

श्री कैलाश नारायण सारंग : डकैती में सौ करोड़ के बहुमूल्य पत्थर लूटे गए। मेरी मांग है कि इस सारी डकैती की जांच सी०बी०आई० से कराई जाए क्योंकि इस प्रकरण में केन्द्रीय मंत्री सहित इकाई नेता के संलग्न होने की चर्चा है। पुलिस ने स्वयं सी०बी०आई० जांच की सार्वजनिक मांग की है। शीघ्र ही उन खदानों से इन पत्थरों को निकालने की प्रक्रिया शुरू की जाए ताकि देश की आर्थिक दशा के सुधारने में इसका उपयोग हो। यह मेरी वित्त मांग है आपके माध्यम से। (व्यवधान)

श्री कमल मोरारका (राजस्थान) : सी०बी०आई० पर भरोसा है आपको ?

श्री कैलाश नारायण सारंग : करना पड़ेगा। (व्यवधान)

श्री लक्ष्मी राम अप्पवाल (मध्य प्रदेश) : यह प्रश्न बड़ा गम्भीर है। छत्तीसगढ़ से बहुमूल्य रत्नों की इस प्रकार से चोरी हो रही है इसकी सी०बी०आई० से जांच कराई जाए। (व्यवधान)

श्री रामदास अप्पवाल (राजस्थान) : यह जो उल्लेख किया गया है मैं इसमें सहयोगी बनना चाहता हूँ। और यह भी निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ। (व्यवधान)

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Pondicherry) : During the B.J.P. regime, how much illegal mining had taken place ? That has to be investigated first. You have to find out how many diamonds were taken away. (Interruptions)

Plight of lakhs of Sericulturists due to Fall in Prices of Cocoons

SHRI PRAGADA KOTAIAH (Andhra Pradesh) : Madam Deputy Chairman, thank you for giving me an opportunity to make a Special Mention on the misery of millions of sericulturists. Madam, the Government had set up the Central Silk Board to encourage the production of raw silk

of different varieties for conversion into fabrics, both for internal consumption and for export to countries abroad.

India is one of the important countries in the world producing raw silk on a large scale. Sericulture is a most labour-intensive and agro-based cottage industry, providing gainful employment to nearly four million people, particularly, in rural India. Of this, a sizeable number of workers belong to economically backward sections of our society, including Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and also women.

According to the Ministry of Textiles, nearly 3.5 lakh hectares of land is under mulberry cultivation. The production of raw silk in the country in 1991-92 was nearly 11,000 tonnes. The production of raw silk in the year 1992-93 rose to 14,000 tonnes. This means, the growth in production of raw silk was nearly 30 per cent, but the growth in export of silk cloth was less than 15 per cent. The Ministry of Textiles, in one of their reports, had said that production of raw silk was sufficient enough to meet the requirements of handlooms and powerlooms engaged in the production of silk cloth which are marketed both within the country and outside. Perhaps, this was the reason why out of 36 tonnes of raw silk imported in 1991-92 by the Central Silk Board, 4 tonnes of raw silk are still held in stock in Madras without finding a buyer.

While this has been the position in our sericulture industry, the advance licence scheme, in practice, has brought in misery to millions of our rural people employed in sericulture, particularly, in Andhra Pradesh. Andhra Pradesh occupies the second place in the country in cultivation of mulberry and production of raw silk. Accord-

ding to the Commissioner of Sericulture of Andhra Pradesh, an extent of 2 lakh acres of land is under mulberry cultivation. Most of the farmers employed in sericulture some under the category of small and marginal farmers. They come, particularly, from the drought-prone areas of Rayalaseema area of the State.

Prices of silk cocoon produced by the farmers depend on the prevailing rates of raw silk. Any trader who comes forward with a commitment to export silk products worth Rs. 200 is permitted to import silk yarn worth Rs. 100, free of customs duty, on condition that the imported silk yarn shall be used for production of silk cloth to be exported by him. Under the advance licence scheme, according to Customs authorities, more than 2,500 tonnes of China silk yarn were imported by traders—number not known—from Taiwan, at administered prices. The silk yarn imported by the trader has to be used for production of silk cloth to be exported by him. Because of the absence of pre-shipment inspection of export of silk cloth, it is not known whether the imported silk yarn was utilised for production of the exportable silk cloth. The exportable silk cloth mostly consists of furnishing fabrics, for the production of which imported China silk is not suitable. Indian spun silk is required for production of exportable silk furnishing fabrics. Added to this there is a large-scale smuggling of silk from Tibet. The cumulative effect of all these is the fall in prices of silk cocoons from Rs. 150 per kg. to Rs. 67 a kg. causing misery to millions of men and women employed in mulberry cultivation and production of raw silk.

It is high time that the Government of India introduced pre-shipment

inspection of the exportable silk fabrics as usual and restricted the import of silk yarn to the extent necessary for production of exportable silk cloth to protect the interest of the mulberry cultivators and producers of silk yarn.

It is also necessary to fix a support price to the cocoons to enable producers to have remunerative prices for their produce.

Madam, since a serious situation is fast developing in sericulture, I request that the Government should move fast in the matter to avert untoward incidents.

प्रो० आई० जी० सनवी (कर्णाटक) : महोदया, मैं इनके विचारों से सहमत हूँ।

Illegal Coal Mining in Hazaribagh District of Bihar

श्री यशवन्त सिन्हा (बिहार) : मैडम, मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार का ध्यान जो बिल्कुल घड़ले के साथ कोयले की चोरी हो रही है, खास करके हजारीबाग जिले में जो एक महत्वपूर्ण कोयला प्रोजेक्ट करने वाला क्षेत्र है उसके बारे में है। वहाँ पर (व्यवधान)

उपसमापित : कोयला सब लोग इस्तेमाल करते हैं, हीरा कुछ लोग करते हैं।

श्री यशवन्त सिन्हा : हीरा बी०जे०पी० वाले करते हैं।

मैडम, मैं यह कह रहा था कि चोरी घड़ले के साथ हो रही है। प्रशासन वालों को उसमें पूरी मिलीभगत है। जी०टी० रोड पर जितने पुलिस स्टेशन हैं, उनके सारे अफसर हैं या इंचार्ज हैं, उसमें वे मिले हुए हैं। प्रशासन के ऊपर के लोग भी मिले हुए हैं। कहने वालों का तो यह भी कहना है कि बहुत से जो वहाँ के लीडिंग राजनीतिज्ञ हैं, ऊँचे नेता हैं, वे भी मिले हुए हैं। बहुत दिनों से यह चल रहा है। लेकिन तकलीफ की बात यह है कि जल पिछली