

liberalisation of bank and insurance services. But we have asked, "if this is so, why don't you also go in for liberalisation of labour and labour-intensive services?" and there is no response to that.

Sir, the point really is that there is a difficult situation. Global economies are changing, major shifts are taking place. We feel that India has the skill, the capability to compete with the best in the world. We have an open mind. We are willing to discuss all issues in multi-lateral forums. After all, this is what multilateral forums are meant for.

And in the Uruguay Round, if you see, there are very, very serious and sharp differences between the developed countries and the developing countries but everything is discussed in international forums. But you cannot have a situation where a country because of its economic might, for whatever reasons, tries to push you, intimidate you—many words have been used—tries to police you into a situation. I am afraid, India is not going to be intimidated, is not going to be policed. We have very clear-cut socio-economic objectives. The path which we have followed for the last 40 years, we have had a great degree of success. We may not have achieved everything but we feel that we are going in the right direction and I would like to assure the House and all the Members who are present here that India will not compromise on either sovereignty or self-respect in any way.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. A. BABY): Now, the House stands adjourned till 2.45 P.M.

The House then adjourned for lunch at fifty-four minutes past one of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at forty-eight minutes past two of the clock, The Deputy Chairman in the Chair.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

Armed attack on peaceful satyagrahis in Tripura

SHRI NARAYAN KAR (Tripura): Madam Deputy Chairman, I thank you for giving me this opportunity. I would like to draw the attention of the House about the large scale armed attack on the peaceful satyagrahis on 4th of May 1990 in the State of Tripura. "The Jail Bharo Movement" was an unprecedented success. No less than 1,45,000 satyagrahis courted arrest. The alliance Government was very much on the defensive. They used hired goondas and a section of police in mercilessly resisting this popular upsurge. No less than 500 satyagrahis were hospitalised. The police resorted to firing in a number of places. In Teliamura of West Tripura, two people died of bullet injuries and several others including women got hospitalised with bullet injuries and other injuries due to armed attack from the Congress(I) rowdies. One more body riddled with bullets was found which appeared to be the work of hoodlums. The demand of the people of Tripura is the resignation of the alliance Government which is responsible for ending the democratic rights of the people of the State. In these 26th months of their rule, no less than 112 CPI(M) leaders and supporters were murdered. The police did not arrest a single culprit. More than 200 women were raped. The police did not take any cognizance. Democratic functioning of Opposition political parties was paralysed. Party offices and trade-union offices were forcefully occupied, burnt down and workers were tortured in police lock-up which is a regular feature. There is no rule of law. There is only the law of the jungle. Charges of rampant corruption were raised against the Ministers including the Chief

[Shri Narayan Kar]

Minister. Food crisis, crisis in supply of essential commodities, unemployment and under-employment among rural poor, etc. lead to a deep economic crisis and to starvation deaths in tribal areas.

In this situation, I demand a statement from the Union Home Minister about the pre-planned attack on the satyagrahis throughout the State. The Home Minister should not keep silent. The Central Government should come forward to restore the democratic rights of the people in Tripura. I demand a judicial inquiry headed by a sitting High Court Judge on the police firing at various places on the 4th of May. Thank you.

SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY (West Bengal): Madam, I associate with him.

Sri Lankan Government's threat to repatriate about one lakh plantation labourers of Indian origin

SHRI S. MADHAVAN (Tamil Nadu): Madam Chairperson, I would like to invite the kind attention of the Government, through you, to an important matter. The Sri Lankan Government has recently threatened to repatriate one lakh plantation labourers from Sri Lanka. It is an off-shoot of the 1964 Sirimao—Shastri Agreement. Twenty-five years have elapsed and many things have changed. Even many of the people who opted for Indian citizenship died. We cannot compel their grandsons to come to India. It is because of the failure of the Sri Lankan Government, the agreement was not implemented in 1964. The Sri Lankan Government was not able to provide assistance to the people who opted for Indian citizenship because of their own financial difficulties. Under these circumstances, now the Sri Lankan Ministers have openly threatened that they will send back one lakh plantation labourers who had

nothing to do with India for the past thirty to forty years. I would request the Government to have a fresh dialogue with the Sri Lankan Government. Before doing so, the Government must consult the plantation labour leaders of Indian origin like the present Minister Thondaman and his party. They should be consulted before arriving at any conclusion on receiving these repatriates from Sri Lanka. I am afraid the Sri Lankan Government wants to take the Indian Government for a ride, because of the change in the Central Government, they think that the present Government will go against the policies of the previous Government. That is the reason why they are trying to throw the blame upon the Indian Government. I would request that this repatriation issue must be negotiated afresh and our Government must strongly protest that they will not take back these plantation workers whom we agreed to take back thirty years back.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY (Tamil Nadu): Madam, I would like to associate myself with the view expressed by my esteemed colleague, Mr. Madhavan, here. After that agreement, when the repatriates were taken here, an assurance was given to them and hopes were raised in Sri Lanka itself that life would become all right once they came here. But when they came here, life was hell for them. Therefore, nobody was prepared to come over here at that time. This is not their fault. For no fault of theirs, they have been victimised. In the year 1948 itself, ten lakh plantation workers were thrown out. They did lose their citizenship right also. This is the type of persecution that has been going on all these years. Now the Sri Lankan Government says this one lakh repatriates should be taken here. This Government should not agree to this point. Already more than one lakh refugees are there in Tamil Nadu. That problem should be settled. So, we should not, at any cost, accept the demand of the Sri