

[Shri Inder Kumar Gujral]

This, I think, further reinforces the point made by my friend to which I am a co-signatory. I would submit to you and, through you, to the Chairman to kindly see how the privilege of this House is infringed.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay, I will do that. Now, Shri Jibon Roy.

RE. DEMAND FOR REVIVAL AND MODERNISATION OF FERTILISER PLANTS AT VARIOUS PLACES

SHRI JIBON ROY (West Bengal): Madam, through you I wish to draw the attention of the Finance Ministry and the Fertilizers and Chemicals Ministry to the serious developments that are taking place in the fertilizer industry. The fertilizer industry is under a serious crisis.

(THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS) (SHRI S.B. CHAWAN): Madam, we had already taken a decision that Special Mentions should be taken up in the evening.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: They are making during Zero Hour at 1.00 p.m.

SHRI JIBON ROY: Earlier the crisis concentrated mainly in the areas where 100% capacity utilisation was could not be attained due to technological constraints. Now it is engulfing the areas where 100% to 120% Capacity utilisation is being implemented.

Almost one-third people belonging to this industry have come to Delhi and Courted arrest demonstrating before Parliament today. Their demands are no wage demands, no economic demands. Their demands are three. Firstly, they want that the existing plants be revived and modernised. Secondly, the retention price particularly for phosphatic fertilizers be increased keeping in view the cost of production and the capacity utilisation of the plant. Thirdly, dumping from USA must be stopped. These are the three main demands. To voice these three demands, they have come to Delhi and

demonstrated. The existing fertilizer plants are not running because want of urgent decision by the Government. The Government has not taken any decision at all. That is the biggest problem. I am really concerned with this. These plants are running on an ad hoc basis for the last twelve years. If immediate steps are not taken, entire industry will collapse bringing total disaster for agriculture.

Nearly 12 committees were constituted to go into the question of revival of old plants such as Haldia, Gorkhpur, Durgapur, Barauni, Nampur, Sindri, Talcher, Ramagundam etc.

[The Vice-Chairman Syed Sibtey Razi] in the Chair

Unfortunately, during this period no Government has taken interest in this. During the last twelve years, 12 Ministers were changed in the Ministry of Fertilizers and Chemicals. There was no Minister to go through the papers. Twelve chairman were changed in the Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation. Because of the utter negligence of the Government, all these plants suffered.

Since last eight years the commissioning work at Haldia has been closed and three years back the Gorakhpur plant was closed down and for the past four months, all production in the Durgapur Barauni and Namrup-II have totally been stopped.

Sir, because of the dumping and because of the heavy rise in the prices of inputs for phosphatic fertilizers there is a problem and raw materials are not available. America is selling its fertilizer in our country at the less than its own country. The Government of India has not taken any decision on the matter of revival of the plants and it is thinking in terms of having fertilizers through imports, closing down the existing factories. This will bring disaster to our fertilizer industry and to our entire agriculture. For the moment, America is having plenty of stocks of fertilizers and about forty per cent of their stocks is

being disposed of in India and China who are the two takers of the American fertilizer. If proper steps are not taken, our factories will collapse completely and then prices will go up and we will have to play into the hands of the imperialist powers. Therefore, I would like to make a submission to the Government. Our officers, technicians and the trade unions together have prepared a plan for the revival of the existing plants costing only Rs. 410 crores and the investment will be only around Rs. 2000 per tonne. If new plants are built cost will go up to Rs. 20,000 per tonne investment, I would, therefore, request the Government to consider this plan. Till such time as the revival plan is not accepted, the demand of the trade unions is to increase the retention price for phosphatic fertilizers and to stop all dumping and provide some working capital for the old units to continue operation production.

With these words, Sir, I draw the attention of the Government to this serious problem and request the Government to do something immediately.

THE VICE CHAIRMAN (SYED SIBTEY RAZI): Now, Mrs. Sarala Maheshwari.

SHRI E. BALANANDAN (Kerala): Sir, just one minute
....(Interruptions)

This is a national question and the present policy needs correction
....(Interruptions)....

SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I also want to say something on this. I have taken the permission of the Chair.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SYED SIBTEY RAZI): No, I am sorry, I do not have any information.

Yes, Mrs. Sarala Maheshwari.

RE. NEED FOR TREATING YOUNG SCIENTISTS AND RESEARCH FELLOWS ON PAR WITH GOVERNMENT SERVANTS

श्रीमती सरला माहेश्वरी (पश्चिमी बंगाल): माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय मैं आपके/सदन का और सरकार का ध्यान हमारे देश के उन युवा वैज्ञानिकों की ओर दिलाना चाहती हूँ जो सरकार की नीतियों के चलते आज बहुत ही मानसिक यंत्रणा की स्थिति में जी रहे हैं। उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, अक्सर हम इस सदन में ब्रेन-ड्रेन या प्रतिभा-पलायन की चर्चा करते हैं कि हमारे देश से प्रतिभा का पलायन हो रहा है, लेकिन हमारे देश के वे युवा वैज्ञानिक वे शोधार्थी, जिन्होंने यहां रहकर, हिन्दुस्तान में रहकर अपने देश की सेवा का संकल्प लिया है, उन युवा वैज्ञानिकों और शोधार्थियों के प्रति हमारा देश क्या कर रहा है, हमारी सरकार क्या कर रही है, यह हमारे लिए चिंता का विषय कभी नहीं बनता।

इसलिए, उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहूंगी कि हमारे देश के युवा वैज्ञानिकों का जो संगठन है, उस संगठन ने इस महीने की 8 तारीख से लगातार आन्दोलन चलाने का निर्णय किया है। उनकी मांग यह है कि पिछले पांच-दस वर्षों में हमारे देश की विभिन्न वैज्ञानिक संस्थाओं में काम करने के बावजूद जब वे अपना शोध कार्य पूरा करके इन शोध संस्थानों से बाहर आते हैं तो उनके पास कोई काम नहीं होता, वे सड़कों पर भटकने को बाध्य होते हैं, बेरोजगारी की तलवार उन पर लटकती रहती है। तो, उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा यह कहना है कि वे शोधार्थी और वैज्ञानिक जो पांच-दस वर्ष तक हमारे देश के विभिन्न शोध संस्थानों में शोध कार्य करते हैं, लेकिन हमारी सरकार उनके क़ायों को बिल्कुल, गंभीरता से नहीं लेती। इसलिए उनकी मांग है कि पांच-दस वर्षों तक विभिन्न शोध संस्थाओं में काम करने के बाद जब वे बाहर आएँ तो उनके साथ सरकारी कर्मचारियों की तरह व्यवहार किया जाना चाहिए।

उनको वे तमाम सुविधाएँ देनी चाहिए जो कि तमाम नियमित सरकारी कर्मचारियों को मिलती है। इसके साथ ही उन्होंने यह भी कहा है कि अगर सरकार के लिए यह संभव नहीं है कि उनको नियमित सरकारी कर्मचारियों की संज्ञा दी जाए तो सरकार उनकी इस मांग को भी मान सकती है कि उन्हें पोस्ट डॉक्ट्रल फेलोशिप के लिए आगे