

Shri Jyotirmoy Basu: We have a Tea Board. The Tea Board is a very impressionable thing, but what they have given to the nation amounts to nothing. They go round all over the world. The new Chairman comes to Delhi every week. He draws a fat travelling allowance. He goes to New York. There are attractive lady assistants drawing fat salaries. But what is the net result? We do not get one-fourth of what the housewife pays in the foreign countries. The Indian labour gets 4 annas for a pound of tea whereas a labourer in a foreign country pays Rs. 20 for a pound of tea. A cup of tea, you will be surprised to know, might cost you anything between Rs 3 and Rs. 6 in foreign countries. In a middle-class cafe it costs anything between Rs. 2 and Rs. 3, and the Government had been sitting over it. The late Dr. Shivarwamy made specific recommendations in the Plantation Inquiry Commission Report and the Government had been only watching, making big buildings for the Tea Board, constructing air-conditioned rooms, guest houses for the big team of officers and all that. We do not want all these things. I suggest that a Tea Marketing Corporation be formed and we take marketing of tea in packets like as they do in the case of horlicks and scotch whisky so that with the tea we will be able to sell packing material, packing labour and shipping freight. That is the only way-out.

17 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Communications (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): With your permission, Sir, I would like to announce a change in the programme of our discussion on Demands for Grants. On the conclusion of the discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Home Affairs the Demands for Grants of the Ministries of Irrigation and Power and Com-

munications may be taken up giving precedence over the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. This change has been necessitated to facilitate the Minister of Food and Agriculture to participate in a conference of Chief Ministers and Ministers of Agriculture and Irrigation in States to be held on the 6th and 7th of July.

Shri P. C. Sen (Purnea): Sir, I rise to a point of order. May I know what is the time taken by this side and that side.

Mr. Speaker: I do not know. I have not calculated.

Shri Nath Pal (Rajapur): This is perhaps the longest point of order ever raised in this House.

17.03 hrs.

DISCUSSION RE: STRIKE BY AIR-INDIA PILOTS

श्री कंवर लाल गुप्त (दिल्ली सदर) अध्यक्ष जी, यह दुर्भाग्य की बात है कि आज एयर इंडिया के विमान चालकों द्वारा हड़ताल हुई है। [जैसा कि सब को विदित है इस हड़ताल से करीब तीन करोड़ रुपये का फारेन एक्सचेंज का नुकसान होगा। इस के प्रतिरक्त जिस सर्बिस के बारे में हमारे देश का नाम ऊंचा है उस को भी घटका लगेगा। आज अध्यक्ष महोदय, फारेन एक्सचेंज की हमारे देश में कितनी कमी है और कांग्रेस के 20 साल लगातार चलत आर्थिक नीतियों के चलाने के कारण से देश की स्थिति यहां तक पहुंच गई है कि सरकार बुनिया में बालटेन से कर के फारेन एक्सचेंज इट रही है। यह जिस देश की स्थिति हो उस में यह हड़ताल और उम में इतना नुकसान यह देश के लिए बड़ी चिन्ताजनक बात है। अध्यक्ष जी, स्पष्ट क्या है? मुझे बहुत बड़ी उत्सुकता बरत रही जाती। 1 जुलाई 1965 के तीन साल के