

[Shri Arangil Sreedharan]

ty, amongst its members, with the result that the students are not even getting food, clothing and other amenities. So, the students of this School went on a strike and started picketing. They were lathi-charged, not by this Government, Sir, but by the previous Government, the United Democratic Government, and some of them were injured. I did visit the place. They had an awful time since then. They had to starve for days together.

When the Left Front Government came to power, they seized the issue. They moved a Bill in the Kerala Legislative Assembly called the Kerala Blind School Society (Alwaye) (Taking Over of Management) Bill, 1987. Before the Bill was moved, it was sent to the Central Government for consideration, and the Central Government asked for an amendment. The original Bill was to take over the management of the School for five years, but the Central Government said, "You must reduce it to one year." I was not surprised because that is the attitude of the Central Government when it comes to freebooters in the field of education, these vested interests and fundamentalists in the field of education; the Central Government has always supported them, with the result that we were asked to reduce it to one year, and the State Government obliged the Central Government.

The Bill was passed by the State Legislative Assembly on 5.12.87, and it was sent to the Central Government for President's assent. Repeatedly the Education Minister, Kerala, came here, met the concerned Ministers, the Minister of Law and the Minister of Education and requested for clearance of this Bill. But it has not been given even till this day, with the result those blind boys and girls are on the street.

In the name of humanity, in the name of those poor people who cannot see the light of the day, in the interest of their

education, in this House, through you, Sir, I make an appeal to the Government to clear this Bill, give assent as early as possible so that the Kerala Government can take over the School and run it to the benefit of all the blind students.

Demand for installing a statue of Pt. Nehru in the premises of Parliament House

SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru, the late Prime Minister of India indeed was the first Prime Minister of this country. He was not only the Prime Minister of this country, but he was a great freedom fighter and a true son of India. he was a man of profound wisdom.

He was a clean advocate of great ideals of secularism, socialism, democracy and nationalism. His nationalism was coupled with universalism and he accepted all the good of the world. He stood like a rock for the cherished ideals for which he lived. He never compromised with the basic objective of our Constitution. He was the hero of our masses. He was liked by peasants, farmers, labourers, workers, children and millions of people of the third world.

Nehru's economic policies started a new era in this country. The National Planning Commission and our Five-Year Plans which gave a new lease and a new standard of life to the millions and millions of people of free India, were started by him. He introduced a new concept and gave it a practical shape in the way of democratic socialism. The Resolution moved by Shri Jawaharlal Nehru in the Karachi Session of the Congress in 1931 where he spoke for the fundamental rights and economic policies was really a turning point in the socio-economic field of free India. He was an apostle of truth and after Gandhi Ji he was the person who experimented with truth and stood by it till the last breath of his life. He was

a poet of human spirit and his *Discovery of India* and the *Glimpses of World History* and so many other books are real pieces of literature and History. His greatness could not be expressed in a very short time particularly when you want to adjourn the House early as possible. In brief I will state that he was the founding father of our parliamentary democracy. In the framing of the Constitution of India his contribution is laudable. His midnight speech in this very historic Central Hall is still in our mind.

Sir, this is the year of the birth centenary of Jawaharlal. The Parliament is a monument in which Jawaharlal Ji spoke, tried and practised the new democratic sentiments of the Indian people. Therefore, I appeal to the Government to pay a fitting tribute to Jawaharlal Ji by installing his statue in the premises of Parliament House at a very befitting place so that we, as Members of Parliament, and this institution, could pay a proper tribute to that soul which really contributed to this modern India.

Dr. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with the sentiments expressed by the hon. Member.

SHRI VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with it.

Need for timely detection of sick Industrial units

DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): I want to specially mention the necessity for timely detection of sick and potentially sick industries which are growing in number every year—more than 1.5 lakhs at present—causing great harm to our national economy.

The present Act “The Sick Industrial Companies Act, 1985” requires drastic changes as its implementation has not improved matters but has led to further deterioration. In principle it should be accepted that the workers of any industry should play a pivotal role in the successful running of the industry and that they are equally concerned about sickness as it would cost their daily bread. While establishing the Board vide section IV—sub-section III, it should be ensured that workers’ representatives find a place on the Board along with other members as postulated by the Act. It should also be ensured that whenever any enquiry is made by the Board, the workers’ opinion should be taken into consideration statutorily, while preparing and sanctioning schemes as enunciated in section 18, along with other measures like sale of industry to another industry or to Government or amalgamation into another company, the first choice should be given to the workers if they are prepared to take over and run the industry. This measure should find a place in section 18 and the Government should come forward to assist the workers financially and otherwise. While sanctioning any scheme for rehabilitation and financial assistance given by the Central or State Governments, importance should be given to the concerned workers in the preparation of the scheme and later in their participation in the management of the industry to ensure successful implementation of the rehabilitation scheme. By making the industry sick it is the business houses that gain. They take recourse to various manipulations, corrupt practices and corrupt deals thereby causing loss of public funds and creating insecurity to the workers. The Act should provide for deterrent punishment in all such cases. Through you, Sir, I propose a Parliamentary Committee be constituted for sick industries on the lines of the Public Undertaking Committee to go into all these cases of sickness. Thank you, Sir.