

Delhi, for the period from the 1st January, 1996 to 31st December, 1996.

- (b) Explanatory Memorandum giving reasons for non-acceptance of the Commission's advice in respect of cases reported in Chapter 5 of the Report.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1325/98]

REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR AND WELFARE

SHRI JIBON ROY (West Bengal): Sir, I lay on the Table a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Sixth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare on The Beedi Workers Welfare Cess (Amendment) Bill, 1998.

RE. CAUVERY WATER DISPUTE — contd.

SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Sir, the Government has given a clear opinion. *(Interruptions)* It is not correct on their part. *(Interruptions)* The matter is in the court. *(Interruptions)* This only amount to pressure tactics. The Government has given its opinion. *(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Sir, at least, we should be told as to what the Government is going to do. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: No problem is going to be solved by this. *(Interruptions)* It is an emotional factor. *(Interruptions)* It is not in the interest of the country. *(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Let the Minister tell us as to what they are going to do. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: There is no point in raising the matter again and again. *(Interruptions)* It is only the political atmosphere of Tamil Nadu which is coming up again and again in the House. *(Interruptions)* That is not the policy of the Government. It is unfair on the part of my learned colleagues. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Sir, let them tell us what they are doing. We are entitled at least to the information. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: They cannot take decision. ...*(Interruptions)*...

The Government has stated this clearly yesterday. What is making them to raise the issue again and again? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Sir, how can the Government keep quiet like this? There is the Supreme Court order. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: It is their duty to argue before the Supreme Court. This is not the Supreme Court. What are the legal issues? They have to sort them out and make a plea before the Supreme Court. ...*(Interruptions)*..

The hon. Chair and the hon. Government have clearly given their opinion. The decision of the Government is clear. They have stated that they are not going to give any opinion on the matter. The matter is in the Court. Only the Court has to decide about it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Sir, there is total abdication by the Government of its responsibility. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: My respectful submission to the Chair is that by making so much of noise either by me or by my colleagues we cannot solve the problem. The salvation lies elsewhere. ...*(Interruptions)*...

I am not going to make any attribution. ...*(Interruptions)*...

Even in 1799 after the defeat of Tipu Sultan by the Britishers, the Karnataka State became a subsidiary of the Madras Presidency. They took the entire administration of Karnataka. They created more irrigation facilities. They are enjoying it ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Sir, in protest against the attitude of the Government, we are walking out. ...*(Interruptions)*...

(At this stage some hon. Members left the chamber.)

SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: It is a matter of evidence to be adduced.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

Acute Inconvenience caused to General Public due to Strike by Hospital Staff in Delhi

Dr. MANMOHAN SINGH (Assam): Mr. Chairman, Sir, because of the strike in the Government Hospitals in Delhi since Monday, the general public in the metropolitan city of Delhi and its surrounding areas is being put to a grave inconvenience.

This, of course, is not the first occasion when the hospitals in the capital city have been paralysed. A few months ago there was a strike by nurses. It appears to me that the Government needs to adopt a more coherent strategy to deal with the problems of industrial relations. The nurses' strike then the postal employees' strike and now the strike in the hospitals do not reflect well on the efficacy of our system of managing our country's industrial relations. So, I request the hon. Minister concerned to take such action as is necessary to ensure that the strike is ended and that the grave inconvenience that the people of Delhi and its surrounding areas are being put to is brought to an end.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Duraisamy to associate. Not present. Shri Gurudas Das Gupta.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the opinion expressed by the Leader of the Opposition. I am constrained to say: what has happened to this Government, and what is happening to this Government?

SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES (Goa): It is in hibernation.

SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI: (Uttar Pradesh): It has to be hospitalised.

MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE (Maharashtra): It is in the BIFR.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Sir, I do not know whether it is in the BIFR or it is hibernation or it needs to be hospitalised. But I do know that the Government is completely failing in the discharge of its duties and responsibilities. I have no idea why this strike has precipitated. Only a few days ago there was a strike by the postal employees. Before that there was another strike. Today thousands of college teachers are on the streets of Delhi, demanding a reasonable attitude from the Government. Why does the Government find itself in a position of confrontation? That is my short point. Why is the Government on all occasions or on most of the occasions finds itself in a situation of confrontation? Why is the Government not a little more responsive? Dr. Manmohan Singh has not chosen the right word. It is not a 'coherent policy'. It is totally an unresponsive policy. It is a policy without conciliation. Today morning, a threat has been issued by the Government that they would take steps to discipline the workers. Only the other day we heard them talking of taking the help from the military. Today we have again heard them talking of taking a very stern action. This is all an anti-employees' attitude. This is an expressed of definite weakness. It does not show any strength. The strength arises from sagacity. The strength does not arise from weakness. It speaks of the weakness of the Government which is failing to sort