

उसके उत्पादन को करके, पूर्वांचल का जो सार्वजनिक उपक्रम एक बहुत बड़ा उद्योग है उसको भी चला करके और लोगों के मन में जो एक आशका बरबोर पैदा हो रही है कि 6,000 कर्मचारी चले जायेंगे, और साथ ही साथ इंडास्ट्रियल वे में भी कितने लोगों को काम होता है, विकास का एक आधार बनना है, इसलिए मेरा आग्रह है कि इस फैक्टरी को जल्द से जल्द चलाया जाये। कर्मट्री ने एक यह सुझाव भी दिया है कि नेपथा के आधार पर भी वहाँ एक उद्योग लगाया जा सकता है। साथ ही साथ जो बाम्बे हाई गैस है जो सुल्तानपुर तक आ चुकी है, जो करीब 150 किलोमीटर की दूरी पर है, उसने यह भी सुझाव दिया है कि उससे भी वहाँ से पाईप लाइन बिछा करके और गैस को ला करके एक नया उद्योग लगाया जा सकता है। इसलिये अगर वह संभव नहीं हो तो नेपथा के आधार पर दूसरा प्लांट लगाया जा सकता है। इस दिशा में सरकार का ध्यान जाना चाहिए कि जब तक यह नया प्लांट वहाँ पर नहीं लगाया जाता है, इसको लगाने में करीब 5-6 साल लगेंगे, उस समय तक की अवधि के लिए सरकार को फंड की व्यवस्था करनी चाहिए, इतना पैसा देना चाहिए ताकि बंद फैक्टरी चलाई जा सके और लोगों को भी इस बात का विश्वास दिलाया जाना चाहिए कि जो उसमें कर्मचारी बचे हुए हैं उनको भी किसी तरह से छंटनी नहीं होगी। इस बात को ध्यान में रख करके मेरा सरकार से अनुरोध है कि उस समिति की रिपोर्ट को लागू करने का काम करे और जितनी जल्द हो सके फैक्टरी को चलाया जाये ताकि वह सब से बड़ा उपक्रम वहाँ पर चालू हो सके जितने यरिया और अमानिया का उत्पादन हो सके। ताकि वहाँ किसानों को भी लाभ हो सके और विदेशी मुद्रा को भी ऐसे समय में जो बहुत दिक्कत पड़ जाती है उस प्रेडिक्शन के आधार पर बाहर से न मंगानी पड़े। इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ, महोदय, मैं आपकी धन्यवाद देता हूँ और सरकार से फिर मेरा अनुरोध है कि वह इस दिशा में गंभीरता के साथ ध्यान दे और वैसे ही पूर्वांचल विकास के नाम पर बहुत पिछड़ा हुआ है, ऐसी स्थिति

में अगर यह उद्योग भी चालू नहीं किया जा सकता तो हम समझते हैं यह वहाँ के लोगों के साथ अव्यक्त अन्याय होगा। वह अन्याय न होने पाए इसलिए सरकार इस तरफ तत्काल ध्यान दे। धन्यवाद।

Demand for inclusion of Manipuri Language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution

SHRI W. KULABIDHU SINGH (Manipur); Madam Deputy Chairman, my special mention is regarding inclusion of Manipuri language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. For more than three decades the people of Manipur have been demanding inclusion of Manipuri language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY (Tamil Nadu): We support him.

SHRI W. KULABIDHU SINGH: The demand gained momentum in the late 80s when all the political parties of Manipur highlighted this demand in their election manifestoes for the Lok Sabha elections of 1989 and also for the mid-term elections of 1991. The delegations of all political parties called on three successive honourable Prime Ministers of India, namely, Shri V. P. Singh, Shri Chandra Shekhar and Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, and all the honourable Prime Ministers conceded the reasonableness of the demand and gave some sort of an assurance for introducing an appropriate Bill for the same. As a supporting document in this regard may be mentioned a written reply of the then Minister of State for Home Affairs, Shri Subodh Kant Sahay, dated 1-1-1991 in answer to my Unstarred Question No. 631. Now the All Manipur Students' Union and the Manipuri Language Demand Coordination Committee have started a widespread agitation in Manipur demanding inclusion of Manipuri language. Cinema halls, exhibiting Hindi films or films in other scheduled languages have closed down in Manipur. It is very much apprehended that the situation may take a serious turn¹ and give rise to a separatist tendency

[Shri W. Kulabidhu Singh]

and divisive forces may take hold of the situation. I therefore, earnestly urge upon the Government of India, through you, that this reasonable demand of the Manipuri people may be acceded to by the Government at an early date by introducing an appropriate legislation to include Manipuri language in the Eighth Schedule as it is an official language of a State of India. Regarding the richness of this language, Dr. Suneet Kumar Chattarjee, the famous linguist said that Manipuri is a very advanced language. Manipuri was not included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution when it was drafted because the State of Manipur was integrated in to Indian Union only on 15th Oct, 1949 and by this time the Constitution was already drafted. There were also doubts raised from certain quarters that if Manipuri was included in the Eighth Schedule there would be about another 14 to 15 languages which would also have to be included. In this connection, I would like to submit that Manipuri has been recognised as the official language of that State. Manipur was conquered by the Britishers only in 1891 and since then the Manipuri language has been recognised as the official language of that State. Hence the question of considering the demand of another 14 to 15 languages which would want to be included in the Eighth Schedule does not arise. I earnestly feel that the Government of India should introduce a Bill for amending the Constitution so that the Manipuri language is included in the Eighth Schedule. The Government should come forward with this amendment immediately so that the students and youth of the State do not resort to violent demonstration. There is an enormous sense of nationalism in the State. In fact, Dr. Lohia in early 50's had said that in this eastern part of India there is an enormous sense of nationalism and that Manipur is the bastion of India nationalism. I humbly submit that Manipuri should be included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY; Madam, I support his demand for inclusion of Manipuri in the Eighth Schedule and I would also like to add that English should also be included in the Eighth Schedule as English is the official language of the North-Eastern States and it is also spoken by the Anglo-Indians.

Apprehensions regarding increase in the cost of agricultural production due to proposed hike in irrigation water tariff

SHRI RAN JIT SINGH (Haryana): Madam, my special mention is regarding apprehensions of increase in the agricultural production cost. Firstly, a panel for pricing of irrigation water was set up. The Planning Commission has set up a committee on pricing of irrigation water under the Chairmanship of Dr. A. Vaidynathan of Madras Institute of Development Studies. The 15 member committee has been asked to review the existing water rate structure and the extent of subsidy in Government and public sector irrigation projects. The terms of reference also require the committee to suggest norms for fixing water rates, cost escalation in operations and maintenance of component of economic water rate and conversion of volumetric supply of cropwise and areawise water rates for different agro-climatic zones. It will also suggest organisational measures, including mechanism for efficient, recovery of economic water rates and operating controls for ensuring levy of appropriate irrigation water rates by the States. Madam, the farmer is already under so much burden that he is not able to manage with the present water rates and irrigation rates. I will quote here:

"Union Power Minister Mr. Kalpnath Rai today urged the State Electricity Boards to function on commercial lines and charge a tariff, for the supply of electricity to the consumers, based on cost of generation. Addressing the Economic Editor's Conference here, the Minister stressed that the tariff must fully cover the cost of generation and there should be a provision of sur-