

[Shri Dalbir Singh]

links of National Highways situated in the State of Rajasthan, under section 10 of the National Highways Act, 1956 [Placed in Library. See No. LT-10928/76].

11.03 hrs.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

MINUTES

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD (Bhagalpur): I beg to lay on the Table the following Minutes of the Estimates Committee:—

- (1) Minutes of the sittings relating to the Eighty-ninth, Ninety-seventh, Ninety-eighth, Ninety-ninth, Hundred and first and Hundred and second Reports of the Committee.
- (2) Minutes of the sittings of the Committee relating to the Procedural and General Matters.

11.04 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF MEMBERS FROM THE SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE

(i) MINUTES

SHRI S. M SIDDAYYA (Chamarajanager): I beg to lay on the Table Minutes of the sittings of the Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House held on the 23rd March, 7th April, 29th April and 25th May, 1976.

(ii) TWENTY-EIGHTH REPORT

SHRI S. M SIDDAYYA: I beg to present the Twenty-eighth Report of the Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House.

11.05 hrs.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON OFFICES OF PROFIT

EIGHTEENTH REPORT

SHRI PATTABHI RAMA RAO (Rajamundry): I beg to present the Eighteenth Report of the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit.

11.06 hrs.

MATTER UNDER RULE 377

HELP TO FAMILIES OF POLITICAL DETENUS

SHRI P. M MEHTA (Bhavnagar): Mr Speaker, Sir, with your permission, I raise this matter of public importance under Rule 377.

"It is reported that Acharya Vinoba Bhave has spoken to the Hon'ble Prime Minister about extending help to the families of political detenues in the country"

I have raised this matter because many families of the political detenues could not manage to make both ends meet, their children had to discontinue their studies for non-payment of fees, and they have to face eviction from their houses because of non-payment of house rents. They are passing their days through great difficulties. It is a matter of concern to this House and to the people of this country.

I, therefore, request Government to make a statement thereon.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री (पटना): यह जरूरी है।

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): I have written to you, Sir, already on a matter of public importance. I have been mentioning it for the last 3 or 4 days.

MR. SPEAKER: Do you want to raise another matter?

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Yes, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Is it not under this?

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Is somebody making a statement on this?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. BRAHMANANDA REDDY): Maintenance allowance to the families of persons detained under MISA is paid in admissible cases under the orders issued by the State Governments and the Union Territory Administrations under the provisions of section 5 of MISA. This is decided on the merits of each individual case, with due regard to the financial circumstances of the family of the detenu and his position as the sole bread winner of the family, irrespective of other considerations including the detenu's political affiliation, if any. According to information received from State Governments and Union Territory Administrations, appropriate maintenance allowance has been sanctioned to the families of some detenus in Assam, Jammu & Kashmir, Meghalaya, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

Honourable Member has referred to a reported talk by Acharya Vinoba Bhave with the Prime Minister about this matter. I would like to clarify that as far as it could be recollected Acharya Vinoba Bhave has not spoken to the Prime Minister on this matter.

श्री रामाबनार शास्त्री : अध्यक्ष महोदय बिहार में ऐसे बहुत से नजरबन्द हैं जिनकी कैमिनी की हालत बहुत खराब है। उनका जिक्र इसमें नहीं है, इसका मतलब है कि नहीं दे रहे हैं।

श्री श्रींकार लाल बेरवा (कोटा) : राजस्थान में कुछ दिनों पहले 100 रुपये का पैसा देते थे, वह अब बन्द कर दिया है।

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No debate on this; you have heard the Government.

(Interruptions)

SHRI H. M. PATEL (Dhandhuka): The statement said, "Government takes action on it." Does it take action on its own in respect of every MISA detenu or an application has to be by each detenu or his family. Secondly, you said, "Some of these people have been given allowances." There are other States which have not been mentioned here. Therefore, it would see that a number of States have not given any kind of allowances of this nature. I would be glad if you kindly clarify the matter further.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is another matter. (Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Burdwan): Is there any uniformity about these rates or there are different rates for different places? What are the rates fixed on this that have been paid by the State Governments?

श्री रामाबनार शास्त्री : बिहार गवर्नमेंट ने किसी को नहीं दिया। मेरी जानकारी यह है कि बहनों ने आवेदन किया है। अभी मार्च में जब मैं भागलपुर जेल में था, तो वहाँ मुझे लोगों ने बताया कि वहाँ के लोगों की हालत बहुत खराब है।

SHRI K. BRAHMANANDA REDDY: As the House is well aware, this is a matter where the State Governments are competent to do it, and as you all know, jail rules and the treatment to prisoners, etc. are contained in the Jail Manuals adopted by the State Governments.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Copies are not available.

SHRI K. BRAHMANANDA REDDY: Therefore, according to the inter-

mation that I have placed before the House, it depends upon each Jail Manual or the rules that each State Government make. They have also got the right to decide their own formulae in this matter.

(Interruptions)

SHRI H. M. PATEL: They are contained under an Act. (Interruptions) At least I may make this request to him. While it is true that he knows that each jail has a different kind of Jail Manual, different rules and so on and so forth, could he, at least, indicate to them that in this matter a certain degree of uniformity would be desirable? We can write to them. I am suggesting it for his consideration.

(Interruptions)

SHRI K. BRAHMANANDA REDDY: There can be no uniformity. (Interruptions). This is an old thing. This is under the State List, etc.

So far as the persons detained in several States are concerned, it is not the Central Government that have detained them. In the case of persons who have been detained by the Central Government, no application has been made at all by anybody.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Sir, I want to raise an important matter

MR. SPEAKER: That is tomorrow. I have allowed it to come tomorrow.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE (Howrah): Sir, I want a clarification from the hon. Minister. He just now said that no application has been made by anyone. Shall we send the applications to him?

MR. SPEAKER: You can do so; you can send copies to him.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Just now, the hon. Minister said that there is no application from any detenu . . .

SHRI K. BRAHMANANDA REDDY: I want to clarify what I said. So far as the number of persons who are detained by the Central Government is concerned, they are five and there is no application by anyone of them for any allowance. That is what I said.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA (Serampore): Shri Noorul Huda is an M.P. of this House. He has written a letter.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Already there are hunger strikes in various jails. Regarding allowance, I wrote to him about Jaipur Jail twice. After that, some allowance was given only Rs. 50, Rs. 75 and the maximum Rs. 125. Now, in the Calcutta Presidency Jail, the hunger strike is going on continuously from 17th May. In other jails also, they have written to him and they have threatened to go on hunger strike because they have no other alternative. Their families are completely starving. In West Bengal, there was a law and when we were under preventive detention, we enjoyed family allowance on the basis of Rs. 30 per family member. Now, they have made the maximum Rs. 125.

Very recently, only last week, I met our M.P., Mr. Noorul Huda, in Assam Jail. He told me that the maximum family allowance given is Rs. 150. But it is too inadequate. No family can survive on the basis of this allowance. That is why a revision is absolutely necessary. It may be within the jurisdiction of the State Governments. But the Centre should intervene and save the situation because the families are completely starving. They are detained for prevention, not for punishment. Why are their families being starved in this way? This is a very serious matter.

MR. SPEAKER: Do you have the number of persons detained under MISA who are getting allowance?

SHRI K. BRAHMANANDA REDDY: According to the information that I have now about 2,348 persons are receiving allowance.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, this a very important matter that I want to raise with your kind indulgence about the judgment which has been delivered by the Calcutta High Court in the LIC case....

MR. SPEAKER: I have asked the Minister to make a statement tomorrow.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: What about textile matter?

MR. SPEAKER: That is also tomorrow. I meant that. Both are there tomorrow.

11.05 hrs.

BANKING AND PUBLIC FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Industrial Finance Corporation Act, 1948, the State Bank of India Act, 1955, the Industrial Development Bank of India Act, 1964 and the Regional Rural Banks Act, 1976, be taken into consideration.

This Bill seeks to bring about a measure of uniformity in the provisions relating to appointment and fixation of terms and conditions of service of the Chairman of the Industrial Finance Corporation of India, the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Managing Directors of State Bank of India, the Chairman and Managing Director of the Industrial Development Bank of India and the Chairmen of the Regional Rural Banks, in the relevant statutes under which these banks and institutions have been set up. While commending the Bill for consideration of the House, I shall confine myself to explain some of the more important amendments.

As the House is aware, these banks and institutions were set up over the years from 1948 to 1976.

The Industrial Finance Corporation of India was set up in 1948 and its shares are held between the Industrial Development Bank of India (50 per cent), life Insurance Corporation and Scheduled Banks (about 35 per cent), cooperative banks and cooperative societies (about 15 per cent). Chairman of this Corporation is appointed by the Central Government in consultation with the Industrial Development Bank of India.

The State Bank of India was established in 1955. It was a successor to the Imperial Bank of India, a private sector bank, where the Central Board was autonomous in the matter of appointment and determination of the terms and conditions of service of its senior executives. Under the State Bank of India Act, the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the Bank are appointed by the Central Government in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India after consideration of the recommendations made by the Central Board of the Bank. They can be removed from service by the Central Government after consultation with the Reserve Bank. In the case of the Managing Director of the State Bank, however, the appointment is made by the Central Board of the Bank with the approval of the Central Government and he can be removed from service by the Central Board with the approval of the Central Government. As all the Directors of the Central Board are appointed by the Central Government, it is proposed that henceforth the appointment of the Chairman/Vice-Chairman/Managing Director of the State Bank should be made by the Central Government in consultation with the Reserve Bank.

The Industrial Development Bank of India was established in 1964 as a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Reserve Bank and was restructured in 1975 as wholly-owned by the Central Government. Its Chairman and