

MR. SPEAKER : My only duty is to put it to the House. But as Speaker I also observe that the Select Committee have started going out to various places. Sometime I find it very difficult to disappoint the Chairman when they come to me. It is upto them to see whether it is necessary to seek extension at all. Since the time these extensions have been given, there is a tendency to ask for more extensions and the committee are prolonging their business.

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE : May I explain the reasons ?

MR. SPEAKER : I know the reasons; none else knows it better.

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE : Since you are making these observations now.....

MR. SPEAKER : It is for all the Committees, not only for your Committee. There are some Committees. If they want to go to other places, they have free railway passes and they can go, but not in the name of Committees. I shall only request them to avoid asking for extensions. Now, the question is :

“That this House do further extend the time appointed for the presentation of the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill further to amend the Advocates [Act, 1961, upto the first day of the second week of the next session.”

The Motion was Adopted

MR. SPEAKER : Since hardly two minutes are left, I think if you agree we can take up next business after lunch at 2 p. m.

13. hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch
till Fourteen of the Clock

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

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

RE. ILL-TREATMENT OF INDIAN WRESTLING TEAM

श्री रजश्रीरसिंह (रोहतक) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, हमारी रेसलर्स की टीम कनाडा गई थी। उनकी वहाँ पर बड़ी बेइज्जती की गई, जैसा आप अखबारों में देखेंगे। इंडियन नेशनल प्लेग भी मार्च पास्ट के लिये इस्तेमाल नहीं हुआ और प्लेग तैयार करने के लिये पैसे इकट्ठे करने पड़े। फिर उनको जो 3 डालर रोज डेली प्लान्डस मिलता था उसको भी कम करके 2 डालर कर दिया गया। जो उनकी डेली नीड्स थीं, जैसे जूते वगैरह, उनके लिये भी उनको कलेक्शन करना पड़ा। जो मैनेजमेंट वाले आदमी हैं उन्होंने जिस तरह से व्यवहार किया है, this is very insulting. For every penny they had to go abegging.

यह चीज 'स्टेट्समेन' अखबार में निकली है। It is most shocking, most alarming, most despicable.

मैं आपकी मार्फत एजुकेशन मिनिस्टर से चाहूँगा कि वह इस मामले में एम्बेयरी करें और जो भी आदमी इसके लिये जिम्मेदार हों उनको सजा दी जाये।

श्री शशिशूषण (खरगोन) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, इस पर शिक्षा मंत्री अपना मत प्रकट करें कि क्यों यह बेइज्जती हुई और कैसे क्या हुआ।

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : Sir, I support the demand made by Mr. Randhir Singh. We never expected this. There should be a statement by the Minister of Education. Our wrestlers have done wonderful work, but we never expected this sort of thing.

Then, I requested on Friday that a statement should be made about the nationalisation of sugar industry. I have given a calling attention today. There should be some statement by the Food and Agriculture Minister about it. It has become a shuttlecock. The Chief Minister of UP will never do it. He is under the vested interests.

SHRI PRAKASH VIR SHASTRI (Hapur) : He will definitely do it.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : He has again referred it to the Advocate General.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Your calling attention on this matter has been admitted for tomorrow.

श्री हुकमचन्द कछवाय (उज्जैन) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, यह बड़ी लज्जा की बात है कि जो हमारे यहां के खिलाड़ी बाहर गये उनके साथ इस तरह का व्यवहार किया गया और जो कुछ भी यहां कहा गया मैं उस का समर्थन करता हूँ। जो भी हमारे यहां के पहलवान बाहर गये उनको सरकार को प्रोत्साहन देना चाहिये था, लेकिन उसने ऐसा नहीं किया। बजाय इसके उन लोगों के साथ अपमानजनक व्यवहार किया गया।

14.07 hrs.

CONTRACT LABOUR (REGULATION AND ABOLITION) BILL—Contd.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Panigrahi may continue his speech.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI (Bhubaneswar) : Sir, last time I was narrating the various hardships being undergone by contract labours. They are imported to different places of work and are harassed greatly by the contractors. For instance, from Puri district in Orissa, near about Bhubaneswar and Nirakarpur, 200 labourers were taken by some contractor to Jalpaiguri for some construction project. They were not paid even the minimum wage and they were being

harassed. Ultimately they decided to leave that place of work and come back to Orissa. But to harass them, the contractors instituted cases against them not in Orissa courts but in Jalpaiguri court in West Bengal, so that these poor people might run to those courts four hundred miles away and be harassed. This is the plight of the labourers working in the construction projects in different parts of the country. Therefore, when the Minister brought forward this Bill, as reported by the Joint Committee, I said it is a welcome measure in the sense that it is one step forward. The House will pass this Bill no doubt, but we shall have to look into the mind that frames these Bills. You will be surprised to see the number of enactments we have passed during the last 20 years and the number of enactments dealing with labour welfare. Not many of them are implemented in accordance with the letter and spirit of the enactment. It is good that there are certain provisions in the Bill to provide certain amenities to contract labour like drinking water and medical facilities. But where is the provision for giving them a roof? We know the conditions under which contract labour work and they have no place to reside. So, some provision should be made to provide them with better accommodation during the period of stay in the areas where they are working.

The Government say that their aim is to abolish the contract labour system. But in the Bill I do not find that intention anywhere. Of course, clause 10 refers to the abolition of contract labour system but it is hedged in by so many conditions. So, one feels that government is not serious about it and it has compromised its stand because of pressures from various interests. Therefore, if we are clear in our mind that it should be abolished then let us say so in the legislation.

Now the number is reduced to 20. But some members have argued that this should be reduced to 10. There is sufficient reason for this. I support that point. Since the Hon. Minister is very much sympathetic to labour I hope he will consider that suggestion.