

स्वास्थ्य तथा परिवार नियोजन और निर्माण, आवास तथा नगरीय विकास मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री ब० सू० मूर्ति) :
 (क) स्वास्थ्य मन्त्रालय द्वारा डा० भगवानदास मैमोरियल ट्रस्ट, II-एफ, लाजपत नगर, नई दिल्ली को 1963-64 और 1964-65 में क्रमशः 12,000 रुपये और 1,000 रुपये के अनुदान दिये गये ।

(ख) जब तक इस ट्रस्ट की भ्रष्टाचार संबंधी शिकायतें गलत सिद्ध नहीं हो जाती तब तक इसे आगे अनुदान न दिये जाने का निश्चय किया जा चुका है ।

(ग) इस ट्रस्ट ने बांड नहीं भरा था क्योंकि बांड भरने की शर्त सितम्बर, 1964 में लागू की गई थी । तो भी उन्होंने इस आशय का आश्वासन दिया कि ट्रस्ट ने संस्वीकृति पत्रों में लिखी निबन्धों और शर्तों को स्वीकार कर लिया है । उन शर्तों में से एक शर्त यह भी थी कि यदि विशेष अवधि में जिस उद्देश्य के लिए अनुदान दिया गया था उस उद्देश्य के लिए उसका उपयोग न किया गया तो ट्रस्ट खर्च न हुई राशि को तुरन्त वापिस कर देगा ।

(घ) संस्वीकृति पत्रों में लिखित शर्तें पूरी कर दी गई थीं और इन अनुदानों के संबंध में सभी उपयोग-प्रमाण पत्र आडिट को दे दिये गये थे ।

Scrapping of C.G.H.S.

7126. SHRI S. KUNDU : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to scrap the Central Government Health Scheme ; and

(b) if so, the arrangements made to provide employment to the employees who would be discharged as a result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI B. S. MURTHY) : (a) and (b). No proposal to scrap the Central Government Health Scheme has yet been made out. How ever, informal discussions have been held with the representatives of the Central Health Service regarding improvement of, or modification in the present system.

12 Hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

MISHAP IN DURGAPUR STEEL PLANT

SHRI D. N. PATODIA (Jalore) : Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Steel and Heavy Engineering to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon :—

“The serious mishap in Durgapur Steel Plant resulting in the stoppage of blast furnace and the reported alarming increase in indiscipline among the workers, which may lead to the closure of the steel plant.”

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : On 12.4.1969, the Blast Furnace No. II of the Durgapur Steel Plant, which had been commissioned about two months ago after major overhaul, suffered a breakdown. The molten slag was coming out from a region around one of the inlets through which hot air is blown. The furnace was immediately brought down to low blast and the hot metal was taken out. The refractory work around the area from where the slag had issued, was found damaged; similar defects were noticed near a few other inlets. The views expressed by the experts called in from other Steel Plants were that the damage was serious and that a complete relining involving a period of two months may be necessary. However, there was a

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possibility of stamping and bricking at the place of the breakout from outside, and blowing in the furnace by closing the tuyeres (inlets) in that area. Measures like water cooling on the outer surface and specified operational precautions to help the formation of build-up over the brick work would have to be taken. The latter course of action has been accepted by the Management and the repair undertaken immediately and the furnace has been blown in on 16.4.69. The furnace is being carefully watched and all precautions are being taken. After about 10-15 days, the assessment will be made as to whether the furnace is capable of normal functioning. A Committee of Enquiry, consisting of experts from both HSL and from other Steel Plants has been constituted to go into this matter.

During the last two months there have been several acts of indiscipline by the unruly workers who have abused, threatened and intimidated officers. When an accident took place in the Skelp mill on the 22nd March, 1969, the officers were gheraoed for several hours. Some property was also damaged. On the 24th March, 1969, there was a violent demonstration by the unruly elements of the Security Staff, who were later joined by other workers as well. Several officers were assaulted and considerable damage to property caused. The men on guard had to open fire in self-defence. Again, on the 10th April, 1969, a few of the officers returning from the Plant were beaten by unruly workers. The position has not returned to normal yet. The indisciplined members of the Security Force are still refusing to take orders from the Chief Security Officer. They continue to man the gates of the Steel Plant. The West Bengal Government issued instructions to their police force to assist the management to take over the gates of the Steel Plant from the unruly elements of the Security Force. It has, however, not been possible for the State police so far to render any effective assistance in this regard. In certain other sections of the Steel Plant also, especially the Roll Shop, the workers allocate their own duties in dis-

regard of the instructions of the officers.

While the Government are prepared to deal sympathetically with all legitimate grievances which the workers may have, they are determined to re-impose the authority of the management without which the Plant cannot function. I have had discussions in this respect with the Chief Minister and the Deputy Chief Minister of West Bengal who are now in Delhi. They have promised full assistance to restore normalcy in the Plant. I welcome this assistance and I hope that the active co-operation of the State Government, normal conditions will be restored soon.

SHRI D. N. PATODIA : It is extremely unfortunate that within two months of the major overhaul of the blast furnace after spending crores of rupees it should have broken down again. Although it is unfortunate, it is not surprising it is something which was anticipated. Particularly in the Durgapur steel plant the state repairs was in a terribly bad condition. Even according to Mr. K. T. Chandy, the Chairman of Hindustan Steel Limited, vital repairs were long over due, routine repairs were neglected and this is all that could have been expected. The Minister has again announced the appointment of a committee to solve this problem. I do not know whether it will end—committee after committee without any action whatsoever on the reports of committees. Regarding the acts of indiscipline in West Bengal, particularly in Hindustan Steel Limited, Durgapur, a new situation has arisen after the United Front Government has taken charge of the administration. All these actions are directed towards two things. Firstly, they want to get one particular union recognised, which is supported by the Communists, and the other is that they want to get rid of the Central Reserve Police Force.

SHRI N. SREEKANT NAIR (Quilon) : Sir, on a point of order. Is he asking a question or giving information ?

SHRI D. N. PATODIA : From the 22nd March 1969 many acts of indiscipline started pouring in, started being reported. There was force used and various employees who did not join a

particular union were assaulted and the police in that area refused to take action in spite of the fact that assault had taken place. After 22nd March many actions have been stated by the hon. Minister. The Minister had admitted only one point, namely, that the West Bengal police did not act effectively. But that is not enough. He omitted to say that as a result of strike of 22nd March and 23rd March the West Bengal Government got the Chief Security Officer arrested. He also omitted to say that the West Bengal Government took action against the General Manager of the steel plant. Where was the occasion for this action and how does the government justify it? He has also omitted to say that recently the West Bengal Government has demanded the withdrawal of all suspension orders against those unruly elements which were involved in the strike of 24th March and the incidents that took place later. In view of these circumstances, I have a few pertinent questions to ask of the Minister.

In respect of the break down of the blast furnace, how far is it related to labour unrest and what would be the cost involved in repairing this breakdown of the blast furnace? I would also like to know what action government propose to take to prevent such breakdown in future. In the year 1968-69 out of the total loss incurred by the Durgapur steel plant how much was on account of labour unrest alone? Secondly, is it a fact that the Chief Security Officer was arrested by the West Bengal police and action was taken against the General Manager? If so, what were the circumstances and what justification has been given by the West Bengal Government for taking such action and what action has been taken by the Central Government in this regard? Thirdly, may I know whether it is true that the West Bengal Government has demanded withdrawal of all suspension orders against the unruly elements? If so, what is the attitude of the Central Government in this matter? May I know whether all those points have been specifically discussed with the leaders of the United Front Government who are

presently in Delhi and; if so, what specific assurances or specific replies have been given by the West Bengal leaders to each of the points?

SHRI C. M. POONACHA : As regards the breakdown of the blast furnace No. 2, it is a technical matter about which I cannot volunteer any technical opinion. However, the matter is being examined. But one thing appears to be rather clear to us, namely, that in such a vital installation like a steel plant certain careful handling of the vital sections is absolutely necessary, and that any sudden closure, or sudden cooling or a re-heating process does result in certain thermal shocks. That might be one of the contributory factors. On the point what exactly has happened the matter is being investigated into, and I hope after the technical people have look into it, the position would be more clear. So, I would rather await (a) a report of the technical officer and (b) see how this blast furnace would behave after the initial repairs and the blast furnace having been blown in.

The second question related to loss due to labour unrest at Durgapur out of the total loss for the year 1969. Well, the Durgapur plant has been continuously incurring heavy losses. In the year 1965-66 the Plant returned a small profit of about Rs. 29 lakhs. In 1966-67 the loss was Rs. 13 crores; in 1967-68 it rose to Rs. 18 crores. This year we are likely to close up with an approximate loss of Rs. 21 crores. While this is the order of loss, I cannot say precisely what percentage of it could be attributed to labour unrest.

As regards the arrest of the Chief Security Officer on the 24th of March, it is a matter which has caused concern to us. However, this officer is under the employment of the Central Government and Central Government will follow the process of law in this regard and take whatever action necessary.

As to the withdrawal of certain suspension cases, these matters were discussed when the plant authorities had a meeting with the West Bengal Ministers

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and other officers and they have asked for a quick review of the suspension cases. That has been done and the report has been sent to the Labour Department of the West Bengal Government. They are examining it and perhaps very soon we would receive their advice on this matter.

SHRI D. N. PTODIA ; Sir, my questions have not been fully answered. Two or three important questions have been omitted. My first question was about the estimated cost of repairs of the blast furnace.

MR. SPEAKER : I think he has answered all the important questions. I followed the reply closely because it is a very important matter. After all, a steel plant costs hundreds of crores of rupees and it belongs to all of us. About the blast furnace he said "it is before a technical committee ; I am not able to commit myself". You cannot force him to give a reply. I do not think he will be able to give even a rough estimate. I do not think he is ready with that figure. Everybody would would have been happy to have that news but, as he has said, it is not possible for him to supply it now and the matter is before a technical committee.

Regarding the arrest of the officers, the Minister clearly stated that the law will take its own course. The Central Government will do their best according to the law. He is not able to say anything more.

About the suspended people being reinstated, he has said that he had a discussion, the committee which went into it has submitted a report or something to that effect. Whether you are satisfied with the answers or not is a different question, but all the three questions have been answered.

SHRI D. N. PATODIA : One point which has not been answered is with regard to the loss incurred by the Durgapur plant on account of labour unrest during the year 1968-69. The Minister said that it is not possible to assess it separately. That is not correct. Accounts

are kept under different heads by the steel plants and it is possible for him to supply those figures. For example, in the report of Hindustan Steel for 1967-68 it was estimated that Rs. 6.35 crores are the losses due to labour trouble alone. So, what difficulty the Minister can have in telling us as to how much of the actual estimated loss of Rs. 21 crores is on account of labour unrest alone ? Let him reply to it.

SHRI P. RAMAMURTI (Madurai) : Sir, I protest strongly against the use of the expression 'unruly elements' because they have not been adjudged yet. A man who is suspended is not adjudged guilty. The case has yet to be gone into. Therefore I would like you to see that against workers who have been suspended, against whom cases have not been gone into, no Member of Parliament is allowed to pass judgment on the floor of the House.

SHRI D. N. PATODIA : I ignore his objection. Let the hon. Minister reply to my point.

MR. SPEAKER : If the hon. Minister has the figure and is prepared to give it, I am not objecting. But if there is any difficulty and he is not able to give the correct figure there is no use forcing him to give some figure to which again you will call his attention and he will have correct it.

SHRI D. N. PATODIA : Let him say that he cannot give it.

SHRI C. M. POONACHA : I do not have the figures ready with me but if it is going to be a major shutdown for two months for repairs, the loss in production is likely to be Rs. 50 lakhs a month. This figure I have.

SHRI D. N. PATODIA : That is, Rs. 6 crores a year.

SHRI SRADHAKAR SUPAKAR (Sambalpur) : Sir, I want to put a few pointed questions on the happenings of the 23rd March and the 10th April 1969. If the hon. Minister is not ready with the answers, I hope, he will place the information on the Table at a later date.

Now I put my questions. There is a report in the newspapers that on account

of the Bengal Bundh on the 10th April, 1969, the steel plant suffered a loss of Rs. 50 lakhs. How far is that report correct ?

My next question is regarding the attendance of labourers and officers on the 23rd March and the 10th April, 1969. What was the percentage of attendance ?

My third and final question is whether an account of non-attendance of people the blast furnace could not function properly and, therefore, there was a cooling down and breakdown of the plant.

These are the three specific questions. If he can answer them now, he may do so but if he cannot answer them now, he may reply at a later date.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) :
Next session.

SHRI C. M. POONACHA : As regards the loss sustained on the Bengal Bundh day, I cannot give the precise figures but the value of the products produced at Durgapur steel plant per day is over Rs. 27 lakhs and if on that day production had stopped, that much loss is probably obvious.

As regards the number of workmen who came to man the critical sections of the steel plant on the Bengal Bundh day, nearly 500 to 600 men are required to man the critical sections of the steel mill but only 200 turned up and the officers and the supervisory staff had to be pressed into service. They were inside the plant working for 36 hours with rations inside and they did a splendid piece of work in maintaining the vital installations. This is their contribution and I must take this opportunity to pay may tribute to those people who had stood the strain. Such a strain could not be endured often and on; once in a way probably it is possible. But it is too much for me to expect that such a strain could be expected from officers often and on. However, let me not anticipate anything worse.

These are the two points that my hon. friend wanted me to answer.

श्री श्री० सि० सहगल (बिलासपुर) : दुर्गापुर स्टील प्लांट में जिन भ्रष्टाचारों के साथ ज्यादाती हुई हैं उनके बारे में प्रान्तीय सरकार ने आपको अवसादन दिया है कि वह उनकी पूरी मदद करने के लिये तैयार हैं। दुर्गापुर का स्टील प्लांट आप देखें कि आपको भ्रष्टाचारों से मिला है। क्या यही वजह नहीं है कि वे इसको यहां चलने नहीं देना चाहते हैं ? मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि इसके बारे में आपकी क्या राय है ?

SHRI C. M. POONACHA : I do not think we should come to any conclusion on that basis, that is, since it is a British collaboration, the State Government is not interested to help. After all, the steel plant is located in Bengal for the benefit of the people of India and, more so, for the people of Bengal itself. Therefore, I do not think that the working of the steel plant, its success and its prosperity is ever to be viewed with suspicion of this type.

श्री सत्यनारायण सिंह (वाराणसी)
टाटा और बिरला के एजेंट वहां सेबोटेज कर रहे हैं...

MR. SPEAKER : What is this ? An important subject is going on. Tatas and Birlas don't come into the picture at all. It is a public sector project. It belongs to all, to the country as a whole. What is the use of bringing in Tatas and Birlas all the time ? The House is interested in it. If you do not want to hear, allow others to hear. You have no right to disturb like this.

SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH (Pali) : In his statement, the Minister has mentioned two things. One is that the security force of the Durgapur Steel Plant has turned rebel and the other is that no effective assistance has been given by the West Bengal Government in terms of police to maintain law and order. For over a week now, all the four major gates of the Plant have been manned by the rebel security force and the Management or the Government is not aware of what is being taken out of the Plant

[Shri S. K. Tapuriah]

and what is being taken in the Plant. If you bear in mind attempts at sabotage made previously in the Plant, they may probably be preparing for that also. The West Bengal Government had asked the Central Government not to use the Central Reserve Police without permission, this time, the management wanted to cooperate and asked the West Bengal Government to provide for police force to maintain law and order. The police force that was sent by the Government was insufficient in numbers. When they came, they were jeered and laughed to by the rebel security force and they went away and never came back. This proves that the West Bengal Government is not interested in maintaining law and order or in assisting the Plant management in maintaining law and order.

May I know, since the property has to be safeguard and the Plant is to be run, what steps the Government contemplate to take over the charge from the rebel security force? Why do they not create the Industrial Security Force on the lines of the Bill that we have already passed. Secondly, since all the Central Government undertakings will have to be run efficiently and at full time and, since in various States the labour laws have been conflicting and coming in the way of proper running of the Plants, will the Government take steps to declare the Central Government as appropriate authority to settle labour disputes pertaining to Central Government undertakings.

SHRI C. M. POONACHA : As regards the manning of the gates, as I had explained in my statement, we have approached the State Government and the State Government did assure us that they will ask the West Bengal police to give us assistance and the assistance that we were expecting has not come to us. I had discussions with the Chief Minister and the Deputy Chief Minister on this point and they have assured me that police assistance will be given. I am sure, that the manning of the gates would be now done through the security officer, through his force and, to that extent, the Bengal police assistance would be forthcoming. Secondly, about the C. R. P., here the C. R. P., point does not arise because it

is a matter where the West Bengal Government themselves will render the required assistance to maintain law and order in the Plant and in the township. We hope fully look forward for their assistance to come forth in this regard.

As regards the question of declaring the Central Government as the appropriate authority in matters of labour legislation and other things, this particular question, I think, is before the National Labour Commission. They are examining this question and very soon their advice would be available to us.

श्री जाजं करनेन्दीज (बम्बई-दक्षिण) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, कुछ लोगों का तो यह पेशा हो गया है कि जब किसी भी कारखाने में श्रौर विशेषकर सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के कारखाने में ऐसी घटना घटती है तब वहाँ के मजदूरों का नाम रखा जाए, इण्डिसिप्लिन का नाम रखा जाय और मजदूर आन्दोलन की बदनामी की जाय और ऐसी घटनाएं अगर किसी गैर-कांग्रेसी राज्य में होती हों जैसे अब की बार पश्चिमी बंगाल में दुर्गापुर में यह घटनाएं घटी हैं तो फिर वह गैर-कांग्रेसी सरकारों की भी बदनामी करना यह, भी चन्द लोगों का तो पेशा बन गया है ; मैं मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान उस अखबार की ओर दिलाना चाहता हूँ जिस के मालिक जे० आर० वी० टाटा और श्री अरविन्द मफतलाल ऐसे उद्योग पति हैं, स्टेट्समैन अखबार, जिसके इण्डस्ट्रियल करेस्पोंडेण्ट ने 16 अप्रैल को यानी पाँच सात दिन के पहले जो दुर्गापुर के सम्बन्ध में एक लम्बा लेख अपने अखबार में लिखा उसमें यहाँ जितने प्रश्न पूछे गये, यह कितने गलत हैं, इसकी सारी सफाई दी है। स्टेट्समैन का इंडस्ट्रियल करेस्पोंडेण्ट कोई मजदूर यूनियन का नेता नहीं हो सकता है, न यह कोई बंगाल की सरकार का प्रतिनिधि हो सकता है। ऐसे लोगों को स्टेट्समैन में नहीं रखा जाता। मैं इसमें से दो या तीन जुमले सदन के सामने इसलिए रखूंगा कि यह जो एक हमेशा की हवा बनाने में आ

जाती है कि इंडिसिप्लिन के कारण करोड़ों रुपये का नुकसान हुआ, यह कितना गलत है। मैं मन्त्री महोदय को याद दिलाऊँ और सदन को भी याद दिलाऊँ कि अभी चन्द दिनों के पहले बंगलौर में मन्त्री महोदय ने कहा है कि हिन्दुस्तान स्टील का कुल नुकसान इस साल 40 करोड़ रुपये का हुआ है जिस की जिम्मेदारी मजदूरों पर नहीं है और इस को पढ़ा जाय तो मन्त्री महोदय के बयान का खुलासा सामने आ जाता है। मुझे आप क्षमा करेंगे आधा घन्टा इस पर हुआ है, अगर मैं दो तीन जुमले पढ़ूँ तो आप मुझे रोकिएगा नहीं :

“The Durgapur Steel Plant carries many legacies of the past. One of them is a complete lack of mutual trust and respect between the management and the major unions, a position that unfortunately seems to have changed very little in spite of the induction of new administrative heads, who admit the union leadership at least if not the rank and file generally, behave in quite a responsible manner. Worse still is an element of bitterness which has characterized recent employer-employee dealings. There are very few channels open for mutual discussion, The elected works committee has been kept defunct for the last two years ; now it cannot function unless fresh elections are held.”

“Similarly, the elected canteen committee was never activated properly. There is no proper grievance procedure in force. One difficulty for the management.....”

जिस पर सदन पूरा सोचे :

“One difficulty for the management, of course, is the known unrepresentative character of the recognised union and the pendency of the issue of fresh recognition before the State Government since 1966.”

आगे अध्यक्ष महोदय,

“The present management, of course, is trying hard to enforce greater discipline on the shop floor. But there are authoritative indications, that highhandedness in this regard may not have been just exceptions.”

श्री प्रेमचन्द वर्मा (हमीरपुर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय यह अस्वभाव हमने पढ़ा हुआ है, यह इस तरह की बातें कर के टाइम वेस्ट कर रहे हैं... (व्यवधान)

श्री जार्ज फरनेन्डोज : अध्यक्ष महोदय मैंने पहले ही कहा था, आधा घंटा इस पर लगा, मुझे दो मिनट आप इस के लिए देंगे। आगे देखियेगा :

“But there are authoritative indications that highhandedness in this regard may not have been just exceptions. It is such instances that have tended to vitiate otherwise salutary measures being taken by the management. While the Durgapur Steel Plant's security staff are agitated over their future status and employment, the management, in an officially stated, is recruiting 150 more men from north western parts of Uttar Pradesh.”

अब अध्यक्ष महोदय, बहुत महत्त्व पूर्ण है :

Noticing the detection of Rs. 1.2 lakhs from the canteen fund the Central Bureau of Investigation pinpointed blame on a clerk and 2 officers in the Accounts Department and recommended their suspension. Action has been taken since against the clerk but similar orders in respect of the 2 officers are said to have got stuck up in the files. The union leaders know the full details of these developments.

अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह अस्वभाव किसी मजदूर आन्दोलन का नहीं है—जैसा मैंने पहले कहा है। इन स्टील प्लांटों में सुधार की आपसे कोई अपेक्षा नहीं है, क्योंकि एन० सी० डी० सी में हम देखते हैं, हिन्दुस्तान

[श्री जार्ज फरनेन्डीज]

स्टील में हम देखते हैं, सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के कारखानों को आप किस तरह से चलाते हैं, कितने घपले इन में होते हैं, यह हम देखते हैं। मेरा सीधा प्रश्न यह है कि जो रिपोर्ट और स्टेटमेंट मैंने आपको पढ़ कर सुनाया है, इसमें जिन-जिन बातों को उठाया गया है— ग्रीवेन्सेज प्रोसीजर के बारे में, यूनियन की मान्यता के बारे में, जिस यूनियन की मैजोरिटी नहीं है, जो अन-रिप्रैजेंटेटिव यूनियन है, उस की मान्यता देकर, मजदूरों पर लादकर इस ढांचे को चलाने के बारे में, केन्टीन कमेटी की रिपोर्ट के बारे में, इन सारी चीजों के बारे में तत्काल जांच करके इसकी बिगड़ी हुई हालत को सुधारने के लिए आप क्या करेंगे ?

श्री प्रेम चन्द वर्मा : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा प्वाइन्ट ऑफ़ ऑर्डर है। यूनियन को स्टेट गवर्नमेंट की रिकमेण्डेशन पर रिकग्नाइज किया जाता है, सैन्ट्रल गवर्नमेंट की रिकमेण्डेशन पर नहीं किया जाता है ... (व्यवधान)

MR. SPEAKER : There is no point of order.

SHRI C. M. POONACHA : My hon. friend Shri Fernandes is entitled to draw his own inferences as regards the publication which he has quoted. I would like to answer the specific point that he has made. The specific point is that a recognised union which is fully representative of the workers has not been recognised and therefore all these troubles arose. Well, I don't want to go into this matter in detail, But, I may say this, that the question of verification has been referred to the State Government in 1967; but, for what reasons, I don't know, the verification has not been conducted so far. I understand, again, the plant authorities the Chairman of HSL, the Director in charge of Durgapur, met the Minister. Again they gave it in writing requesting the Government to expedite the verification proceedings and to advise the Plant Authorities as to which Union carries the

majority support of the workers. On receipt of that further action will be taken.

SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU (Chittoor) : The real facts about the factory have not been revealed by the Minister. Actually, the dismissed employee who is secretary, is managing the whole show there. Orders are being issued by him.

MR. SPEAKER : Your name is not there, unfortunately.

SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU : Two hours may be allotted for discussing this matter.

MR. SPEAKER : You may write to me; we shall see.

श्री जार्ज फरनेन्डीज : वक्स कमेटी के बारेमें, ग्रीवेन्सेज के प्रोसीजर के बारे में कुछ नहीं कहा... (व्यवधान)...

MR. SPEAKER : Order please. I am on my legs now. Number of hon. Members made a request. That is why I am getting up.

SHRI MANUBHAI PATEL (Dabhoi) : Sir, in connection with the fast undertaken by Dr. Sushila Nayar, I want to make a submission.

MR. SPEAKER : Not only you; there are others also. I know you want to refer to the fast of an hon. Member of this House, Dr. Sushila Nayar. Ten days ago, two Members of this House were fasting outside. Certain hon. Members wanted to raise the subject here I said 'No'.

SHRI MANUBHAI PATEL : Sir, we should see that her health does not deteriorate.

MR. SPEAKER : I cannot discriminate like that. When I did not allow it on that day how can allow it today? I did not allow anybody to make a speech or mention it here. If I allow it today, will it not mean that when a congress member is fasting it can be allowed?

Therefore, it is wrong. I cannot discriminate.

SHRI MANUBHAI PATEL : Health condition ; nothing more.

MR. SPEAKER : It is not my business. I cannot allow it at all.

SHRI RANDHIR SINGH (Rohtak) : The hon. Members were sitting in *Dharna*; they were not fasting ; she is fasting. (*Interruption*)

MR. SPEAKER : If this begins now, then, there will be no end to it. Those who sit in the Chair shall not discriminate. I cannot allow one hon. Member to raise a matter regarding fast and allow discussion or statement here. I will be very happy if the hon. Minister could give the information to Mr Patel. (*Interruption*) Order, please.

SHRI MANUBHAI PATEL : We express the feelings of the House.

SHRI RANDHIR SINGH—*rose*.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Randhir Singh I want your attention. For everything happening in the House you should not shout ; some important things I can understand...

SHRI RANDHIR SINGH : I am not shouting.

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. You are not shouting. You are raising objection. I can put it that way.

SHRI RANDHIR SINGH : It is only popular wish that I am voicing.

MR. SPEAKER : You are not the only Member. Whichever side of the House is concerned, one Member, any time, should not take up the responsibility of replying, rebutting and shouting I don't want to mention any name ; but for everything that is happening, in this side or that side, one Member should not take the opportunity of championing that cause. That is what I say. That is all. Once in a way, every Member has a right to raise something. But anything happening anywhere cannot be raised here.

I am now going to a second subject. I have received a number of notices. You know, I am in the unfortunate position, of the Speaker and I have to disoblige so many people. Naturally hon. Members will be offended because the Speaker does not allow them to speak ; but at least I will have to...

SHRI MANUBHAI PATEL : We do not want that the Minister should give a statement. You may please give us the information. That will help us.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : About the brutal lathi charge on Harijans in Kanpur, in which 30 people were injured, we want to raise the issue here. (*Interruption*)

MR. SPEAKER : I have great respect for her. But this is how I have to function. I have to function in a way which satisfies the whole House and all sections of the House. I have great respect for the hon. Member but whether it is right or wrong, I cannot say. I would request the hon. Minister to give information to Mr. Patel. That is all.

Now, I go to a second subject. Regarding the earlier Calling Attention subject some days back Shri Bakulaji made a suggestion that some Members may go to that far off place and look into the situation there. I said, Government may consider it. But now, I have received an adjournment motion today on some statement supposed to have been made by the Chief Minister. It is not necessary now ; it will be difficult.

SHRI HEM BARUA : *rose*.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Hem Barua has written to me about it. About the earlier thing, the House discussed it in my absence, when I went to Vienna. You discussed about the matter about Shri Brahmananda Reddy. It was decided that there is no privilege involved. And this statement is much more milder than the other one. Therefore there cannot be any privilege on this thing. Therefore, I say, there is no privilege involved. Government may consider them and they may discuss with the Chief Minister

among themselves.

SHRI HEM BARUA (Mangaldai) : It is a matter of privilege, Sir, You were pleased to make a statement on the floor of the House that day saying that the Government should see that a Parliamentary Delegation should be sent to Ladakh to study the situation there. That is the statement you made. What happened? Before your suggestion was in the air, the Chief Minister, Jammu and Kashmir State issued a statement opposing your suggestion. I say, Sir, this is an infringement of the right of this Sovereign Parliament, sovereign forum of this nation, as also your right. The constitution has guaranteed a sort of all India character to Parliament and by issuing that kind of statement the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir has violated not only the constitution but the very sanctity of this honourable House. When you allow that Privilege motion against a Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, and you don't allow this Privilege motion against the Government of Jammu and Kashmir, the people might think otherwise, Sir.

SHRI NATH PAI (Rajapur) : There is a qualitative difference between the two motions. I would not even remotely insinuate that you encouraged the other motion and are against this one. But I would point out that when this point was mentioned regarding what was happening in Ladakh, you are on record as having said that Shri Limaye, Shri Joshi and Nath Pai could go to Hyderabad, but you hastened to point out that so far as Ladakh was concerned, a delegation would have to be organised and Government would have to assist. It is because Chief Ministers are gradually arrogating to themselves the authority to defy and bring into contempt whatever you say that we have brought this motion. I am not concerned whether it is Shri Sadiq or Shri Brahmananda Reddy, but these provincial satraps need to be informed and disciplined a little that they cannot go on making a mockery in this way of the authority of Parliament. It is this point that is important.

MR. SPEAKER : Once the House has taken a decision, the point becomes

clear. Shri Hem Barua said that I admitted the other motion; I was not here at that time.

SHRI NATH PAI : You called Shri Brahmananda Reddy.

MR. SPEAKER : I said, before I left, that I would forward it to the Prime Minister. Later on I was not here at the time it was taken up here. On that the House has taken a decision that there is absolutely no privilege involved. Now I say there is much less case in this. But that does not prevent the Government of India from sending some people. You may not call it a parliamentary delegation. If you go through the records, you will see that this is what I said. I said Government might consider it because it is a far-flung place; sending a delegation or deputation was a matter Government might consider. Even now Government may consider it. That stands. What I said on that day stands.

But as I said, there is no privilege in this case.

12.43 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE
FOURTH FIVE YEAR PLAN DRAFT

MR. SPEAKER : Shrimati Indira Gandhi.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) :
On a point of order.

श्री जार्ज फरनेन्डीज (बम्बई दक्षिण) :
अध्यक्ष महोदय, इस विषय पर मेरा व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है।

MR. SPEAKER : There is no *Vyavasta* now.

SHRI P. K. DEO (Kalahaudi) : There are conflicting reports in the press about the deliberations of the NDC. We want to know the factual position.....

MR. SPEAKER : I will take up one by one. Shri Fernandes.

श्री जार्ज फरनेन्डीज : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं