

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I agree with the suggestion made by the Hon'ble Member. the Farmers Cell has also suggested that the farmers should get representation in this committee. I don't think that our representatives have recommended the names of non-farmers in place of farmers. We will select from among the persons whose names have been suggested and these suggestions are in respect of the farmers and not for non-farmers.

[*English*]

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: We are grateful to the Minister after Minister for the assurance they have given us, a large number of them. Today, I want an assurance that they will nominate only the real farmers' representative.

All out efforts will be in vain, if we do not get at least one assurance more and that is, that there is a neo-class of farmers-film stars, industrialists, politicians-who have never seen the farm, but they are big farm owners.

May I have an assurance from the hon. Minister that these class of farmers will not be nominated on this Committee?

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Why don't you add to it that those who have taken to farming after 1945 or 1947, should not be regarded as farmers and they should be brought under income-tax purview?. They have availed of all the benefits illegally.

[*English*]

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: Sir, I accept this. With this amendment I ask this question.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: Sir, it is unfortunate that in spite of several laws enacted by the State Governments, like the tenancy laws, Land Ceiling Act and many other progressive land legislations, there are

absentee landlords; there are big landlords.

There are a number of loopholes which are taken advantage of by these so-called politicians and others. They are absentee landlords. We will take care that they will not be nominated on these Committees but real farmer will be nominated.

SHRI K. RAGHUMA REDDY: It is an important question and you have not given me an opportunity for putting a supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER: No. I have already given half an hour for this question. Now, Mr. Raj Kumar Rai.

[*Translation*]

Violation of Labour Laws In Naraina Industrial Area, Delhi

*185. **SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI:** Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the owners of certain industries in Naraina Industrial area, Delhi are allegedly violating the labour laws; and

(b) whether the number of working employees in these industries is more than that shown in the registers; if so, the steps being taken by Government to check such violations?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) and (b). No complaints regarding violation of labour laws in industries in respect of which Central Government is the appropriate Government, have come to the notice of the Central Government as far as the Naraina Industrial Area is concerned. However, Delhi Administration has reported that occasionally complaints have been received by them in respect of the Naraina Industrial Area, Delhi, regarding violation of labour laws, including non-maintenance of

proper records and registers of employees. Due action under the relevant law is taken by the Delhi Administration (as the appropriate Government) against the defaulting employers in such cases.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, from the very beginning, our Government has been laying stress on the dignity of labour. But contrary to it, it is seen that the industrial centres have shown scant regard for it. The children are employed there and the women are subjected to indecent behaviour. I was not expecting such a clear reply from the Minister. But he has saved himself by saying that the matters brought before him are not related to the Central Government but are related to the Delhi Administration. I do not know where lies the line of demarcation between the jurisdiction of the Central Government and the Delhi Administration. I will quote an example. One Lakhai Yadav died on 3.8.87 while working in the Steel Rolling Mill, A-79, Industrial Area, Wazirpur. For two days, on 4th and 5th, his post mortem was not done. Till 6th, when I contacted the D.I.G. Rajendra Mohan on telephone, neither the Labour Inspector nor any factoryman had gone there. In such a case, where there is clear violation of Cr. P.C. and other Acts of Parliament and postmortem is not done for three days, why should the Minister save his skin by shifting the responsibility on the Delhi Administration. If we want to maintain the dignity of labour and safeguard the interests of the workers, the Minister should take the responsibility in a dignified way.

MR. SPEAKER: You may put the question.

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister take my information as authentic and order an enquiry into the cases of old village industries, A-16, Naraina Industrial Area, Cosmic export, A-17, Saraswati Offset Press, A-5, Mani Lal Patel and Co., 21/9, Envoy, Bentex Co. and others mentioned in the list available with us. 150 to 200 workers are working in

each of these companies but with the connivance of Labour Inspector, the strength of workers in each company is shown between 5 to 7 persons. Moreover, the companies are violating the Minimum Wages Act, the Industrial Disputes Act and the Child Labour Act. Well all these things will be enquired into?

[*English*]

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: We have to make a distinction between the Central Government and the State Governments, because there are industries and establishments for which the Central Government is the appropriate Government, and there are industrial establishments where State Governments are the appropriate Governments. So, a distinction has to be drawn.

As far as the Naraina Industrial Area is concerned, there are only two establishments for which Central Government is the appropriate Government, i.e. the Food Corporation of India, and the banks. No industry is under the authority of the Government of India. The rest are under the administrative control of the Delhi Administration. Since the hon. Member's questions were general, Delhi Administration have answered them, and accordingly I have given the answer.

Now that the hon. Member has cited two specific incidents, I will certainly enquire into them.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: In case there is clear violation of Criminal Procedure Code and the post mortem is delayed, does that not tantamount to violation of labour laws of the Government of India? What action the Minister is going to take in such cases?

[*English*]

SHRI P.A. SANGMA: The Minister has no jurisdiction over it. It is the Police which has to prevail, and the courts will have to do it. The Labour Ministry cannot intervene in it. It is a Police case which he has cited, i.e. that

the *post mortem* has not been done, and all that. I cannot say anything about it. I have already said that I will enquire into it i.e. what is the latest position, and inform the hon. Member.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, is the Hon. Minister aware that in many industrial estates, which have been developed by the Government and in which crores of rupees have been invested by the Government, the industries have been closed down and as a result the workers are dying due to starvation and the owners have run away. One such example has come to our notice. In Bihar, there is a place known as Khatwan in my Parliamentary Constituency. The people are dying of hunger there and the owners have run away from there. Those people who had given their land have been deprived of it. Will the Government think over it? Does the Government intend to issue directions to the State Government of Bihar and the other State Governments in this regard?

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: This does not relate to this question; this is not relevant to this question.

Live Telecast of Puri-Car Festival

*187 SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI
SHRI SOMNATH RATH:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any demand for live telecast of the world famous Puri-Car festival; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the existing policy, live TV coverages are limited to events of nationwide topicality such as Republic Day Parade, Independence Day, International Conferences, important sports events etc. For other important Socio-Cultural events, TV reports are prepared for subsequent telecast on Doordarshan. The Puri Car Festival was also similarly telecast in proper manner.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: You have heard the reply. The sum and substance is that the Puri Car Festival, the world famous Puri Car Festival, does not merit or does not qualify for live TV coverage. But whether this reply, I would like to know through you from the hon. Minister, is a negation of the statement he had made, the Minister and made, outside the Parliament after visiting the Puri Temple and having a darshan of Lord Jagannath while talking to the Press: where he had stated clearly that this year there will be live telecast of the Puri Car Festival and also while talking to a group of MPs who met him after the Puri Car Festival. I want to know the reason why the above assurance was not implemented. There he had stated something else. Why is there a lot of difference, a hell and heaven difference between what he has stated in his reply here and what he had stated outside the Parliament while talking to a group of MPs and also to the Press?

MR. SPEAKER: I can hold him responsible when he assures on the Floor of this House. I do not know what he had stated outside the Parliament.

SHRI A.K. PANJA: So far as the first portion is concerned my visit to Lord Jagannath Temple was a personal one. So far as assurances to the Press are concerned, no such assurances was given. What I did say was, when there was so much demand made by the hon. Members, and also the Press people in Cuttack and Bhubaneswar, that I will try, when I go back to Delhi, to discuss it with the group of officers who decide whether it is technically feasible; it was found that there is no microwave link between Puri and Cuttack from which same day deferred could be made telecast that is