

उनको कर्ज दिया जाता है। इसलिए इस बैंक को और भी मजबूत बनाया जाए और जो दूसरे राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक हैं उनके समान ही इनको सारी सुविधा मुहैया कराई जाए। यहीं हमारी मांग है और हम सभापति महोदय से भी कहना चाहेंगे कि आप भारत सरकार के वित्त मंत्री को कहिए कि इस दिशा में वह आवश्यक कदम उठा कर जो इनके साथ ना-इंसाफी की जा रही है उसको दूर किया जाए। धन्यवाद।

SHRI JIBON ROY : Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Members.

Large-scale Clandestine smuggling of fake Indian currency stamp papers from across Indo-Pak Border and their seizure in Southern parts of the Country

SHRI S. PETER ALPHONSE (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me permission to raise an important issue. Of late, our newspapers do not fail to carry out news items of unearthing of fake currencies to the tune of several crores of rupees. The Government itself has admitted that there is a large-scale illegal induction of fake currency notes. The evil design of Pakistan is to destabilise the Indian economic system. I think, it is a very alarming signal which this House, the country and the Government cannot ignore. Even in Delhi every alternative day, there is a seizure of fake currency notes to the tune of several lakhs of rupees. Last month there were two seizures. In the month Of February, there were two seizures. Day before yesterday, there was another seizure. The other part of the story is, even the Southern part of India is not being spared with regard to illegal induction of fake currency notes originating from Pakistan, Nepal and Sri Lanka. There is also a clandestine movement of certain individuals who are supposed to be the backbone for this illegal system of transporting fake currency notes into the country and thereby destabilising the Indian economy and making people not to believe the very circulation of the Indian currency. That is the state of affairs with regard to the fake currency.

In Mumbai, of late, there was a seizure of Rs.1 crore worth of postal stamps, postal orders and non-judicial stamp papers supposed to have been printed at the Nasik Press. They were seized.

An article had appeared in "India Today". It says, the Indian villages bordering Pakistan, are a common sight to see even a cattle boy carrying a packet of Rs.500 notes in his pocket., I remember how the RDX material

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came to India which made Mumbai to burn. It came to Mumbai with the help of a dishonest Custom official who had allowed the consignment of the RDX material into the country. Now my suspicion has proved correct that the black sheep in the Government service, especially those who are looking after the borders of the country, the officials who are in charge of that particular job are in collusion with the racketeers. Indirectly they are helping them to bring in fake currency notes into the Indian market. In our State, two Custom officials were arrested; and they were found to be in possession of brown sugar and hashish which was worth of several crores of rupees. In Tirunelveli district, the place where I come from, a very strange thing has happened. Only day before yesterday, brown sugar worth of Rs.40 crores was seized near the bus stand itself. Our district is very close to the Sri Lanka border. Only 15 days back there was another seizure of hashish worth Rs.30 crores in a coastal town near Tuticorin. There was also a report of smuggling rice meant for the public distribution system. About 20 containers were filled with thousands of tonnes of rice.

[The Vice-Chairman (Shri Sanatan Bisi) in the Chair]

I do not know why rice should be smuggled in the containers. They were obtained from the Container Corporation of India. I can understand if the rice meant for the public distribution system is smuggled in lorries or even in railway wagons. Now they have hired containers from the Container Corporation of India. The rice is meant for the public distribution system. This rice is being put inside the containers so that it can be moved from one State to another clandestinely. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI P.N. SIVA (Tamil Nadu): How is rice connected to the subject of your Special Mention?

SHRI V.P. DURAISAMY (Tamil Nadu): Why are you deviating from the subject?

SHRI S. PETER ALPHONSE: I am concluding. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI V.P. DURAISAMY: Sir, let him confine himself to the subject.

SHRI S. PETER ALPHONSE: This is also my subject.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANATAN BISI): I will look into it. Please take your seat.

SHRI V.P. DURAISAMY: Let him not deviate.

SHRI S. PETER ALPHONSE: I have not said anything irrelevant.
...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANATAN BISI): All of you, please take your seat. Now, Kindly conclude. Mr. Alphonse.

SHRI S. PETER ALPHONSE: My contention is, why do all these things happen all of a sudden? All of a sudden, fake currencies are coming in the southern most part of Tamil Nadu. I request the Government to look into the matter, espacially in Radhapuram,, Thisaiyanvilai and that area, and take proper action.

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI (Tamil Nadu): He has forgotten to add one sentence. The culprits are arrested and action is taken.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANATAN BISI): Your name is not there. Please sit down Dr. M.N. Das, just association please.

DR. M.N. DAS (Orissa): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I associate myself with the special mention. I just want to say a few words about the smuggling of fake currencies into India and the strong measures which are necessary to stop this process. Sir, for the last 53 years, since the partition of India, on several occasions and several times, India has extended hands of friendship towards Pakistan, but most of the times, Pakistan has extended poisonous hands of hostility towards us. We now see the latest symptom of that. With the best of-intentions, our Government initiated what is called the Samjhauta Express to run from Lahore to Amritsar, to and fro. What for was it done? To give opportunity to the people of both the countries to meet each other and to let Pakistanis come to India to meet their relatives and let Indians go to Pakistan to meet their friends. That was the intention. But should it mean that by this Express, we compromise on the security of India, the internal security of India ? Within the last few weeks only, more than Rs. 26 lakh worth of fake currency has been detected from the train. How long should you allow this to continue? It is not merely fake currency; drugs of various kinds, hashish, heroin, charas, etc. might also be smuggled by that train into India, to flood all over India. Sir, we talk of International terrorism. International terrorism has many faces and many facts. It is not merely killing some people somewhere.

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THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANATAN BISI): Please conclude now.

DB M.N. DAS: It is much more than that—de-vitalising the nation by smuggling and infusing drugs and making the youth addicted to drugs. This process is going on all over India. When would the Government wake up to meet this kind of dangerous threats for internal security by the enemy country? So, I draw the attention of the Government to this particular aspect. Thank you.

Fall in prices of Copra and Coconut due to the inordinate delay in announcing the support price of milling Copra for the year 2000 and difficulties faced by Coconut Cultivators

SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN (Kerala): Mr. Vice-Chairman I am grateful to you for having permitted me to raise an important issue before the House.

The prices of milling copra and coconut have gone down very much during the past one or two months, especially, during the last two weeks. The Government of India used to declare a support price for milling copra year after year. Unfortunately, for the year 2000, the Government of India has not so far declared a support price. There is an inordinate delay in declaring the support price. That is the main reason for the severe fall in prices of milling copra and coconut. As a result of that, lakhs of cultivators are facing innumerable difficulties. Of course, they have all met with financial loss and in the case of a majority of them, even sustenance has become very difficult. Therefore, my request to the Government of India is that the Government of India should immediately come forward to declare a support price for milling copra for this year. That will not be enough. Along with that, while declaring the support price, necessary arrangements should be made to procure coconut at the support price. Normally, the NABARD is being entrusted with the job. The NABARD is being directed to make arrangement for procuring copra. It can be done this time also. Therefore, my request is that the support price should be declared immediately and necessary arrangements should be made for procurement of coconut and milling copra at the declared price.

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the sentiments expressed by my hon'ble colleague, Shri J. Chitharanjan.