

حکومت نے مائٹرائی کو دیئے ہیں وہیں بہت کافی
ہیں۔ خواہ حکومت مائٹرائی کو معاف کر دے
تو زیادہ بہتر ہو گا۔ [شکریہ]

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We have to adjourn the House now. I still have ten names more. Some of them are not present here at the moment. When we reassemble at 2 p.m. between 2 and 2.30 p.m. -- because we have to take up the Private Members' Business at 2.30 p.m. -- within half an hour, we will complete the Special Mentions. Since there would be only half an hour, please try to be considerate towards your own colleagues and be as brief as possible.

Thank you. The House is adjourned till 2 p.m.

The House then adjourned for lunch at two minutes past one of the clock. The House reassembled, after lunch, at four minutes past two of the clock. The Vice-Chairman (Shri Satish Agarwal in the Chair.

SPECIAL MENTIONS—Contd.

श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम: मेरा एक सुझाव यह है कि यह बीणा वर्मा जीका जो विषयक है..

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सतीश अग्रवाल): अभी तो स्पेशल मेंशंस है पहले। वह दाईं बजे है।

Payment of Compensation for the Land Acquired by Neyveli Lignite Corporation

SHRI R. MARGABANDU (Tamil Nadu): Hon. Vice-chairman, Sir I would like to bring to the notice of this august House the unjustifiable, unlawful and inhuman attitude of the Neyveli Lignite Corporation, which is a Central Government institution.

Sir, in the Year 1978, lands in the South Arcot district were acquired by the Government of Tamil Nadu and their possession handed over to the Neyveli Lignite Corporation. At that time, the Corporation gave three promises of job opportunities, alternative house-sites and settlement of claims.

Sir, in the year 1978, the persons were rendered homeless and landless, but they were not given proper compensation.

They requested the Government to make a reference under section 18 of the Land Acquisition Act for enhanced compensation. The cases were referred in the year 1978. For about 18 years, even till this day, these cases have not been dealt with, and no compensation has been awarded. They have been crying. Several litigants have been rendered houseless, and they are starving in the streets. The demand of the public as well as the political parties to consider job opportunities for them has not been conceded even till this day.

As a matter of fact, in a batch of cases, the Madras High Court awarded compensation of Rs. 36,000/- for the wet land, 30 per cent solatium, 9 per cent and 15 per cent interest. Now, it comes to Rs. 1,28,000/- for the wet land. A meeting was also convened by the Chief Justice of the Madras High Court, in which the NLC representatives, the claimants and the advocates of claimants appeared, and the Chief Justice advised them to settle the claims as per the High Court judgement. Even after 18 years, the NLC people are not willing to settle the claims, but, so far, they have spent about Rs. 6.5 crores on the litigation. The people were dragged from the Sub-Court to the District Court, to the High Court and to the Supreme Court. Rs. 6.5 crores have already been spent on the litigation itself by a group of officials on a group of advocates, but they are not interested in settling the matter of the poor claimants. As a matter of fact, these people have been defrauded. After the advice was given by the Chief Justice, one official, an Executive Engineer, has been going from village to village. He is terrorising the people. he is saying, "For 18 years we have dragged the case in the courts. Still you are not able to see the colour of the coin. If you persist in continuing the case, we will drag you up to the Supreme Court. Perhaps, this generation will not see the colour of the coin. Perhaps, the next generation may see the colour of the coin. Perhaps, the next generation may also not see the colour of the coin." Such a situation has come.

The High Court granted Rs. 1,30,000/- per acre. The NLC is terrorising the people, and it is persuading them to accept Rs. 40,000/- per acre. This is not even one-third of the compensation offered by the High Court. The NLC people are not respecting the Court verdict also.

As a matter of fact, about 15 MPs from the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha have signed and submitted a memorandum to the Minister of Coal to discuss this matter and to decide this matter. It is painful to see that even such letters which have been given to the Minister of Coal, have not seen the light of the day, but he has not taken care of it. He has not given any instructions to the NLC to settle the claims as per the High Court judgement.

So, Sir, this is a fraud on the part of the Government and the NLC to defraud the common people of their legitimate claim. They have been deprived of their land. They are in the streets, and they are starving. I pray and request this House to constitute an enquiry committee to look into the matter, why NLC is not abiding the Court judgement, why it is refusing to pay the sum. I find that they are spending crores of rupees on the litigation. They deem it as a small matter. A summary procedure under section 18 of the L.A. Act should be adopted. This matter has taken 18 years. Till now they have not been able to sort it out one way or the other, by putting one plea or the other. The NLC is dragging on the matter in courts and, ultimately, the poor claimants are made to accept not even one-third of the compensation awarded by the High Court.

Thank you, Sir.

ITC'S COLONIAL HANG-OVER AS REFLECTED IN ITS MEMORANDUM AND ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

SHRI SANJAY DALMIA (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, with great regret and shame I want to bring to your notice and, thorough you, to the notice of the House the Memorandum and the Articles of Association of an Indian company of which a larger shareholder

is the Government of India through its financial institutions.

Sir, I would like to read a portion of their Memorandum and Articles of Association. It says:

"To obtain any order of His Majesty in Council or any Act or ordinance of any colonial Parliament"—I would like to stress on the words 'Colonial Parliament', which is us—"or any Legislature, Assembly or Council or any provisional or other order of any proper authority in the United Kingdom or elsewhere for enabling the company to carry out any object into effect etc. etc."

Now, Sir, this is a company of which the Government of India is a larger shareholder. And after we threw out the British 48 years back, this Indian company has not changed the Articles and Objects: and it provides that as far as they are concerned, the real masters are there, and, Sir, we are a part of this 'colonial Parliament'. Sir, I think this is an insult to our country; this is an insult to our Parliament. I demand strict action to be taken against the Officers who are running this Company, who have made these Objects and Articles incorporated in the Company. The biggest shock is that this is being done in spite of the fact that the nominees of financial institutions are on the Board of this Company and it is the responsibility of the Board to review the Articles and to frame new Articles and a new Memorandum.

Sir, whenever there is an insult to the National Flag, to the nation or to the Parliament, it becomes imperative to move a privilege motion against such guilty officers or company. I would request you to kindly allow me, in view of the seriousness and the insult to our Parliament, which is being called by the name of 'colonial Parliament', to move a privilege motion against this Company and the officials and Directors of this Company.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SATISH AGARWAL): No permission is required. You can move, if you like.