

[Dr. C. Silvera]

to the notice of the Government a matter which is of urgent public importance. An unlicensed and illegal cigarette manufacturing firm, known as the North Eastern Tobacco Company, was allowed to establish a factory at Vairengte, Mozaram, by the Government of Mizoram. A permit was issued by the State Government and a firm was registered by the Industry Department on the 9th October, 1987 to manufacture popular brands of cigarettes in technical cooperation with the Golden Tobacco Company of Bombay. But no Central Excise permit was obtained by this firm. The firm is owned by two Mizos, Mr. Lianlinga of Venghuli, Aizwal, and Mr. Lalchungnunga of Tanhrial, Aizwal. Both of them are close relatives of Mr. Saingura Sailo, the State Law Minister, Mr. Richard T. Sailo (a non-Mizo) who is holding the power of attorney on behalf of the North Eastern Tobacco Co., is the brother-in-law of the minister and is directly in charge of the factory. When the Customs and Excise authorities came to know of this illegal and unlicensed cigarette factory and raided on the 31st October 1987, the firm had already evaded excise duty to the tune of Rs 67 lakhs. According to Mr. Prabhas Chatterjee and Mr. K. Krishna Murthy employees of the Golden Tobacco Company, who were detained by the local Customs and Excise authority, the firm would have evaded payment of Rs. 40 crores of excise duty annually, if this illegal practice is allowed to go on. I, therefore, in the interest of the Government and the public, demand an immediate high level enquiry by an appropriate Central agency which will look into the matter. Action should be taken against the culprits. Thank you.

Need to check the use of unfair means in Election Campaigns

DR. NAGEN SAIKIA (Assam): Mr. Vice-Chairman Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to the malpractices and unfair means adopted

at the time of elections. In our country, it has become a common practice to buy votes by spending lakhs of rupees by a candidate even for an Assembly seat, not to speak of a Parliamentary seat. Moreover, all sorts of unfair means are adopted to tempt and to win over voters. Even a child in the country today knows that whenever an election takes place, some candidates, specially of the ruling party in the Centre, would pour money like water, would distribute clothes, blankets and distribute even wine among voters. What happened recently in the Nagaland elections should be an eye-opener to the sensible people of the country. I demand institution of an enquiry by some neutral intelligence agency to find out how much of money was spent by each candidate for his seat.

In this regard the case of Dimapur constituency itself should be taken as an example. It has become an open secret that some persons of the ruling party carried bundles of currency to Nagaland to help the candidates of their party. This should also be inquired into. It is a simple thing to imagine that a candidate, after being returned to the Legislature or Parliament, does not get even one small part of that huge amount he or she had spent on his or her election, as remuneration. Why and how then could he or she spend such a big amount on the election for the sake of a small remuneration in return? Do we in this way give licence to indulging in corruption in our social life? All sorts of malpractices are indulged in to win seats in the election. Even violent means are resorted to in some cases for the purpose of booth-capturing which is a common phenomenon these days. The same thing is going to happen in the bye-election of Nadia constituency in Assam which is going to take place on 27th December 1987. In this connection, it should also be ascertained*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA): References to the Governor should not be recorded. And now please conclude.

*Not recorded.

SHRI NAGEN SAIKIA: I wish to draw the attention of the Government and the House that such practices should be immediately stopped at any cost so that the morale of the country is not destroyed in this way. (*Time bell Rings*) All right, I conclude.

Need for speedy implementation of Upper Sakri Reservoir Project in South Bihar

श्री सूरज प्रसाद (बिहार) : महोदय, मैं बिहार में एक महत्वपूर्ण सिंचाई परियोजना अर्पर सकरी जलाशय परियोजना की ओर सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित करता हूँ। बिहार का उत्तरी भाग बाढ़ से और दक्षिणी भाग सूखे से करीब हर साल पीड़ित रहता है। ऐसी हालत में दक्षिणी बिहार को सूखे से मुक्त कराने के लिए सिंचाई साधनों का विकसित करना जरूरी है। इस उद्देश्य की पूर्ति के लिए दिवंगत श्री चन्द्रशेखर सिंह, मुख्य मंत्री बिहार सरकार ने अर्पर सकरी जलाशय परियोजना का शिलान्यास 20 अक्टूबर, 1984 को किया था। लेकिन दुर्भाग्य की बात है कि यह योजना सातवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में शामिल नहीं की गयी। अगर यह योजना लागू कर दी गई तो नवादा नालदा और मुंगेर जिले का बड़ा भाग सिंचित होने लगेगा और इस क्षेत्र को सूखे से मुक्त किया जा सकेगा। इससे अन्न के मामले में भी बिहार को आत्मनिर्भर होने में मदद मिलेगी। इस योजना को लागू करने के लिए इस क्षेत्र के किसान संघर्ष के पथ पर आरुढ़ है, वे जिला कलेक्टर के सामने प्रदर्शन कर चुके हैं और 10 दिसम्बर, 1987 को हजारों की संख्या में इस क्षेत्र के किसानों ने बोट-क्लब के सामने धरना देकर प्रधान मंत्री का ध्यान इस ओर आकर्षित किया है। ... (समय की घंटी) ...

महोदय, यह एक मुख्यमंत्री के द्वारा शिलान्यास के बाद भी इस योजना को लागू न करना हास्यास्पद है और उनके पद और प्रतिष्ठा का मखौल है। अतः मैं मांग करता हूँ कि अर्पर सकरी जलाशय परियोजना को लागू करने और संचालित

साधन इसके लिए मुहैया कराने के लिए जरूर कदम उठाए जायें ताकि यह योजना शीघ्र लागू की जा सके।

Attempt to scuttle CBI investigation into the serious offences committed by Coal Industry Officials.

SHRI SUIL BASU RAY (West Bengal): Mr. Vice-Chairman, I want to draw the attention of the Government to a sordid affair happening in Bihar in the coalfields. The Statesman has come out with a news item on 10-12-1987 in headlined: "CBI's Wings clipped" and it says-

"When the Bihar Government recently wrote to the Centre expressing its intention to get back the services of the Superintendent of Police, CBI here, it was apparent that the move was a sequel to the pressure of coal lobby over the State Government. This action of the Bihar Government was taken in the face of fourteen officials who had to face CBI searches. In all twenty-six premises were raided."

We know coal is black; but we do not know how much blacker the administration is. In the face of this action of the Government, ultimately the CBI Directorate at Delhi has succumbed to the pressure of Bihar Government and the coal lobby and the mafias and there is going to be no action taken against these blackmarketeers. So I demand that necessary inquiry should be made and appropriate action taken. I also demand a statement from the Energy Minister on the floor of this House.

Shortage of Drinking Water in Rajasthan

श्री भवर लाल पंचार : (राजस्थान) :

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं मेरे साथी, श्री संतोष बागडोदिया, जोकि राजस्थान के ही हैं, उनका समय भी आपसे मांगूंगा। महोदय, शताब्दी के भीषण अकाल के इस वर्ष में राजस्थान एवं विशेषकर पश्चिमी राजस्थान अत्यधिक प्रभावित हुआ है और इसके जोधपुर, क्षेत्र को पेयजल समस्या अत्यधिक गंभीर हो गई है।