

[Shri Nirmal Chatterji]

Construction of Staff Quarters at Annanagar.

(xx) Statement showing action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter I and final replies in respect of Chapter V of 225th Report (Seventh Lok Sabha) on Union Excise Duties.

REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

SHRI ROSHAN LAL: Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following reports of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes:—

(i) Fifth Report on action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Fifty-sixth Report of the Committee (Seventh Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Commerce (Department of Textiles)—Reservation for and Employment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in National Textiles Corporation Limited with Special reference to National Textiles Corporation (West Bengal, Assam, Bihar and Orissa) Limited.

(ii) Eighth Report on action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Fifty-third Report of the Committee (Seventh Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Energy (Department of Petroleum)—Reservation for and Employment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Indian Oil Corporation Limited (Marketing Division and Refineries and pipelines Division).

PRESENTATION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM: Sir, I beg to present the Twenty-third Report (in English and Hindi) of the Committee on papers Laid on the Table.

PRESENTATION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

SHRI P. N. SUKUL: Sir I beg to present the Eighty-Sixth Report of the Committee on Petitions on the petition signed by Shri Antonio P. Da Crauz and six others, praying for extension of the Liberalised Pension Scheme of the Bombay Port Trust to cover all the retired employees of the Trust and matters connected therewith.

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : मैं इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ कि आज जो पेपर भेजा गया है. पार्लियामेंट अफेयर्स को, वह बहुत लेट करके भेजा गया है... (व्यवधान)

कई माननीय सदस्य : भेजा ही नहीं गया है ।

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : मैं समझता हूँ कि माननीय मंत्री जो को भी पता नहीं होगा कि सारे ... (व्यवधान)

इसलिये कुछ न कुछ विधान करें । मुझे तो लगता है कि जो मंत्री जी नहीं आये हैं और उनके विहाफ पर जो ले बर रहे हैं उनको आपकी अनुमति देने का मौका नहीं मिला है ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs will take note so that when these statements are laid a copy should be made available to the Members quite early. It should not just be given on that day.

Now we take up Special Mentions. Mr. Upendra.

REFERENCE TO THE INORDINATE DELAY IN THE CLEARANCE OF PROJECTS AND PROPOSALS SUBMITTED BY SOME STATE GOVERNMENTS TO THE CENTRE

SHRI PARVATHANENT UPENDRA (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, at the outset, I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity because this is the

Council of States and we are here representing various States and pleading for the interests of the States. With great anguish and pain I am taking recourse to this public forum, this forum of Parliament, to ventilate publicly the grievances of the people of Andhra Pradesh.

Sir, for the last several years, particularly since the new Government came to power in Andhra Pradesh in 1983, we have been representing for a number of years to the Central Government and submitting a number of projects and proposals for clearance. The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh met the Prime Minister thrice with a detailed memorandum on each subject. The Members of Parliament from Andhra Pradesh belonging to different parties also met the Prime Minister at least thrice and we also represented to him about the various matters. The Prime Minister was kind enough to receive us cordially and we received good smiles from the Prime Minister. In spite of the orders given by him on various subjects, not a single thing has been decided by the Government of India except a small mercy that Mr. Jagdish Tytler has done to us by introducing one single flight from Jeddah to Hyderabad last night. A number of projects, which are vital to the State of Andhra Pradesh and which are also in the interest of the nation, have been pending. These should have been cleared long ago. I could have understood if the Government of India delayed sanction because of any financial reasons. But some of them are so simple and so routine matters on which also the Government of India taking three years to take decisions is unpardonable and against the interest of the State of Andhra Pradesh as well as the nation. I will give a few examples, Sir. One is this Vamsadhara Project. An agreement has been reached between the Government of Orissa and the Andhra Pradesh Government at the official level. Only a meeting of the two Chief Ministers has to be convened to sign the accord. For that, even

after three years, there is no meeting. On the Ichampalli project, the Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra have agreed. Only a joint meeting has to be convened to appoint a joint control board. That also has not been done for the last three years. On Telugu-Ganga, I can understand, there are some differences among the States. But even to resolve these differences also, no initiative is being taken by the Central Government. They are only watching the fun that three non-Congress (I) Governments are fighting amongst themselves. Similarly, on Polovaram project, I myself talked to the World Bank people in Washington. They agreed to fund the project. But no reference is made to the World Bank by the Government of India's side. And there is a single window co-operative scheme where the farmers will be benefited. The Minister for Agriculture has agreed, and the Minister for Finance has agreed that this is a good scheme. They suggested that the Andhra Pradesh Government should implement it as a pilot project. For the last three years we have been pursuing this but so far no clearance has come.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have some others also.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: About the letters of intent, 11 letters of intent are pending.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Don't give the details. Be brief.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Lastly, even for the recent drought which was the severest in the history of Andhra Pradesh, the State Government pleaded for an assistance of Rs. 608 crores. But after three of four months, a pittance of Rs. 32 crores has been sanctioned. This clearly shows that the Central Government is apathetic to the needs and grievances of the people of Andhra Pradesh. I do not want to charge them with deliberate discrimination against non-Congress Governments. But that is a feeling we are ultimately getting and the people of Andhra Pradesh are ultimately getting. The most unfortunate thing is

[Shri Parvathaneni Upendra]

that four days back, I gave this letter to the Prime Minister listing all the pending project, and telling him that "we have reached the end of our patience, we are going to lodge a protest openly in the Parliament, and if you can at least assure now that these things will be cleared expeditiously we will withdraw from airing these grievances publicly." But the most unfortunate thing is that even after four days, he has not cared to reply to this memorandum signed by 41 Members from Andhra Pradesh nor has he called us. Twice I met him day before yesterday telling him, sir, "at least give us an assurance and we will not raise this publicly." But so far he has not cared to reply of call us. This is the calous attitude being shown by the Central Government. And we are now constrained to believe that there is a discrimination being shown because the State is ruled by a non-Congress (I) Government. If these trends are continue, really the cordiality which has been existing between the two Governments so far will be marred and unnecessarily there will be another confrontation between the two Governments which we want to avoid. I Would request the Government to come out with a statement today itself whether they are going to do anything about these matters expeditiously.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Dipen Ghosh. (*Interruptions*) Every one of you will be given a chance.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH (West Bengal): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the issue to which the attention of the Government has been drawn is a very serious one because this is the Council of States and we had an opportunity to discuss during this session itself how the various Bills passed by the State Legislature were being delayed to give the assent of the Central Government by the President of India. Now, the question comes about State projects. Mr. Upendra, my colleague, has pointed out that certain projects mooted by the Andhra Pradesh Government have not yet been cleared by the Central Government. In the case of West

Bengal too, Sir, you know that it has made a history. About the Haldi a Petrochemical Complex, now the State Government has arranged to have a joint venture. The letter of intent was issued to the State Government by the Centre in the year 1978. Now, the question comes of giving the special assistance and also allowing the new product mix. That also is being delayed. Similar is the question of electronic industry. The Central Government bungled like anything. Now, the State Government has come out. The Central Government promised that in the Central sector they will set up the electronic industry. The Central Government is delaying. Similar is the case of Tiesta barrage project and other projects. Nine or ten projects are there which have been delayed by the Centre. Sir, this is causing great damage to the Centre-State relationship. It is not simply the question of delaying the clearance of certain projects or giving assent to certain Bills. This is the question of Centre-State relationship. This is a federal country and the State Governments are to do certain jobs and if the Centre sits tight on these things how can the unity of the country be maintained unless the Centre-State relationships are redefined and these things are done. Therefore, Sir, through you, I would ask the Government, even through the Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs is here, but he is engaged in certain other non-parliamentary or extra-parliamentary activities, to submit a statement today because today is the last day of the session and the Government should make a statement when and how these State projects are going to be cleared by the Centre.

SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Chairman, Sir, our hon. Member, Mr. Upendra, just submitted on the floor of Parliament with fine statistics with regard to the Centre-State relationship. He belongs to the non-Congress Government and he has been sponsored by the non-Congress parties to emphasise the importance of the six or seven items which are

pending for the past three years even though they were recommended on so many occasions. I fully endorse his views, even though I belong to the non-Congress Government and also I belong to one of the alliance parties. But my duty clearly compels me to say on the floor of Parliament and that too in the presence of my Chairman, who is coming from my State, that there are still some items pending as far as Tamil Nadu is concerned. You know Sir, that nearly six to seven years past, after the inauguration of Setu-Samudram Scheme, it was shelved and if my memory has not failed, it was in the year 1976 when you were the person, Sir, who just took the file from the shelf and wanted the project to be cleared and wanted the Central authorities to start the scheme. But till now, Sir, the scheme which connects East and West of the coast has not been taken up properly and the amount is not allotted.

And, Sir, for the Salem Steel Plant we are every year asking, but nothing is being done. For the Integral Coach Factory also you might have noticed one thing. Our Hindustan Studio was at Ooty. It has been completely transferred to Nainital. We asked the former Industry Minister not to do so and I think is again the Industry Minister but he has transferred the Studio from Ooty to Nainital and there are so many other schemes from Tamil Nadu which are still pending I would beg, through you, Sir, the Ministers concerned to take quick action to remove all these hurdles and I entirely agree with our Member, Mr. Upendra, who is the leader of the Telugu Desam party, belonging to the non-Congress Party in Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY (Karnataka): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I associate myself with Mr. Upendra except on one thing. I do not go along with him in regard to the Telugu-Ganga project.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: I have said that there are differences

of opinion and they should be resolved.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Sir, we all want very cordial, harmonious and friendly relations between the Centre and the States. But unfortunately the attitude and the behaviour of the Centre during the last few years has created an impression, a wrong impression in the minds of non-Congress (I) States that they are being discriminated against. This is not good for the cordial and friendly relations with the Centre. This feeling has got to be removed and this has got to be removed by the Centre itself.

Sir, I come from Karnataka. Naturally he expects me to be parochial.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is a subject in which everybody should be parochial.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: It is not a question of parochialism. It is a question of Centre-State relationship.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Sir, I want to say certain things about Karnataka. Since there has been strain between the relationship between the Centre and the States all these years, it would be better to have a Parliamentary Committee, a Committee of Members of Parliament, to study the whole question of relations between the Centre and the State and submit a report. Then, Sir, as you know, there is a provision in an article in the Constitution for Inter-State councils.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The subject matter is the clearance of projects.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: That is why I digressed a bit. You are the sympathiser of this move that there should be set up an inter-State Council so that any differences which may arise between the Centre and the State could be resolved in that Council itself.

Coming to Karnataka, as you know, Karnataka is suffering from very

[Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy]

acute drought for the last three years. Even last year the assistance that was given by the Centre was not adequate. As a result, the State Government had to spend a lot of money. Even this year, 18 districts have been affected adversely by drought and there is no fodder. In many places, there is no drinking water either. Therefore, Karnataka Government has submitted a memorandum to the Centre asking for nearly Rs. 175 crores immediately. So far Rs. 50 odd crores have been sanctioned and release has been about Rs. 35 crores. I would like the Government to consider this memorandum and sanction Rs. 175 crores immediately so that relief operations could be taken up on war footing. There are 3 or 4 projects which I would mention and leave it at that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Only mention the projects.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY:

One is conversion of metergauge to broadgauge between Bangalore and Mysore. This year only Rs. 1 crores has been sanctioned. This project should have been over by now. I would like the Ministry to consider immediate allocation to this project. Likewise, there are various schemes like oil refinery in Mangalore, steel project in Haspet, inclusion of more roads in national highway and establishment of new airport at Hassan and Hubli and extension of airport in Mysore and Belgaum and also various irrigation projects, particularly the one in Cauvery Valley basin. These things should be taken up by the Government seriously and adequate assistance should be given to Karnataka.

श्री मत्प्रकाश मालवीय : (उत्तर प्रदेश) : माननीय सभापति जी, हमारे संविधान में इस बात की व्यवस्था है कि केन्द्र और राज्यों के संबंध सहयोगात्मक होने चाहियें, टकराव के नहीं। लेकिन आज जो गैर कांग्रेसी सरकारें हैं और जो प्रदेश हैं, वहां ऐसी जन भावना उत्पन्न

हो रही है कि उनको केन्द्रीय सरकार उपेक्षा की दृष्टि से देख रही है, उनके साथ सौतेला व्यवहार कर रही है। यही नहीं, हरियाणा की सरकार और पंजाब की सरकार भी केन्द्रीय सरकार के रवैयें के कारण एक दूसरे पर लांछन लगा रही हैं और यह आरोप लगा रही हैं कि केन्द्र सरकार दोनों के साथ सहयोग नहीं कर रही है। तेलुगुदेश सरकार ने 15 प्रोजेक्ट केन्द्रीय सरकार के पास भेज रखे हैं और 608 करोड़ की मांग की सूखे के लिये, लेकिन अनेक वर्षों के बाद उसे केवल 32 करोड़ रुपया ही मिला है। इसी प्रकार कर्नाटक सरकार की शिकायत है कि बैंक लोन के सिलसिले में गड़बड़ी होती है और उसके संबंध में केन्द्रीय सरकार उपेक्षा की दृष्टि अपना रही है। श्री उपेन्द्र जी और दूसरे सदस्यों ने विचार प्रकट किये हैं, उनसे मैं सहमति व्यक्त करता हूं और प्रार्थना करता हूं कि इन प्रदेशों की जनता के साथ केन्द्रीय सरकार का सौतेला व्यवहार नहीं करना चाहिये।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Mr. Dhabe. These are the only persons who requested. Others are getting inspiration to speak but they are not allowed. Yes, Mr. Dhabe.

SHRI S. W. DHABE (Maharashtra): I am thankful to Mr. Upendra for raising this question and I desire and request that in every case the Government must come with a statement of the projects which are pending giving reasons for the same. For the past 5-6 years, irrigation projects are pending in my State. There is project at item No. 4, for which even the meeting has not been called. Only clearance for it is required. But the meeting is not called for a year. Similarly, there are other projects of Maharashtra which are pending, like spinning mills, cooperative mills, sugar mills for which clearance has not been given. Then the State Government had asked for Rs. 561 crores towards relief for the drought but only Rs. 28 crores have been given. Then even the statutory Development Boards, for which the Maharashtra

Assembly passed a resolution, have not been granted. At least for this, no money is required.

The delay is not only procedural, but is also deliberate, in regard to clearance of various projects from Maharashtra. One is about the supply of gas to electricity boards. There are so many projects which are pending with the Central Government. I support what Mr. Upendra has said. A statement should be made. This should be done in every Session. Then only there can be happy and healthy Centre-State relations. In every Session, a statement should be made, what are the projects pending and what are the reasons for their non-clearance.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is a Minister for implementation of projects. Let the Minister be asked to make a statement here. The Central Government has created a Ministry, a separate Ministry, to monitor the implementation of projects. where is he? He is not found here. Let the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs take note of it and ask the Minister to make a statement.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Sir, you were good enough to allow us to raise the issue...

श्री कल्पनाथ राय (उत्तर प्रदेश) :
 श्रीमान्, मेरा एक व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am not allowing. I have not called you. Please sit down. Mr. Kalp Nath Rai. (*Interruptions*) Such of those people who gave their names, I have allowed. If, on the spur of the moment everybody wants to join, I cannot allow it.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Sir, you were kind enough to allow us to raise the issue. be cause you considered it a vital issue. It should not be another cry in the wilderness. There is not even a small hint or response from the treasury benches whether they would like to say something on the matter. There is no indication whether a statement is go-

ing to be made or not. They are sitting, just listening. Why are they not reacting whether they are going to make a statement or not?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have just raised it. You have not given notice to them. It would be unfair to...

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: I have given notice four days ago. I have also given a copy to the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs. We are acting very fair. We are not raising it on the spot. I have given a copy to him.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not the Parliamentary practice. You cannot change the Minister for not making a statement immediately.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Sir, let the Minister make a statement.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: There should at least be an assurance from the Government that they will take action.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs should take note of it....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing else will go on record now. Mr. Hukumdeo Narayan Yadav to make his special mention.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH:*

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: In protest against the callous attitude of the Central Government, we are walking out.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Since no response is coming forth from the Government, we are also walking out.

SHRI S. W. DHABE: We are also walking out.

[At this stage, some Hon'ble Members left the Chamber].

* Not recorded as ordered by the Chair.