

[श्री मुहम्मद अमीन अंसारी]

जी को जिला बुनकर सेवा समिति इलाहाबाद की ओर से एक मैमोरंडम दिया है और उसमें हमने मुख्य मंत्री जी को कहा है कि जिन संस्थाओं ने मयुरा में जून के महीने में 40 लाख रुपए की जनता धोती बिक्री के लिए दो हैं और आज भी वहां धोतियां आ रही हैं, उनके खिलाफ कार्यवाही की जाए। वह धोतियां सहकारी समिति उत्तर प्रदेश के जरिए खरीदी जाती हैं जिन संस्थाओं को यह जिम्मेदारी दी गई है कि वह उनको गरीब लोगों तक पहुंचाएं। एक गांठ में सौ जोड़े धोती के बनते हैं और वह 800 रुपए की गांठ ब्लैक में बिक रही है। मेरी मांग है कि उनकी सबसिडी बंद कर दी जाए जो मर्दानी (कंट्रोल क्लाय) धोती बनाते हैं। मुझे शक है कि केन्द्र में जो टनसटाइल के अधिकारी हैं उनकी साजबाज इसमें है- इसलिए उनकी तरफ से कोई ऐक्शन नहीं लिया जाता है। अखबार चिल्लाते हैं, मैं आवाज उठाता हूँ लेकिन उनके कानों में जूँ तक नहीं रेंगती। मैं मांग करता हूँ कि इसकी जांच हो, सी० बी० आई० से इसकी जांच कराई जाए। वह जनता धोती, कंट्रोल क्लाय जिन गांवों में, जिन ब्लॉकों में, जिन संस्थाओं में खरीदा गया है उनकी जिम्मेदारी है कि उनको गरीब लोगों तक पहुंचाएं। इसलिए ये गरीबों तक क्यों नहीं पहुंचती इसकी सी० बी० आई० से जांच कराई जाए।

मैं आखीर में एक इंसफ चाहूंगा। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि कंट्रोल क्लाय तैयार हो, मगर उसको ऐंशेंशल कमोडिटीज ऐक्ट में क्यों नहीं लिया गया है? पांच साल इसकी हो गए हैं। इसलिए कि जान बूझकर इसका ब्लैक कराया जा रहा है। राजीव गांधी जी चाहते हैं कि गांवों के लोगों को सस्ता और अच्छा कपड़ा मिले, लेकिन जो सरकारी अमला है वह इसको कामयाब नहीं होने दे रहा है। मेरी आपसे गुजारिश है कि सूत का दाम 20 रुपया बन्डल और टैक्सराइज्ड और टैरीकाट का 80 रुपया जो बढ़ाया गया है उसको कस करवाईए। जो आपकी सरकारी मिलें हैं, एन०डी०सी० मिलें हैं

या स्टेट सिपिनिंग मिलें हैं उनके डिपो खुलवाकर नो प्राफिट नो लॉस पर सूत बुनकरों को उपलब्ध कराया जाए। यही मेरी आपसे गुजारिश है।

डा. रत्नाकर पाण्डेय (उत्तर प्रदेश) :

श्रीमन्, मैं इसको सपोर्ट करता हूँ। जनता धोती में जो भी भ्रष्टाचार कर रहे हैं उनके ऊपर सख्त कार्यवाही करना चाहिए, इसकी सी० बी० आई० से जांच होनी चाहिए।

श्री शान्ति त्यागी (उत्तर प्रदेश) :

श्रीमन्, मैं भी इसको सपोर्ट करता हूँ।

Need for speedy measures to improve the lot of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI MIRZA IRSHADBAIG): Mr. J. S. Raju. This is hon. Member's maiden speech.

SHRI J. S. RAJU (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, at the outset, I would like to thank you for giving me this opportunity to make my maiden speech.

At this momentous moment, I thank my beloved leader, Dr. Kalaignar for elevating me to this status.

It is a well-known fact that the founder leader of the D.M.K., Arignar Anna, adorned this House from 1962 to 1967, till he was called upon to take the reigns of the Government of Tamil Nadu and it will be redundant to enumerate the services rendered by our great leader.

In his maiden speech he pleaded for the poorest of the poor, the homeless and the totally uncared for human beings. He also stated that it was his mission to extricate these down trodden masses from the miseries, and it is my bounden duty to mention that my leader, Dr. Kalaignar, has sent me to this august body to continue the task.

I now propose to speak on some issues concerning the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes who, even after 42 years of independence, have not been freed from social and economic servitude.

I wish to point out that the Twenty-eighth Report of the Commission for Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes for the year 1986-87 was tabled in the House as early as May, 1989, but I am pained to note that it has not been taken up for discussion till date. Hence, I stand before you to speak and stress on certain points on this matter from the Report submitted by the Commissioner. The findings of the Commissioner in 1977-78 run as follows:

"The prevalence of poverty and inequality virtually unchanged over the years can be seen most clearly in the conditions of life of the most disadvantaged groups in our society, namely the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes," bewails the Planning Commission in the Draft Sixth Five-Year Plan documents. More or less similar sentiments are expressed every time the Planning Commission sits to make quinquennial appraisal of the progress achieved during the preceding Plan period. The present Commission's observations are in no way better than the previous Commission's observations."

The 28th Commission Report says:

"Though we have come a long way, yet much more remains to be done."

Thus we are able to see the progress is that of a snail moving. It should be speeded up to warfooting steps to reach the destination and to give prosperous and better life to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities.

Economic freedom along with other factors uplift the Scheduled Castes

and Tribes who are mostly engaged in agriculture. Land for the cultivator is the slogan of the day. But even now we find that the Harijans are, in fact, cultivators only, not owners of the land. The slogan should be put into strict observance by allotting land to these landless poor. Suitable laws may be carried out by the Central Government to uplift the economic status of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes by enabling them to come up from the position of tillers to the position of land owners. In many parts of the country the well-to-do class of the society has been having unauthorised possession of the land. It should be freed from their clutches and allotted to the poor Harijans.

Due to the implementation of the land ceiling laws, of the total area of 76.33 lakh acres declared as surplus, an area of 59.54 lakh acres was taken possession of constituting 78 per cent of the total area declared surplus. Only 15.07 lakh acres (34.18%) was distributed amongst the Scheduled Castes and 5.81 lakh acres (13.81%) amongst the Scheduled Tribes.

Out of the 40.67 lakh beneficiaries, the number of Scheduled Caste beneficiaries allotted land was 14.15 lakhs (34.79%) and that of the Scheduled Tribes was 5.63 lakhs (13.83%). The number of other beneficiaries was 20.89 lakhs (50.37%).

According to the population of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and considering the poverty and other drawbacks of their own, they might be given more acres of land out of the surplus land taken possession of through the land ceiling laws. Unemployment among the educated Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is steadily growing. It is a welcome move that now at least the Central Government is taking steps to fill up Scheduled Caste and Sched-

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duled Tribe quotas in the posts left unfilled. I may point out here the recent announcement of the Tamil Nadu Government enabling Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in employment by a special programme within three months from the date of announcement of the said order is a welcome step. Such speedy measures may be taken by the Central Government to fill up vacancies allotted to the communities of these categories.

Although many steps have been taken to enforce reservation orders in public sector undertakings, which have more avenues of employment, the private sector has remained outside the scope of reservation order. I would like to stress the Government should find ways to persuade the private sector to fall in line with the Government policy of reserving posts for Scheduled Castes and Tribes. This matter needs urgent attention of the Central Government. The Central Government should not feel content by leaving this matter to various Chambers of Commerce. One way to make the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes self-employed is to reserve for them dealerships, allotment of fair price shops and distributive agencies etc. Some beginning has been made in this direction by the Indian Oil Corporation, Fertilisers Corporation of India, but this policy has to be accepted and followed by all Government departments. This would go a long way in accelerating the economic development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Another persistent problem is the fate of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe candidates at interviews either for appointment for a job or for admission to a higher course. No action has been taken to ensure that if candidates with prescribed educational qualifications are available, they shall not be rejected at an interview. Con-

sequently, qualified candidates remain unemployed, while posts reserved for them go abegging. The administration conveniently allows such vacancies to lapse without showing any concern for them. The basic question here is about the validity of reliance on the judgment of an interview board, which meets a candidate just for a few minutes *vis-a-vis* his educational credentials which are based on a series of assessments of the same person by the academic system spread over many years. The most glaring example of bias in interview is illustrated here. It is a very interesting story also. As we know that Jawahar Lal Nehru University is known for its learning towards the under-privileged. One of their own Scheduled Caste student, was awarded dismally low marks in the interview for admission for a higher course, even though he had secured a first class in the Master's examination from the same university and had also secured high marks in the written part of the admission test. The University has since reviewed its procedure to avoid similar inconsistencies. If this can happen in a citadel of learning, whose hall mark is rationality and scientific spirit, the stranglehold of vicious tradition and prejudice elsewhere can be easily imagined. Education is not only a means for betterment of ones position in life but it is also indicative of the socio-economic status of an individual group or a community. Regarding the growth of literacy amongst the Scheduled castes and Scheduled Tribes it is faster than the past, yet it is quite slow.

Many a thinking person held the view that a lasting solution to the problem of eradication of untouchability can come only from improvement of social environment, added educational facilities and cross-fertilization of castes by inter-castes and inter-class marriages sponsored as a massive State programme. I am proud to say that the Tamil Nadu Government headed by my leader Dr. Kalaig-nar Karunanidhi has already encour-

aged inter-caste marriages and special concession are being shown to the offspring. I request that the Central Government may by law initiate and encourage inter-caste marriages to evolve an equitable measure to have social tolerance and upliftment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

To discuss all the problems and to make speedy measures, I request the Government, through the chair, to come forward for a detailed discussion over the Twenty-eighth Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on the floor of the House in the current session. With this I conclude my speech.

Need to Initiate Legislation Providing for Expeditions Removal of Eyes of Persons Dying in Accidents

SHRI YALLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, my special mention is regarding removal of blindness by eye donation. There are nearly 10 million people suffering from blindness in our country. In most of the cases the blindness is preventable and curable. Now the medical science has progressed to make it possible for restoration of eyesight through corneal transplant operation. However, the main hinderance is absence of a Corneal Donation Act and its implementation during the stipulated period, that is within six hours of death. India with its huge population, on the one hand, relies upon imported gift of eyes but on the other hand, its citizens destroy the most valuable part of the deceased. It is a matter to think over sincerely and immediately.

Therefore, the Government should set up more eye banks with modern equipment and facilities. The Government should use mass-media to educate the people regarding eye donation. Everyone should be taken into confidence to remove the evil of superstition in donating the eyes.

Finally, I urge upon the Ministry of Health to adopt a legislation that unnatural death cases should be handed over to the medical authorities within six hours of death.

Need to Establish a Subsidiary Coal Company in Orissa

SHRI GANESHWAR KUSUM (Orissa): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me this opportunity to make this very important special mention.

Through you, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Energy to the problems of oustees whose lands are being acquired for the expansion of coal fields in Orissa. The problems and plight of the oustees need sympathetic consideration by the Government of India. Sir, Orissa has the richest deposit of coal not only in India but also in Asia. The coal belt of Orissa mainly consists of Talcher in Dhenkanal valley area in Sambalpur and Gopalpur in Sundergarh District. At present the production of coal from this belt is about 12 million tonnes. According to the production programme finalised by the Coal India Ltd., in the Eighth Five Year Plan, the production will be doubled. These coal fields in Orissa are at present managed by South Eastern Coalfields. The headquarters of the South Eastern Coalfields is situated at Bilaspur in Madhya Pradesh which is far away from these coalfields. Therefore, in order to safeguard the interest of the local people who are engaged in coal production, in matters of employment and to solve the day-to-day problems of the employees and to secure the business interest and development of the coalfields, necessity is felt to establish a subsidiary coal company under Coal India Ltd., at Brajaraj-nagar in Sambalpur, Orissa. The establishment of this subsidiary company will also help safeguard the interest of the oustees in providing rehabilitation and employment to them smoothly.