

The workers are the worst affected by this. The Government is always saying that it is providing financial aid for revival of sick private companies and PSUs. It is true in words, but the policy has not been implemented practically till date. The Government is doing well in closing the indigenous industries through the BIFR. This is one way. The other way is that in the name of golden handshake each and every day thousands and thousands of workers are being thrown out on the streets. This is true of PSUs also. Because of the indifferent attitude of the Centre, lakhs and lakhs of workers in private sector industries are being retrenched. What plan has the Centre got to protect these workers? Nothing is there.

Sir, though you, I want to say that when international treaties are affecting our society, our economy, our trade, our defence etc., they should be ratified before they are implemented.

The people of India in our democratic country should be ruled by the Indian Government which is elected by the people of India. Foreign countries should not be allowed to encroach on the sovereignty of our nation. This is for your kind information. It is my bounden duty to record the strong and bold action taken by our hon ex-Chief Minister. The ex-Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu filed a case in a judicial forum. When India signed the GATT, opposing that, our ex-Chief Minister filed a case. This is an example. The case has reflected the feeling of the people of the nation. The case has been filed to show that the State's right should not be curtailed. My view is that without the control of the Parliament over international contracts and treaties, our nation's sovereign rights and our Fundamental Rights, provided in our Constitution will be pledged to the supremacy of international agencies. Hence every contract and treaty entered into with any international agency must be subjected to the security ring of the Indian Parliament. So, this amendment is very essential. The Members, who are now part of the Central Government, were in the Opposition when we expressed these views on that day. I hope their views will not change now. It is high time this Government came forward to accept the amendment brought here

by the hon. Member, Shri Baby. With these few words I conclude, and on behalf of my party, AIADMK, I support this Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI) It is already 5 o'clock and the Members would like to seek clarifications on the statement on air crash.

श्री मोहम्मद सलीम (पश्चिमी बंगाल): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैंने आप के पास एक रिक्वेस्ट रखी थी।

[[شری محمد سلیم : آپ سبھا اڈیشن میں نے آپ کے پاس ایک ریکویسٹ رکھی تھی]]

एअरक्राफ्ट डिसास्टर के रिप्लाय के पहले ही बोलना चाहते हैं?

[[شری محمد سلیم : اس سے پہلے ہی بولنا چاہئے]]

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRILOKINATH CHATURVEDI): Mr. Salim had been to Jammu and Kashmir. Probably he has seen something of the blast and wants to make a reference of it. He had made a request for it earlier. Shri Salim.

RE. BLASTS NEAR MAZAR OF SHER-E-KASHMIR AND AT OTHER PLACES IN JAMMU AND KASHMIR ON 5.12.1996.

SHRI MD. SALIM (West Bengal): When the blast took place yesterday morning, I immediately rushed to the place. The CPI(M) meeting was being held at Kulgaon on 4th December. In the blast eight people died. After reaching Srinagar, I found there was another blast near SMHS hospital in the bunker. The Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, Farooq Abdullah, was to go near the Mazar of Sher-e-Kashmir, because that was his birth anniversary. There too a blast took place.

† [] Transliteration in Arabic script.

What I want to mention is that we should be sincere and serious. The people of Jammu and Kashmir, with a lot of expectation, have voted and a popular Government has been installed there. The people there are not scared. The disgruntled elements are trying to create mischief there. But, through this House, we should make it clear that we want peace and development there. The people are also aspiring for long-overdue development. The State Government should be supported by the Central Government so that their grievances are redressed. The Central Government should extend all help to the elected Government to fulfil the aspirations of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. We must also condemn these series of blast so that when the militants want to recover the lost ground, they should not be allowed to do that. Through this House, we should clearly express our desire for peace and development. We should ensure that no such incident recurs there.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI): This morning, during Zero Hour also, there was a reference and I think the subject that you have mentioned is very serious. The entire House shares the feelings. I think, we should not go to the next business.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Pondicherry): Sir, the whole House associates itself with this.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI): Yes, the whole House associates itself with this. A mention of it was also made during Zero Hour. We should try to bring peace and development there and help the State Government to maintain peace and stability of the country and also of the State.

Now, the Members would seek clarifications on the statement made by Shri C.M. Ibrahim, the Minister for Information and Broadcasting regarding the mid-air collision between the Saudi Arabian and Kazakhstan aircraft on 12th November. A number of hon. Members have given their names and some of them are present. Shri Ibrahim has been here for a long time. I request the hon. Members to seek clarifications briefly.

Shri V. Narayanasamy.

CLARIFICATIONS ON THE STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Mid-Air Collision between Saudi Arabian and Kazakhstan Aircraft on 12th November 1996 Near Delhi—(Contd.)

SHRI NARAYANASAMY (Pondicherry): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity. The hon. Minister, in his statement, had expressed his anguish and sorrow at the mid-air collision that took place between Saudi Arabian and Kazakh aircraft which resulted in death of 349 people near Delhi. When this news came, the entire nation was shocked. This horrifying incident took place when the Saudia aircraft was taking off from the Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi and the Kazakh aircraft was landing.

I would like to place it on record that though the Government, the Opposition parties and the people in particular were really feeling sad over the incident we could not discuss it immediately after the statement was made by the Minister in this House. We could not discuss this matter ten days back. I feel that this House should have considered this serious incident on a priority basis. We should have given importance to this subject. That is my first observation.

Sir, I would like to seek clarifications from the hon. Minister on two or three important aspects very briefly. Number one, reports appeared in the newspapers that there was a direct collision between both the aircraft. There was a mid-air collision when one aircraft was flying at an altitude of 15,000 feet and descending, and the other aircraft was taking off and flying at an altitude of 14000 feet.

There was another report which says one aircraft hit the wing of the other aircraft and, therefore, this disaster took place. This is sending conflicting signals to the people. Therefore, I feel that the hon. Minister would be the right person to inform us about the exact nature of the accident.

Our hearts go to the families who have lost their kith and kin. There were reports that Captains of both the aircraft found that a collision was going to take place and the debris would fall on some villages. So, they diverted