

Food Ministry for approval, they are not accepting but negating the demand. Because of this attitude, the management of the Food Corporation of India negotiated with the trade unions keeping in view the parameters of the Food Corporation of India. During the course of the negotiations, the unions have dropped several genuine demands and have signed the MoU. The Food Corporation of India employees have been denied several advantages which have been settled in the memorandum of understanding. This amounts to dilution of the system of bipartite settlement in public sector undertakings. Because of the non-implementation of the MoU, the rights of about 50,000 employees have been denied. Their grievances have not been redressed. The Ministry of Food has also discriminated against the employees of the Food Corporation of India compared to the wage proposals approved by the same Ministry in respect of the employees of the Central Warehousing Corporation. The entire categories of the Food Corporation of India are very much agitated over the totally unhelpful and discriminatory attitude of the Ministry towards the Food Corporation of India.

Madam, all the recognised trade unions have given a call for a countrywide strike on 10.5.1997 followed by the boycott of holiday-duty on 10.5.1997 and 11.5.1997, demanding of the Government the immediate implementation of the memorandum of understanding dated 19.6.1996 with backwages and arrears.

Thank you, Madam.

**RE. GRANT OF STATEHOOD TO  
UNION TERRITORY OF PON-  
DICHERRY**

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Pondicherry): Madam Deputy Chairman, thank you for giving me this opportunity to raise an important issue relating to Pondicherry.

Madam, about 10 years back, in this august House, I raised the issue of grant-

ing statehood to my Union Territory of Pondicherry. Madam, the reply given by the bureaucracy at that time was that the population criterion and the financial viability were the main bottlenecks. Madam, the north-eastern States like Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura and others were earlier Union Territories; they were granted Statehood in the last ten years. Goa was also granted. The population criterion was fulfilled and we have given financial viability to the Government of India. When Shri Rajiv Gandhi was the Prime Minister, I raised an issue before him and I was assured that after considering the Union Territory status to Delhi, this issue would be considered. Delhi also became a Union Territory four years back ..... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI (Utter Traded): It became a State in a limited sense.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Limited powers were given to them. Madam, when the last Government headed by Narasimha Raoji was in power, he called a meeting with the Chief Minister of Pondicherry. We were also present, the Home Minister was there. It was assured that the Central Government would bring a bill in this august House for granting Statehood. Madam there is a State Legislature there, there is a Council of Ministers there, but without powers! The former Prime Minister Shri Deve Gowda, said in the House that Cabinet decisions had been overruled. Madam, in our Union Territory the Cabinet takes a decision, but the Governor has the authority to overrule the Cabinet's decision. Then why should we have elected representatives? Then why should we have a Legislative Assembly? Madam, the bureaucracy decides; the Minister replies in the Assembly, but there is no accountability for the bureaucracy! Madam, it is a dichotomy that the Ministers have no direct control over the bureaucracy there. The IAS officers are under the control of

the House Ministry. Above all, the hon. Home Minister, when I brought a Private Member's bill in the House, gave us a categorical assurance that though the bureaucracy was against it, he was prepared to consider the demand and concede Statehood to the Union Territory of Pondicherry. Several Resolutions were passed, unanimous Resolutions were passed in the State Assembly. This is the wish of the people of Pondicherry. When they are giving a small Union Territory like Andaman and Nicobar are Legislative Assembly, we welcome it. A meeting was called and it was decided there. It is a Territory having a population of only 3 lakhs! When there is a population of ten lakhs, when we have a Legislative As-sembly, why don't you give the elected representatives the powers to decide the fate of the people when the people have reposed faith in them? Therefore, it is high time that the demand of the people was conceded. Madam, I demand of the Central Government that they should concede the demand of the people of the Union Territory of Pondicherry for Statehood to Pondicherry. The Union Territory status is putting them in a great hardship\*. They can't decide what they have to do for the people of the State. Therefore, I request the Government of India, especially the Prime Minister and the Home Minister, to bring a Bill in this august House in the next Session of Parliament so that the Union Territory of Pondicherry gets Statehood like the other Union Territories of the North-East and Goa have got.

**SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATUR-VEDI:** Madam. I support the submission made by Mr. Narayanasamy, but he should also plead for full Statehood to Delhi,

**THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:** It is reciprocal.

**SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:** Thank you, thank you. Reciprocal! Madam, I definitely support them because the con-

cept of Union Territory should not there. I support them.

**RE. NON-GAZETTING OF DELHI  
RENT ACT AND BYPASSING OF PAR-  
LIAMENT ON SUGAR EXPORT PROM-  
OTION REPEAL BILL**

**श्री सोमपाल** (उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभापति महोदया, मैं आपकी अनुमति से संसद के संज्ञान में जो मामला लाना चाहता हूँ, वह संसद की विधायी शक्तियों, संसद की सर्वोच्चतम, समप्रभुता और विधान प्रक्रिया से संबंधित मौलिक प्रश्न है और यह बात यहां लाने का अवसर क्यों उत्पन्न हुआ, उसके संबंध में दो घटनाओं की चर्चाओं करना चाहूंगा। आज के दैनिक समाचार पत्र "टाइम्स ऑफ इंडिया" के मुख्य प्रष्ठ पर एक समाचार छपा है जिसमें दिल्ली उच्च न्यायालय ने केन्द्रीय सरकार को.....

**उपसभापति:** आप कान्टीन्यू करें। आप बीच में डिस्टर्ब न हों इसलिए मैं पहले हाउस के सामने रखूँ कि एक मिनट के बाद हाउस तो लंच के लिए ऐडजर्न होना है।

If the House so agrees, we can dispense with the lunch hour and finish this. There are seven Special Mentions and we can finish them also.

**SYED SIBTEY RAZI** (Uttar Pradeh) Yes, Madam.

**THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:** I have the consent of the House. Okay.

1.00 P.M.

**श्री सोमपाल:** उपसभापति महोदया, बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद। मुख्. प्रष्ठ पर यह समाचार छपा है कि दिल्ली उच्च न्यायालय ने केन्द्र सरकार की इस विषय में बहुत तीखी आलोचना की है कि इस संसद के द्वारा 1995 में पारित दिल्ली किराया कानून अधिनियम की क्रियान्विति अभी तक नहीं हुई है। यह कानून लोक सभा और राज्य सभा दोनों के द्वारा क्रमशः 29 मई और 3 जून, 1995 को पारित किया गया था। उसके पश्चात महामहिम राष्ट्रपति जी ने 23 अगस्त, 1995 को इस विधेयक को अपनी स्वीकृति प्रदान कर दी थी लेकिन आज तक इस अधिनियम को राजपत्र में सरकार ने अधिसूचित नहीं किया है। इसका परिणाम यह हो रहा है कि राजधानी के नागरिक, किरायेदार और मकान मालिक दोनों असमंजस और दुविधा की स्थिति में हैं। दिल्ली उच्च न्यायालय को दी गई सूचना के अनुसार जो कि एक लोक हित याचिका के माध्यम से न्यायालय के समकक्ष लाई गई है।