

[Dr. Mohd. Hashim Kidwai]

against the sanctioned strength of three Research Assistants. No steps have been taken for the setting up of the Central Urdu Institute.

In flagrant violation of Government rules, no promotion has been given to the staff of the Bureau. Because of these bunglings and mal-performances, the main object of the Bureau has not been fulfilled. I shall, therefore, urge upon the Government to undertake a thorough enquiry into the working of the Bureau so that the Bureau may do all for which it has been established.

Threat of closure of Marine Diesel Engine Plant, Ranchi

श्री सूरज प्रसाद (बिहार) : महोदया, मैं सरकार का ध्यान मैरीन डीजल इंजन प्लांट जो रांची में स्थापित है, की ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। यह मैरीन डीजल इंजन प्लांट जो रांची में स्थापित है यह मैरीन इंजन और डीजल सेट्स तैयार करता है। यह नैवी, ओ.एन. जी.सी., इंडियन शिपिंग कारपोरेशन को इंजन और उसके पार्ट्स की आपूर्ति करता आ रहा है। यह प्लांट उच्च कोटि के इंजन तैयार करता है और इसके इंजीनियर्स भी काफी सुयोग्य और दक्ष हैं। इसके इंजन और पार्ट्स की प्रशंसा देश में हमेशा की जाती रही है। लेकिन सरकार हाल के वर्षों में जो इंजन और पार्ट्स ये सप्लाई कर सकते हैं, उनको विदेश से मंगा रही है जिससे इस कम्पनी पर खतरा उपस्थित हो गया है। राजकीय क्षेत्र की स्थापना इस उद्देश्य से की गयी थी कि देश को इन सब मामलों में आत्मनिर्भर बनाया जाये। लेकिन सरकार ने कुछ वर्षों से ऐसी नीति निर्धारित की है कि जो चीजें देश में अवेलेबल हैं उनको भी वह विदेश से मंगा रही है, इससे राजकीय क्षेत्र पर एक भारी खतरा उपस्थित हो गया है। इसलिए मैं सरकार से यह मांग करता हूँ कि मैरीन डीजल इंजन प्लांट में जो चीजें तैयार होती हैं सरकार उन चीजों को विदेश से न

मंगाये और इस कारखाने को बढ़ने फलने और फूलने का मौका दे और ऐसा कदम उठाये ताकि भविष्य में इस तरह की चीजों का आयात इस देश के अंदर न किया जाये। इस ओर मैं सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित करता हूँ और चाहता यह हूँ कि सरकार इस दिशा में तुरंत कदम उठाये ताकि विदेश से जो चीजें मंगाई जा रही हैं उनको बंद किया जा सके।

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव (बिहार) : महोदया, मैं इस प्रस्ताव से और इनके कहने से सहमत हूँ और मैं भी सरकार से निवेदन करता हूँ कि देश में जो उत्पादन होता है, हो सकता है वह उत्पादन देश में ही किया जाये और किसी गलत रास्ते से या किसी के बहकावे अथवा प्रेशर से या किसी अन्य लाभ से इस काम को रोका जाये और देश की चीजों की सुरक्षा की जाये।

Threat of closure of WIMCO Match Factory near Madras

*SHRI N. RAJANGAM (Tamil Nadu). Madam Deputy Chairman, I wish to draw the attention of the Government to the pathetic plight of the Match Industries workers in different parts of the country. These workers have been earning their livelihood by labouring in these industries for quite many years. I happily welcome the measures being adopted by the centre towards developing the small scale and cottage industries. However, I would like to point out that the Union Government, while giving concessions and privileges to the cottage sector should not neglect the interests of the labourers who toil in big industries.

The increased levy of excise duty in the year 1979 on match industries, widened the gap of production cost between the cottage sector and large industrial sector, making an adverse effect on the latter. To make up the gap most of the industries went in

* English translation of the original speech delivered in Tamil.

for producing card board matches. But, while the excise duty concession on card board matches also having been given to the cottage sector, the gap in the production cost of match box further widened to the disadvantage of the large sectors. The large sectors could not compete with the privileged cottage sector.

As a result, large scale match industries started reducing the production step by step with the retrenchment of workers going hand-in-hand. The WIMCO match industry, having branches at Bombay, Calcutta, Bareilly, Dhubbri and Madras has retrenched thousands of workers in this process from the year 1979. Prior to the year 1979, the differential excise levy between these two sectors was only Re. 1. 47 per gross. But today, the differential excise levy is Rs. 4. 25 per gross. In this plight of mounting adversities, the WIMCO match industries at Thiruvottiyur near Miadras, is all set to close down the matches manufacturing unit. With this decision hanging over, the future of over 200 workers is likely to be doomed. Even if the industry switches over to diversification, the workers would not find place for they are skilled only in matches industry. Over thousand workers of Calcutta branch of WIMCO industry have already been thrown out of employment and the remaining are in grip of fear.

The centre should not maintain any more silence on this matter. I am aware, it would not be practically feasible to nationalise these industries. But I want to point out one thing. In spite of the concessions given, the match box manufactured in the cottage sector is also sold at the rate of 25 paise. The women and children working in the cottage sector are paid much less. Therefore, I urge the Government to restore the excise levy as prior to 1985 to save the future of thousands of workers.

Reported setting-up of Second Nuclear Plant by Pakistan

SHRI KAPIL VERMA (Uttar Pradesh; Madam, it is a matter of serious concern to India and other countries that Pakistan is developing a second nuclear plant for producing enriched uranium at Golra, 10 kilo metres west of Islamabad. This will be Pakistan's second plant. It has already a uranium enrichment plant at Kaohuta, 36 kilometres south-east of Islamabad. Pakistan Government has already made all the preparations for it.

Acquisition of land for the Golra plant was started long ago. A thick concrete floor has been laid to provide a stable flooring for the high-speed centrifuge.

Pakistan has two centrifuge halls— one at Kahuta is using aluminium centrifuges, and the other is using specially-toughened maraging steel.

As we all know, Pervez has been arrested in Philadelphia for trying to smuggle maraging steel and he is awaiting trial.

The question that arises is: why is Pakistan trying to have a second nuclear plant? What do they want? The obvious reason is because they are engaged in making a nuclear bomb. In this they have been encouraged by the United States which has just closed its eyes to Pakistan's nuclear weapons programme. It is really strange that the U. S. Senate should have endorsed a six-year waiver of U. S. laws to facilitate a 4. 02 billion dollar aid package to Pakistan beginning January 16, 1988. The move to equate India and Pakistan has been dropped. While it is welcome, it is hardly enough. In the light of the latest discussions and disclosures about Pakistan building a second nuclear plant, the United States should review again its six-year waiver endorsed by the U. S. Senate. It is hoped that the House of Representatives will do it and delete the wai-