

So far as the change in the industrial policy is concerned, the change has been made and some discussion has taken place now after the event has happened. Policy changes have been made. Mere discussion is not enough. The Government must declare here and now that they will not pursue further the anti-national and anti-people policies about which the whole country is in the dark and this is nothing but a sell-out and surrender of our economic interests to those multi-nationals and World Bank and IMF. I am sure many many national, hon. Members on the other side are also perturbed about it. What the trade unions can do? Important policy decisions are taken and changes are effected by which thousands and thousands of workers will be directly affected and they are already affected. They are not taken into confidence before these decisions were taken. Therefore, it is essential that the Government should immediately put a halt to the change of the policies and then have a really meaningful discussion. Mere Prime Minister's offer to have a three hour discussion on the floor of the House is not sufficient. That is why, to register their protest, the union and the workers will go on strike. The strike will take place. There is no doubt about it and it will be a successful strike. INTUC and BMS have combined. This will be a successful strike.

Therefore, I request the Government to seriously ponder over this. Do not make it a prestige issue. Please declare that this has to be put a halt to and no further action will be taken. Then only the situation can be altered and properly considered.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura):
Leader of the House is here. He should respond.

[*Translation*]

SHRI. SHANKERSINH VAGHELA
(Godhra): Mr. Speaker, Sir, about a month

back a devastating fire broke out in the Gandhar Oil Field. There is always a possibility of fire breaking but in places where oil and natural gas are available. The saying "to dig a well when fire breaks out" applies cent percent on O.N.G.C. We have not succeeded in controlling the fire so far. Today, the entire machinery is now engaged on constructing a water tank O.N.G.C. did not have sufficient means to put out the fire. Army was called and the value was removed with the help of an Army Tank. But the fire could not be controlled. It is continuing even today.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the fire mishaps have become a routine feature there. Fire breaks out due to pilferage. It had happened earlier also. The O.N.G.C officers connive to bring down the level of production and officers holding top ranking office such as General Manager etc. quit O.N.G.C. and go to Muscat. The work is left to be done by junior officers so it becomes difficult to control the fire. Our hon. Minister Shri Shankaranand met me. He has visited that place and as such he should tell his experience to the entire House. In the event of such fires, latest fire extinguishing equipments should be made available so the fire is controlled at the earliest. Nearly a month has gone but the fire has not been controlled. It has caused tremendous loss to the country and the people. The hon. Minister should make a statement on it and efforts should be made to ensure that fire mishaps do not take place in future and if at all they take place these may be controlled at the earliest.

SHRI LAL KRISHNA ADVANI (Gandhinagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would urge the hon. Minister to give a detailed statement on it because he has personally visited the site. I had sent three legislators of my party to the site and they have reported that a constable is carrying out the investigation. There is another report which suggests that it may be a case of Sabotage. But it cannot be said with certainty whether it was an accident or

a case of sabotage. I would urge the hon. Minister to take this House into confidence and apprise this august House of the steps taken by O.N.G.C. to contain this fire.

SHRI RABI RAY (Kendrapara): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to raise a very important matter before you. (*Interruptions*) I thank you for expressing grief and sorrow for the victims of UttarKashi on the very first day of session. With a deep sense of remorse, I would like to point out that the Government has not taken the Uttar Kashi and Garhwal earthquake as seriously as it should have been taken. When on earthquake rocked Bihar in 1934 stalwarts like Mahatma Gandhi and Rajendra Prasad worked for the earthquake victims. Mr. Speaker, Sir, a team of Scientists of Indian Agricultural Research Institute had visited that area and I wish to draw the attention of the House and yours towards their report which was published in the newspaper. Shri Arjun Singh is present in this House and the report given by the agricultural scientists who had visited the earthquake site is as follows:

[*English*]

"In the report submitted to the Agriculture Ministry, these teams have pointed out that the farmers in these areas urgently needed financial and material help to repair and reconstruct their fields (terraces) and water channels. They also need seed and other inputs to grow crops in the coming season, the time for the *Rabi* planting having already run out..."

"The UttarKashi region is dotted with natural water channels. This water is used also for irrigating crops by carrying it to the fields through diversion channels. The movement of boulders in the wake of the earth-

quake had disturbed most of these water channels..."

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, these are two recommendations which have been made by the research scientists of Indian Agricultural Research Institute. As such I want to draw the attention of the entire House towards this aspect that a special kind of houses are constructed in the earthquake prone hilly areas and the specialist in the construction of houses in hilly areas is Lorry Baker who stayed there. Through you I want to tell the Government that Lorry Baker is at present staying in Trivendrum. I want to submit that in view of the difficulties being faced in the agricultural work, the Government should pay attention to it and utilize the expertise Larry Baker for constructing special houses. I request Shri Arjun Singh to assure this House that this work will be undertaken because it is a work of public importance.

SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN (Araria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, wheat sowing season is going on in Bihar and fertilizers and other imports are very much needed during sowing season. Without fertilizers and seeds cultivation of wheat cannot be done on one hand certified seeds are not made easily available to the farmers, on the other the crisis of fertilizer is so acute that it seems that wheat cannot be grown in Bihar in this season. As such, I urge the Government to make available adequate quantity of fertilizers and seeds to Bihar.

[*English*]

SHRIP.G.NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam): The Supreme Court has struck down the Karnataka ordinance and upheld the Tribunal's Interim award. The verdict of the Court is unambiguous and clear. However, the Karnataka Government has chosen to file a review petition which is against the