

diate steps to see that whitefly menace is totally curbed in the country.

Need to Settle the Grievances of Seamen in order to Avert a Deadlock in Shipping: Industry

SHRI SUKOMAL SEN (West Bengal): Madam, I am glad that when I am making this special mention hon. Shri Rajesh Pilot, the Minister of Surface Transport, is present here and I would like to draw his attention to the grievances of seamen in the shipping industry.

Madam, the industrial relations in the Indian shipping industry are in total doldrums because of the Government's policy. Madam, about one year back the Forward Seamen's Union of India, which is a recognised union and has its headquarters in Calcutta, filed a case in Calcutta High Court for getting up of a tribunal. The Calcutta High Court directed the Government to set up a tribunal and after a long delay the Government ultimately set up the tribunal, with its headquarter in Bombay, depriving the Forward Seamen's Union of taking advantage of the tribunal. The Union went to the Calcutta High Court with an appeal so that the headquarter is set up in Calcutta. Then the Calcutta High Court directed the Government to set up the tribunal with its headquarter in Calcutta.

Now, Madam, during the pendency of this tribunal the Indian National Shipowners Association based in Bombay is going to have wage negotiations with the NUSI, another union of the seamen, which is a scab union, which is subservient to the policy of the shipowners. When the wage negotiation is under the jurisdiction of the tribunal, how can the Indian shipowners' association have wage negotiations with a particular union, ignoring other unions which have gone to the court and to the tribunal? This is one matter.

The other point is, in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands there is one Hinterland Seamen's Union and that is a majority union. It entered into the wage negotiations with the Shipping Corporation of India three years back. After the expiry of the wage negotiations the Shipping Corporation of India is going to have wage negotiations with a minority union, which is a union subservient to the policy of the Shipping Corporation of India, denying the advantage of these negotiations to the majority unions, particularly those unions which are recognised, which want to fight. Those unions are being denied all opportunities for having wage negotiations with the Government and the Indian Shipowners' Association and the Shipping Corporation of India.

If this policy goes on, if this policy is encouraged by the Government and if the Indian Shipowners' Association is allowed to follow this policy, there will be serious deterioration in the industrial relations. The Indian shipping industry is already in crisis. It is in recession. It is time when the Indian shipping seamen and other workers are encouraged to work hard. They should be brought round the negotiation table for settling their grievances. Therefore, this discriminatory policy of the Government is going to create further problems in the Indian shipping industry.

Since the Minister is here, I would draw his attention to this matter and I would request him to see to it that scab unions are not encouraged and the tribunal is allowed to function. During the pendency of the tribunal, there should not be any wage negotiations by the Indian shipowners with a particular union which is not before the tribunal.

Termination of services of certain employees by "standing~ conference Public enterprises. Bt Delhi

SHRI MOHAMMED-AMU* (West Bengal): Madam "Deputy- Chairman, "

, [Shri Mohammad Amin]

want to bring a matter of urgent public importance before this House and through you draw the attention of the Minister concerned to the problem.

, A multi-storeyed complex for housing the offices of government undertakings is under construction at Lakshmi Nagar, Delhi. It is a multi-crore project and briefly known as Twin Tower Complex. The project was undertaken by the Public Enterprises Services Association. Subsequently, in August, 1987, this body was merged en bloc with the Standing Conference of Public Enterprises. Consequently all assets and liabilities and employees were merged with SCOPE. However, SCOPE terminated the services of all 35 ex. employees of PESA in February 1988 without assigning any reason. At the same time the work which would normally have been done by these employees has been entrusted to a private architect. This private architect has been entrusted the job of cost control and quality control. These are vital aspects of any project. Also this is against the Government's policy where public money is involved.

In reply, to an Unstarred Question No. 4288 dated 22. 3. 88, the Minister of Industry said in the Lok Sabha that these employees were rendered surplus and their services were terminated. Madam, this is a very serious situation in which the public sector works are being handed over to private contractors and, service of these employees terminated after reclassifying them as surplus. How could they become surplus when the job on life project is going on at full scale? There is something fishy about the issue. I therefore request the Minister to make a statement in the House outlining the Government position on this issue with reference to job security for the Government employee and what positively the Ministry can do in this case.

-Need to install Public Sector Units in Gujarat.

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA (Gujarat).
Madam, I am raising a sensitive issue through this Special Mention because we are passing through a very extreme and critical textile crisis. Perhaps 25 per cent of the closed mills in India are now located in Gujarat. Thirty three mills are already closed and more than 5, 00,000 workers are unemployed. Some of them have really gone mad; some of them have committed suicide. Therefore, through this Special Mention, I request the Government that it must start some public sector units in Gujarat so that more employment opportunities are available.

The Textile crisis has its own impact. It requires different kinds of solution. But I am here on a different point. In Gujarat, the Central investment in the public sector as compared to other States is much less. The latest figures available with me upto 1987 are—out of Rs. 68, 000 crores investment, in Gujarat it was around Rs. 3, 000 crore. I am happy that in some States it was more. In Maharashtra it was Rs. 11, 000 crore. In Madhya Pradesh it was Rs. 8, 500 crore, in Bihar Rs. 7, 000 crore and in A. P. Rs. 8, 000 crore. In Gujarat it is just coming to around 4 per cent; in the four States it is coming to around 50 per cent. I have no quarrel with that, nor am I raising the issue from a narrow point of view. But you know that Gujarat has given from its own quota some of the known Ministers. In the past there was Mr. Sactoba. Patil. from Swatantra Party also we had sent MPs. Today also Mr. Shiv Shanker is there and in the past Mr. Pranab. Mukherjee was there. so we never considered from a narrow-minded point of view or any such thing. It is growing growing.