country has paid foreign exchange for rough material for which export of about 125 lakhs was short in the year 1972-73. Is it a fact that in the discussion with Gem and Jewellery. Council it was agreed that MMTC will not be able to purchase the entire sight-holders but only 20 per cent? In Purchasing December 1973 sight, is it true MMTC took entire purchase of many sight-holders. Why? What is the loss in interest as of now, because they are not charging interest on DTC 1973 purchases? The total loss which was about 10 lakhs may now have come to 15 lakhs. These are my questions, Sir.

**PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA:** The purchases in 1974-75 upto February, 1975 of DTC is 1.06 crores and non-DTC 4.81 crores. Regarding sales of DTC it is 2.47 crores and non-DTC 4.89 crores. Regarding stockholdings of diamonds, it is DTC 0.81 crores and non-DTC 0.94 crores

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:** He has said on the floor of the House on the 8th September, 1974 that CBI enquiry was in progress. I have made specific allegations. What has happened to that, with regard to malpractices and corruption in MMTC? It should be answered.

**MR. SPEAKER:** You can discuss at some other time, not in Calling Attention. The rule is that only one question will go in. Order please. You cannot go on like this.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I humbly submit before you.....

**MR. SPEAKER:** Order, please. The time is not to be monopolised in this way.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:** Sir, specific charges are levelled against the MMTC officials and the Minister had promised to give a reply. He has taken six months to apprise this House. To-day let him....

**MR. SPEAKER:** Not in this calling-attention motion. I am not going to allow this opportunity.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:** We want you to guide us. Have we no functions in this House?

**MR. SPEAKER:** You ought to come to the relevant issues.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:** Is the House going to shield the corrupt officials and corrupt politicians?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Please do not try to talk like that when that is not the subject before the House.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: \***

**MR. SPEAKER:** Nothing will go on record. I have not called you. You have taken too much of liberty.

अगर मैं पूछू कि गाड़ी किम बत जाएगी, तो वह बदाने की बजाए तमाम खर्च का बजट ही बताने लगे, ता क्या यह ठीक बताने होगी। जब एम एम टी सी पर कभी डिस्कशन होगा, तो अप य मारी गत कहिएगा कि किम मुक से कितना डीलिंग है और किमने नहीं है। आप एसा शान करत है कि बडे जस्टिफाइड हो आप बाकी सब गलथ है।

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:** I take very serious exception. Have you assessed my questions put to him without even applying your mind. I regret to say that.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I put it to you. Mr. Chatterjee I shall accept his opinion. He is your leader. Mr. Chatterjee, you will please give your opinion. Since Mr. Chatterjee is an eminent lawyer, I will leave this to him. Let him say 'yes' in the meanwhile.

**SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA:** This is a specific transaction. And uncleared goods are lying in the godowns in the major ports. At least he must answer that aspect of the question.

**MR. SPEAKER:** That is very welcome.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:** That is what I said. You did not hear me. I am asking Mr. Chatterjee to tell you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** If he tells me that it is pertinent or relevant to the

motion, then I shall allow it. Anyway I have full trust in his judgment. Let him decide if it was relevant to the motion. You can ask about this.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE** (Burdwan): The question which was raised was the cause of the goods being accumulated and the steps that have been taken to remove them. What steps have been taken in the past against the firms who had failed to clear the goods. That is the point.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I agree to that.

**PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA:** I have already submitted that. I can again briefly reiterate the points already made. The stocks had accumulated for reasons such as (1) the off-take rate has slowed down and (2) the speculative holding is not there; and for clearing up the accumulated goods, we had extended some new facilities, for example, deferred payment facilities and also we have asked them to take some more time and if they cannot pay money immediately, they can pay later on and we have also reduced their prices. By giving the facilities of deferred payments, we have enabled some of the marginal actual consumers to clear their stocks. They are coming forward they are responding. The market is a little uncertain. But, we are helping them in the shape of these materials.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Then why did you not reply earlier? Why did you go into the other side. Leave him aside? If this was the question, why did you not come to this point? Why did you go about this amount, that amount, this, that and the other?

**श्री श्रीकिशन मोदी (सीकर) :** जं स्ट्रेटमेंट मंत्री महोदय ने दिय है, वह ऐसा लगता है जैसे कि आग लगाने के बाद कुआं खोदा जाए। अध्यक्ष जी एम एम टी सी

एक व्यापारी की तरह से है और उस से यह आशा की जाती है कि वह विदेशो से सस्ता माल खरीदे और हमारे यहा का माल अच्छे रेट पर बेचे। यह उससे आशा की जाती है लेकिन एम एम टी सी ने दोनो ही बातें उल्टी की है।

अध्यक्ष जी, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि जिस समय उन्होंने मार्च, 1974 में यह कहा था कि हमने फैक्टरियों का नान-फेरेस मेटल्स का कोटा 50 परसेन्ट रिड्यूस कर दिया है, तो सारी स्माल स्केल फैक्टरीज ने यह कहा था कि नान-फेरेस मेटल्स न मिलने के कारण हम अपनी फैक्टरियों को बन्द कर रहे हैं और हम अपने मजदूरों को हटा रहे हैं और अपनी लागत को भी कम कर रहे हैं, उन्होंने उस समय यह भी ऐस किया था कि नान-फेरेस मेटल्स के दाम बाहर क्या है। उन्होंने उस समय यह कहा था कि फारेन मार्केटस में लन्दन वगैरह में इस के दाम बढ़ गये है और नान-फेरेस मेटल्स मिल नहीं पा रहे है। इसलिए हम इसको देने की स्थिति में नहीं है और उस समय उन्होंने यह भी तखमीन लगाया था कि 65 हजार टन से 70 हजार टन तक की नान-फेरेस मेटल्स की खपत भारत में रही है और उसके आधार पर उन्होंने 36 हजार टन का आर्डर दिया है। अध्यक्ष जी, मैं वह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जिस समय भाव बहुत ज्यदा बढ़ रहे थे, तो नान-फेरेस मेटल्स को स्टॉक करने की क्या जरूरत पेश आई और उस समय कोटे में कटौती क्यों की गई और फैक्टरियों को नान-फेरेस मेटल्स क्यों नहीं दिया और आज स्थिति यह है कि इन्हे 60 लाख रुपये का डेमरेज देना पड़ रहा है, 1 करोड़ रुपये का ब्याज देना पड़ रहा है। तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि सारा खर्च क्या एम एम टी सी बर्दाश्त करेगी और कन्ज्यूमर से नहीं लिया जाएगा।



[श्री श्रीकिशन मोदी]

हमारी बात यह है कि एक तरफ तो यह स्थिति है और दूसरी तरफ हमारे आइडरन-ओर का जो टारगेट 15 मिलियन रखा गया था, वह 11 मिलियन टन से ज्यादा आप कर नहीं पाएंगे। इसी तरह से माइका आपने 4 करोड़ रुपये का खरीदा है।

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** आप भी उधर चल पड़े।

**श्री श्रीकिशन मोदी :** मैं विलकुल नहीं जाऊंगा मैं इधर आ रहा हूँ।

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** आप क्या बात कह रहे हैं। यह तो गोडाऊन के विलियरेन्स के बारे में है। सभी को क्या हो गया है, पता नहीं।

**श्री श्रीकिशन मोदी :** मैं एम एम टी सी की कार्यालय की बात कह रहा हूँ। 27 सितम्बर को उनके श्री रामचन्द्रन ने यह कहा है कि स्टैनलेस जा हे वह वगैर क्रेडिट के भी उठाया जा सकता है। निकल की प्राइस में बराबर बढ़ाने जा रहे हैं।

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** यह तो विलियरेन्स के बारे में है।

**श्री श्रीकिशन मोदी :** इन के पास निकल का स्टॉक है और स्टैनलेस का स्टॉक है। मैं गलत नहीं बोल रहा हूँ। तो मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जब स्टैनलेस की डिमांड है और इनके अधिकारी यह कह रहे हैं कि वह उठ सकता है, तो वह स्टॉक में क्यों है और निकल स्टॉक में क्यों है। यह क्यों नहीं निकाले गये ?

मैं एक बात और निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ। आपने बहुत महंगे भंगव में मेटल लिया और आपके पास स्टॉक हो गया। अब आप खरीद नहीं कर रहे हैं और जब दाम गिरेगे तब फिर महंगे भाव में खरीदेंगे। क्या आप

ऐसी योजना बना रहे हैं कि 1975 के अन्दर हिन्दुस्तान के अन्दर हमारा इतना नान-क्रेज मेटल का खर्च होगा और उसको परचेज के लिए आरने मुन्दर क्या व्यवस्था की है जिस में आगे धाटा न हो।

इन गारी बातों की मैं जानकारी चाहता हूँ।

**PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA:** Sir, the hon. Member has asked as to why we did not curtail our import when the off-take was slowed down. I have already said that when we import in bulk quantity from abroad we have to enter into long-term contract. We cannot suddenly back out from the contract. Even then because of our difficult situation our import instalments have been staggered over the months as, for example, the off-take has been staggered by the actual users in our country and we have appropriately instructed our exporters abroad.

We have taken this step. As you will kindly appreciate, suddenly, we cannot withdraw from the market because we have to hold a huge inventory for the whole nation. All industrial units of the country depend upon these channelised items. So, we cannot keep our inventory at a very low level. Even in a normal year, our stock-piling is worth Rs. 60 crores. Now, we are holding about Rs. 120—130 crores worth of goods and it is about two month stock. Normally, we hold one month stock. Now, we are holding two month stock. This is not, by normal standards, a very disturbing situation. I have already said that this is not peculiar to our country. This sort of sluggishness in the demand for non-ferrous metals is all over the world. I do not think we have reason to be very much perturbed over it. In regard to stainless steel and Nickel, for example, which has been referred to by the hon.

Member, I would say our position is not one of shortage. It is available at reduced price. There is no particular problem. In regard to some small scale units, we carried out a check and scrutiny and found that some of the small scale units are bogus. Almost 30 per cent of the small scale units on scrutiny turned out to be bogus. So, we could not make available these raw materials to them. This was because they did not fulfil the conditions

श्री गान तन शर्मा (बादा) मंत्री महोदय ने स्वीकार किया है कि खनिज तथा धातु व्यापार निगम के वाम लगभग 130 करोड़ रुपये मूल्य की अलौह धातुएं, इस्पात, अपरिष्कृत हीरे और औद्योगिक बच्चे माल के स्टॉक थे। उद्योग द्वारा माल की कुल खरीद कम कर दिए जाने के परिणामस्वरूप ये स्टॉक जमा हो गये हैं। साथ ही उन्होंने इसके दो कारण भी बताए हैं। उन कारणों को भी मैं पट देना चाहता हूँ नाकि इसके बाद जो मैं पणन कर उपाय प्रोत्तिय का भी आप देख लें और आपको पता चल जाए कि मेरा प्रश्न कहा तक उचित है। कारण ये हैं :

ऋण सञ्चन तथा देश में तैयार उत्पादों की मांग का अभाव इस गिरावट की प्रवृत्ति के लिए उत्तरदायी कारण है। इसका अन्य कारण अन्तर्ग्राह्य कीमतों में गिरावट के रुख के कारण इन वस्तुओं की परिकल्पनी मांग में कमी होना है। यह स्थिति खनिज तथा धातु व्यापार निगम द्वारा अधिक माल खरीदे जाने से पैदा नहीं हुई है। उसने उद्योग की सामान्य मांग का हिसाब लगा कर आयात कार्यक्रम बनाया था।

अभी मेरे कई साथियों ने प्रश्न पूछे हैं। निश्चय ही मवाल पूछा जाएगा तो तमाम बातें उममें आ जाएगी जिनका सम्बन्ध इस निगम के वर्किस में है तथा इस निगम में काम करने वाले कर्मचारियों से है। आप देखें कि बम्बई पोर्ट ट्रस्ट को एम एम टी सी ने केवल डेम्पेज के साठ लाख रुपये दिए हैं और पिछले छ महीने में ही लगभग नौ करोड़ रुपये इसको बैंकों का ब्याज भरने के रूप में खर्च करना पड़ा है। इन तथ्यों से स्पष्ट है कि एम एम टी सी का कच्चे माल का आयात आज मुनियोजित एवं विचारपूर्ण नहीं है, एम एम टी सी के मैनेजमेंट ने समय पर धातुओं का वितरण न करके क्रिमिनल नेग्लिजेंस किया है और एम एम टी सी के मैनेजमेंट में योग्य और ईमानदार अधिकारियों की कमी है। अतः इस सदन में मैं मंत्री से जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस निगम में नियुक्तियों तथा पदोन्नतियों में क्या गम्भीर अनियमितताएँ नहीं बरती गई हैं तथा सरकार निगम के कार्यकलापों के बारे में समय समय पर हुई शिकायतों के बारे में उदासीन नहीं रही है? यदि इस सम्बन्ध में कुछ तथ्य मंत्री महोदय के ध्यान में और अध्यक्ष महोदय के आपके ध्यान में नोटिस देकर लाए जाएं तो क्या मंत्री महोदय निष्पक्ष जांच करने के लिए तैयार हैं तथा खनिज तथा धातु व्यापार निगम के उपरोक्त क्रिमिनल नेग्लिजेंस की जांच मंत्री महोदय उच्चाधिकार प्राप्त ससदीय समिति से करवाने का आश्वासन देने को तैयार हैं?

[श्री राम रतन शर्मा]

श्विष्य मे इस तरह की बाते न दोहराई जाएं इसको ध्यान में रखने के लिए तैयार हैं ?

मंत्री महोदय ने एक बात कही है । उन्होंने कहा है कि हमारे पास जो स्टॉक है उसकी कीमत कम करके हम बेचेंगे और साथ ही यह भी कहा है कि उसको डेफॉर्ड पेमेंट के आधार पर बेचने के लिए हम तैयार हैं । मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इसमें जो घाटा होगा उसको कौन वहन करेगा ?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA:  
 Even if we take into account the last stockholding of the Corporation, the overall interest liability on the entire bank borrowing during 1974-75 does not exceed Rs. 3 crores. The Corporation has incurred whatfage only to the extend of Rs. 38 lakhs in the clearance of non-ferrous metals, stainless steel and other industrial raw material at Bombay port during the period 1st April, 1974 to 5th March, 1975.

As regards the appointment policy, the Bureau of Public Enterprises, the concerned Chairman and one or two experts go into the matter interviewing suitable candidates and then make appointments. I do not think there is anything warranting a parliamentary probe into the matter. This was done according to rules and regulations and no complaint has been received over the method of appointment.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA (Tunkur):  
 The statement of the hon. Minister about the accumulation of non-ferrous metals in various ports amounting to Rs. 130 crores has raised certain doubts. He has to explain the position. In exports to other countries and import into our country through the MMTC, there is a clique that has been internationally played here through the operators, the buyers of the big industrialists of

this country. Even this aspect has been revealed in the *Economic Times* showing how MMTC is facing not only a bad financial position but there has been defect in various aspects of the functioning of the organisation.

13.00 hrs.

I would like to know whether the situation has become so desperate that the Corporation has had to re-schedule shipments of non-ferrous metals affecting the continuous inflow, blocking money to the extent of more than Rs. 100 crores. This is the consequence of non-ferrous metals having piled up beyond capacity. There has been a shortfall in iron ore exports which earn foreign exchange. This has caused a shortfall of foreign exchange to us. The handling of exports by the MMTC of such exports is responsible for this failure to earn adequate foreign exchange. It may not be irrelevant to mention here that MML, a public undertaking in Karnataka has been making efforts to send out iron ore to other countries linked with MMTC in order to see that the iron ore available in Karnataka is exported expeditiously thus earning foreign exchange. But MMTC has always been coming in the way of the efforts of MML. This is an index of the inefficiency of the MMTC. According to competent sources, the financial position would not have been so bad if iron export had been there according to expectations in which case sufficient foreign exchange would have become available for maintaining the inflow of non-ferrous metals. It has also been explained in the statement that there has been what is called thoughtless planning by the MMTC creating a situation of accumulation of stocks of non-ferrous metals. This is due to the conspiracy of the businessclass and also some private people who are exporting non-ferrous metals to other parts, and also they played havoc. The in-

ternational clique operates. The MMTC officers are also there; it is pointed out that planning of import is not done by them. The hon. Minister says that the MMTC takes full responsibility but the officers say that a separate government agency for dealing with imports and exports has to be created.

MR. SPEAKER: You are going astray; come to the question.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: That point has not been explained. Has the MMTC any definite plan? The hon. Minister has stated that it was our commitment so far as international contracts were concerned. We have got a long term arrangement with them. In view of the serious situation, what steps are the Government going to take? In view of the failure of the MMTC, what steps are going to be taken by the Ministry. What steps are the Ministry going to take to handle imports and exports including MML of Karnataka and to export iron ore which is lying there? No efforts have been made by the MMTC.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: The problem of the Karnataka State public sector undertaking is somewhat like the problem of MMTC itself. The metal market all over the world is sluggish. Japan is not taking from India its contracted quantity; they are also staggering down. Therefore, the quantum of iron ore export to Japan from India had gone down. They have slashed down their imports from India. Therefore, not only Karnataka sources but non-Karnataka sources also could not be fully exploited. Foreign buyers are not taking the quantum that they themselves contracted. We are aware of this problem and we are looking into this. As I said before, it is a worldwide phenomenon and under the cons-

traints we are doing whatever is possible.

13.05 hrs.

STATEMENT re. ARREST OF SHRI  
BISWA GOSWAMI AT BORJHAR  
AIRPORT IN ASSAM

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. BRAHMANANDA REDDY): Sir, According to information received from the Government of Assam, Shri Biswa Goswami was arrested on 5th March, 1975 at about 2 P.M. at the Borjhar Airport, on suspicion of having been concerned in the commission of offences under section 380/468/120(B) IPC read with section 5 of the Indian Official Secrets Act, 1923. Shri Goswami was produced before the Chief Judicial Magistrate, Gauhati on 6th March and was remanded to judicial custody. The bail application of Shri Goswami was rejected on 10th March, 1975 by the Chief Judicial Magistrate who remanded him to judicial custody till the 21st March, 1975.

It has also been stated by the Government of Assam that in the course of the routine security check prior to embarkation in the aircraft, Shri Goswami was found in possession of a bundle of 39 unused ballot papers along with their counterfoils. These ballot papers would appear to relate to Borjhar Polling Station of the Barpet Parliamentary Constituency, in the recent bye-election. According to rules 45 and 47 of the Conduct of Election Rules, 1961, the Presiding Officer is required, at the close of the poll, to send a Ballot Paper Account to Returning Officer in form 16 which gives, *inter alia*, full details of ballot papers unused with the signature of the Presiding Officer and also without the signature of the Presiding Officer. Rule 92(2) requires that the District Election Officer shall keep in