

श्री भानुसिंह शौरा स्पीकर साहब, मैं 377 के तहतलगातार डेढ़ हफ्ते से कई इम्पॉर्टेंट मामले दे रहा हूँ, लेकिन मुझे इजाजत नहीं मिली, जब कि समर गुहा साहब या 10-12 ऐसे नाम हैं जिन को आप चान्स दे देते हैं।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अगर कोई 10 दिन लगातार लिखता रहे, लेकिन वह मामला इम्पॉर्टेंट न हो, रेलवेन्ट न हो, तो उस के लिए कोई क्लेम नहीं किया जा सकता। लेकिन अगर कोई मैम्बर कोई स्ट्रांग मामला भेजता है, जिस में रेलवेन्सी है और 10 दिन लगातार भेजता रहे तो 10 दिन लगातार भी आ सकता है।

SHRI B. S. BHAURA: A few names.

MR. SPEAKER: No question of few names.

कौसी प्रॉक्टिस डालना चाहते हैं, 10 दिन लिखते हुए हो गये हैं, इसलिए एक दिन जरूर आना चाहिए। आज आप का एक अच्छा मामला निकल आया है, मैंने उस को परसू कर दिया है, वह आगे निकल जायेगा।

12.28 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) INADEQUACY OF RELIEF MEASURES IN FLOOD-AFFECTED AREAS OF CONTAI (WEST BENGAL)

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai): Many members here were completely surprised when my temper betrayed me when Shrimati Maya Ray used the words 'flood situation' in West Bengal, particularly in the Midnapur area. On that day in the morning I got a

letter from my constituency to the effect that about 150 people died either of starvation...

MR. SPEAKER: This is under 377; not more than two or three minutes.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: On that very day already I knew that a few cases of starvation deaths had occurred in the flood-affected areas. That was the reason why I got so much agitated on that day. You will be surprised to know this; there is a vegetable called *giriashak* that grows in the coastal area. It is uneatable even by cattle. But this vegetable is being sold in the Contai and other areas of Midnapur at 30P per kg. From this you can understand the precarious condition there.

Unfortunately, my constituency of Contai is perhaps the only part of India which has suffered four devastating floods in the last six years. This year, according to the government calculation, seven lakh people have been affected out of which four lakh people have been totally affected—this is not my figure, it is the government figure—30,000 houses have collapsed, about 65 per cent of the crops, the only annual crop of paddy, has been lost. The food crisis is so acute there. The modified ration shops or fair price shops are there only in name. Twice or thrice a month, 50 to 100 gms. per head are being distributed.

During the last three months, as a relief measure—it is not my figure but it is the figure given by the local Government there—only 1,500 quintals of wheat have been distributed to seven lakh flood-affected people there. That means, on an average, just 20 grammes of wheat per head have been distributed as a relief measure during the last three months there. The Bharat Sevak Sangh was doing some relief work, and it continued its work for three weeks. As a relief measure, *kichchidi* was being given. That was done on their own. For that purpose, they wanted some wheat or rice from the Government. The Government could not give it, and as

a result, that has also been stopped. There were about 25,000 maunds of rice procured from Contai area itself and these are being stocked in the Food Corporation's godowns there. My report is, this rice is rotting. Although we are trying to export outside, and although there is no food-grain in the fair price shops and the Government are not able to give more fair price shops for want of adequate foodgrains, even then, this stock is rotting in the godowns, and it is not being released for the use of the people there.

Even peaceful satyagraha was offered by the people. They had to offer satyagraha by peaceful means, and eight to 10,000 people were offering it. I wrote letters after letters to the Chief Minister; I met some of the Ministers of the West Bengal Government, but without any adequate response. After the peaceful satyagraha, what happened?

MR. SPEAKER: It is not a Calling Attention or a speech. It is just for a minute. Do not take much time of the House.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: I would just appeal, through you, to the Minister; what else can I do?

MR. SPEAKER: You have just mentioned it.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: I want to know what report the Central team that was sent to Contai and the Midnapore area made, and what relief measures the Government are going to adopt. What steps are the Government going to take by way of relief in the form of opening community kitchens, cheap canteens, house-building grant, remission of tuition fees to the students, remission of arrears of agricultural loans, supply of winter-clothing, etc? What programme has been adopted for growing alternative crops as test relief work?

Lastly, in Contai, during the last four floods, according to the Government's own admission, Rs. 65 crores

worth of paddy has been lost. In Contai and the Midnapore area, such flood-control measures can be adopted as to serve the needs....

MR. SPEAKER: Do not make undue use of Rule 377.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: I am concluding in less than a minute. In the Contai and other areas of Midnapore, if adequate flood-control measures adopted, the Midnapore district itself can make up the deficit of the whole of West Bengal. I want to know from the Minister whether the Government is going to adopt any Master Plan for flood control in that area and for rural electrification in that area, and whether the promises that were made by Dr. K. L. Rao are going to be fulfilled by the Government.

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI K. C. PANT): I cannot deal with some of the questions raised by my hon. friend, which pertain to the Food Ministry or the Rehabilitation Ministry. But there are two questions he has raised which I can certainly answer. One is about the recommendations of the Central team which visited West Bengal from 27th to 29th September. I presume I need not go into the details of the normal way in which Central teams recommend certain assistance and the basis on which they have recommended. But the final figures can be given. The amount recommended by the Central team is Rs. 271.6 lakhs on grant items, and about Rs. 1,000 lakhs on loan items. There is a ceiling of Rs. 10,02,72,000 for the whole of West Bengal. A certain amount of money has already been released. Over and above that a certain amount of money has been given by the Agricultural Ministry, about Rs. 325 lakhs for fertilisers, seed, pesticides. This is the present position so far as assistance is concerned. About Rs. 200 lakhs have been released; as expenditure progresses and as the State Government satisfies the Centre on that point,

[Shri K. C. Pant]

more money is released. I think it is the normal practice as I remember it from the Finance Ministry days.

As far as flood control works in Midnapore district are concerned, the following schemes have been approved by the Planning Commission. Contai Basin drainage scheme, phase I, has been completed. Dubda basin drainage and Kaliaghai basin scheme are under execution. The State Government proposes to complete these schemes during the Fifth Plan.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): The Hon. Minister of Civil Aviation should make a statement. We are reading in the newspapers that the negotiations are going on. The Air India people have joined the strike. Shri Raj Bahadur was here but he walked away. Either you agree to call attention notice or allow us to raise this matter. You ask the Minister to make a statement.

MR. SPEAKER: Call attention, you had once or twice.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): Do they realise the loss of money, the hardship caused to the employees, the hardship caused to the passengers . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Not only to the employees but the public also.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: The House is entitled to know from the Government the steps that they are taking to resolve the deadlock. This cannot continue indefinitely. They are free to issue a statement saying that the unions are standing on their prestige. May be so or may not be so. But what about the Government.

MR. SPEAKER: Please resume your seats. What you say will be conveyed to the Minister.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: About 377 that will come tomorrow..

MR. SPEAKER: I am not allowing it.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: You consider and put it as has been done today.

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot promise it. 377 is not a matter of right. I just made an observation yesterday that Shri Samar Guha was not there but I admitted it. Strangely enough it got on the Order Paper; it should never come on the Order Paper.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: It has come in the past on many occasions. In my case also, it should be done for tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER: No, no; it is not going to be done. Now, Shri K. Gopal—you are welcome back to this House after the treatment and long absence. I do not want to come in the way of what you want to say.

(ii) DEMANDS OF THE NATIONAL
STUDENTS UNION OF INDIA

SHRI K. GOPAL (Karur): Sir, the National Students Union of India held a conference in Bombay on 10th July. They have submitted certain demands to the Government, the main demands being, reform of education in the country; restoration of the cut in the plan outlay on education, improvement of the pay scales of the teachers, etc. Till today they did not have any response. They are demonstrating before Parliament and State legislatures today. I should like to know the Government's reaction to their demand. They also demand the withdrawal of police cases against the Delhi University students and they want that the police repression on students in Tamil Nadu should be stopped forthwith.

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S. NURUL HASAN): Sir, I have received this morning a memorandum given by the National Students