

MESSAGES FROM THE LOK SABHA**I. The Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster
(Processing of Claims) Bill, 1985****II The Requisitioning and Acquisition of
immovable Property (Amendment) Bill,
1985****III. The Handlooms (Reservation of
Article 19(1)(g) for Production' Bill, 1985**

SECRETARY-GENERAL; Sir, I have
to report the following
received from the Lok Sabha
signed by the Secretary-General of the
Sabha:—

I

In accordance with the provisions of rule 120 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to inform you that Lok Sabha, at its sitting held on the 27th March, 1985, agreed without any amendment to the Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster (Processing of Claims) Bill, 1985, which was passed by Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 18th March, 1985."

II

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 120 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to inform you that Lok Sabha, at its sitting held on the 28th March, 1985, agreed without any amendment to the Requisitioning and Acquisition of Immovable Property (Amendment) Bill, 1985, which was passed by Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 21st March, 1985.

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 120 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha I am directed to inform you that Lok Sabha, at its sitting held on the 28th March, 1985, agreed

without any amendment to the Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Bill, 1985, which was passed by Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 14th March. J

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Re. Constitution of Wage Boards for Working Journalists and non-journalists newspaper employees

-THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH): Sir, Hon'ble Members are aware that the first Wage Board for Working Journalists under the Working Journalists (Conditions of Service) and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1955 was headed by Mr. Justice Dive-tiya whose decisions were published in May, 1958. The Second Wage Board for working journalists was constituted in 1963 headed by Mr. Justice Shinde and the majority of its recommendations were accepted by Government in 1967. The Second Wage Board for non-journalists and the Third Wage Board for working journalists were set up in June, 1975 and February, 1976 respectively. In view of the difficulties experienced in the functioning of these Wage Boards, Government decided to amend the Act of 1955 providing for replacement of Wage Boards by one man Tribunals and accordingly this Act, was amended in 1979. The Tribunals submitted their recommendations to Government in August, 1980 and subject to certain modifications their recommendations have been accepted by Government as notified in December, 1980.

. Government have been receiving persistent requests for constitution of new Wage Boards both for working journalists and non-journalists newspaper employees. Accordingly, it has been decided to set up fresh Wage Boards for the purpose. We are now

[Shri T. Anjiah]

in the process of constituting these Wage Boards. I want to take this opportunity to appeal to all the representatives of the working journalists and non-journalists employees as well as the managements of the newspaper establishment to extend their cooperation so that the reports of the Boards can be finalised early and their recommendations considered, for implementation.

MR. CHAIRMAN; Yes, Mr. Dhabe.

SHRI S. W. DHABE (Maharashtra): Sir, I welcome the statement of the honourable Minister regarding the constitution of Wage Boards.

Sir, in para 2 of the statement, *he* has used the words "working journalists and non-journalists newspaper employees". I hope that the employees of the news agencies like Hindustan Samachar, Samachar Bharati, PTI and UNI would also be covered by this Board. Sir, when the Palekar Tribunal was set up, it said that it was only for the newspaper establishments and not for the News Agency journalists. When their union Representative appeared before the Tribunal, they had to make a representation for including the agency staff as the tentative list did not include them. In order to avoid such difficulties, I would request the honourable Minister that the terms of reference should clearly and specifically state that the staff of the news agencies, of all the four agencies, are also covered by this. I would also like to suggest that all these employees should be given representation on the Board.

There is another submission that I would like to make. Last time, when the Janata Party was in power, there was a crisis in the Wage Board because of controversy about an independent Member and Management representing they refused to co-operate which resulted in the amendment of

the Act in 1979 and holding up the proceedings more than two years. Therefore, a great responsibility lies on the Government to see that the independent members are truly independent and no such thing occurs once again in the working of the Wage Boards. There is also another important question. When the Fourth Pay Commission was appointed the terms of reference did not include the issue of interim relief. Now, Sir, the Government has included in the terms of reference recently the issue of interim relief to be given to the employees. Similarly, I would like to make a request that the first terms of reference should also include the question of granting interim relief to the newspaper employees and news agency staff and I want that the terms of reference should be comprehensive. Thank you, Sir,

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Satya-Reddy.

B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY (Andhra Pradesh); Sir, I welcome the made by the Minister because they have decided to constitute fresh Wage Boards. In this connection, Sir, I like to know from the honourable Minister whether, in constituting the Wage Boards, he has decided to take into consideration all the unions. I think there are two major newspaper unions representing the newspapers- One is the NUJ, the National Union of Journalists, and is another union also. I would like to know whether he has decided to invite all these unions and take them into confidence while constituting the Wage Boards for dealing with their problems.

SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM (Tamil Nadu)- Sir, I want to make submission.

CHAIRMAN; Just a minute. Mr. Jaswant Sinsh is there before you.

SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM; He is not on this subject, I think

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. He wants to speak on this only.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH IR - than): No, Sir. net on this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. ges, Mr. Kalyanasundaram.

SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM: Sir, the statement made by the honourable Minister will be welcomed by a large number of organisations representing the working journalists and non-working journalists. But as was pointed out by Mr. Dhabe, the employees of the news agencies like the PTI, UNI, etc. should not be excluded and they should not feel disappointed. So, I will strongly urge upon the Government to include in the terms of reference the service conditions of these employees also and the word "journalists" should cover all the reporters, not merely those who are working at the desk, but those who are gathering news and they are also equally important. So, Sir, the terms of reference should cover all these categories and the terms of reference should be comprehensive. The constitution of the Board should be done expeditiously so that the report can be finalised quickly and published as early as possible. Thank you, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Gopaldaswamy.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMI (Karnataka): Sir, I only want to make a small point here.

Sir, I welcome the statement made by the Labour Minister and I would like the Board to be constituted as early as possible. But, at the same time, I would like him to fix a time-limit. Surely, I would like this Board to be headed by no less than a judge of the Supreme Court, either a retired Judge or a serving Judge of the Supreme Court, so that he has some status. Lastly, Sir, I would like the Board

to be representative in character and it should take into consideration various interests and also, Sir, some Members of Parliament may be associated with the Board.

SHRI AMARPROSAD CHAKRABORTY (West Bengal): Sir, I want to make a submission.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just wait. I have to call Mr. Kapil Verma. He is a journalist and he must be given preference. Yes, Mr. Verma.

SHRI KAPIL VERMA (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, we very much welcome the appointment of a new Wage Board which has been a long standing demand of the journalists and others. I hope that the new Board that the Government is going to set up will include the interests of both the nation and the organisations of the working journalists.

Secondly, Sir, the question of part-time correspondents was sorted out by the Government and instructions were issued by Mr. N. D. Tiwari when he was the Labour Minister. But they have not been implemented at all. According to my information, all the newspapers have retrenched their part-time correspondents. He must pay attention to this. A particular news agency in Delhi has transferred two of its senior correspondents and they are remaining at home without getting their salaries for the last ten months. A demand was made for a national tribunal. But the Government has not done anything about it. I hope that the Government will take action quickly in the matter. Then, Sir, the most important thing is that interim relief should be given and at least Rs. 300 should be given and it should be immediately announced.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Yadav.

श्री रामानन्ध यादव (बिहार) : मान्य-
वर, देश में अंग्रेजी अखबारों के वकील
जर्नलिस्ट्स की दो संस्थाएँ हैं एक नेशनल
यूनियन आफ जर्नलिस्ट और दूसरी इंडियन

[श्री रामानन्द यादव]

फेडरेशन आफ वकिंग जर्नलिस्ट इसके अलावा जो डिफरेंट लैम्बेज पेपर्स हैं उनके भी आर्गेनाइजेशन हैं तो क्या सरकार इस बात पर विचार करेगी कि बोर्ड का गठन करते समय वकिंग जर्नलिस्ट्स के जो अनेक आर्गेनाइजेशन्स हैं उनके रिप्रेजेंटेटिव करक्टर को मद्देनजर रखते हुए निश्चित रूप से उनके प्रतिनिधियों को इसमें शुमार करेगी ?

MR. CHAIRMAN- Yes, *Mt. Chatterjee*.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE (West Bengal): Sh, ' I completely endorse what Mr. Gurupadaswamy has said. But I have one additional point to make. When you appoint Pay Commission, you have the representatives of the trade unions also. That is the practice in the States as well as at the Centre. Now, my question is this: Would the Wage Board that is going to be constituted include the representatives of the trade unions also as members of the Board? Secondly, I would like to know whether any time-limit has been set for making the final report.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Chakraborty.

SHRI AMARPROSAD CHAKRABORTY; Sir, I am connected with certain trade union organisations and also with certain journalists' Organisations. I would like to know whether the Board will include representatives of the journalists' organisations. Last time, it took a lot of time, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes. Mr. Advani.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (M Pradesh*): Sir. I would only just like to welcome the decision though I would say that a comment can be made that it would have been better if the Wage Boards had been announced and mere announcing a decision to set up the Board, though welcome

in itself, is vague.. However, in this connection, I would like to say that care should be taken to ensure that it is representative and to select a proper person as the head of the Board and care should also be taken to ensure that within a short' time the report is available. After all, Sir, this is a longstanding matter. Inflation has affected the life style and working conditions of the journalists. This is a very important sector of our life, particularly in a democracy, where it is described as the Fourth Estate.

I once again welcome the decision to appoint the Wage Board.

श्री टी० अर्जुन्या : श्री आडवाणी जी, कल्याणमुन्दरम्, सत्यनारायण रेड्डी, धावे जी और चक्रवर्ती साहव ने जो मन्त्रिरे दिए है, इसके बारे में जल्द इस पर सोचेंगे। इसमें जहाँ तक हो सकता है, उतनी जल्दी करने की कोशिश करेंगे। इसमें रिटायर्ड हाई कोर्ट के या सुप्रीम कोर्ट के जज रहेंगे और जहाँ तक दोनों ट्रेड यूनियंस है, उनको इन्वाल्व करने की कोशिश करेंगे।

जहाँ तक एम०पी० का सवाल है, आई हैव टुकनसल्ट बिकाज प्रोवीजन है या नहीं है, अमंडमेंट करना पड़ेगा। वह तो बाद में ...

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: There is no bar.

SHRI T. ANJIAH: If there is no bar, I will include.

श्री रामानन्द यादव : अब इम्प्लीमेंटेशन का भी तो ...

श्री टी० अर्जुन्या : अब इम्प्लीमेंटेशन का जहाँ तक सवाल है, हम जल्द जल्दी करेंगे। वह रिपोर्ट आने के बाद इम्प्लीमेंटेशन का सवाल होगा और जहाँ तक ट्रांसफर का सवाल है, यह तो मैंने पहले ही कहा है— It is purely *htimkatiot*.

वह तो हमने पहले ही कहा है। आज भी हमारा प्रोपीनियन वही है कि— Transferring a person merely for it— to

victimisation. कोई प्रमोशन होता है, या कोई लैंग्विज हिंदी से इंगलिश में, वही ट्रांसफर तो हम समझ सकते हैं, पर प्यूरली यूनियन के लीडर बनने से ट्रांसफर कर रहे हैं, इसको हम रोकने की कोशिश करेंगे।

श्री प्यारे लाल खड्गलवाल (मध्य प्रदेश) : इटेरिम रिलीफ।

श्री टी० अन्नैया : जहां तक इटेरिम रिलीफ है, यह तो हमारे हाथ में नहीं है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: I wish to make an announcement. Shri Khursid Alam Khan will, be making a *suo moto* statement on Sri Lanka today at 1.00 P.M.

RE. PRIVILEGE MOTION GIVEN
NOTICE OF TO BY SHRI JASWANT
SINGH

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is may unhappy duty to refer to a Motion of Breach of Privilege that I have been constrained to move against the Minister of Irrigation and Power. My grievance arises out of the reply given by the hon. Minister of Irrigation and Power to supplementaries to Question No. 102 on 20th March about the Rajasthan Canal, now renamed Indira Gandhi Canal. I mention this today because the House has been reconvened only after about a month. Therefore, I request you to let me know where my motion stands today.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The matter has been referred to the Minister for his comments.

REFERENCE TO EXPLOITATION
OF TRIBALS BY TIBETAN
REFUGEES IN MADHYA PRADESH

श्री पशुपति नाथ सुकुल (उत्तर प्रदेश) : अग्र्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आदिवासियों के शोषण से संबंधित एक गम्भीर समस्या की ओर सरकार का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ। यह शोषण भारतवासियों के द्वारा नहीं है, बल्कि तिब्बती शरणार्थियों के द्वारा

किया जा रहा है। यह तिब्बती शरणार्थी जैसा कि आपको मालूम है भारतवर्ष के विभिन्न पहाड़ी स्थानों में बसाये गये हैं और इस तरह मध्य प्रदेश में सरगुजा जिले में भी तिब्बत शरणार्थी बसाये गये हैं। वहाँ ये तिब्बती शरणार्थी बाफा धनी हो गए हैं क्योंकि सरकार की ओर से इनको साढ़े तीन एकड़ जमीन दी गई है। वह जमीन भी आदिवासियों की थी। इनको सन् 1974 तक मुफ्त बीज दिया गया, मुफ्त ट्रैक्टरों से इनकी खेती कराई जाती थी और यह कालीन और उन का स्वयं कारोबार करने है।

[उपसभापति महोदय पंठ संत हुई।]

तो धीरे-धीरे यह धनी हो गए और यह उन आदिवासियों का शोषण करने लगे, उनको सूद के ऊपर रूपया देने लगे, उनकी जमीन बंधक रख कर उनको यह रूपया देते थे और वह गरीब आदिवासी जब इनका रूपया भ्रदा नहीं कर पाते थे तो उनकी जमीन भी मार लेते थे, हड़प लेते थे और उन आदिवासियों को इनके खेत में लैंडलैस लेबरज, भूमिहीन किसानों की तरह से काम करता पड़ रहा है। तमाम ऐसे लोग हैं जो बंधुआ मजदूरों की तरह से काम कर रहे हैं क्योंकि इनकी शर्तें होती थीं कि जब तक पैसा वापिस नहीं मिल जाएगा, इनको हमारे खेत में काम करना पड़ेगा।

बंधुआ मजदूरी दूर करने के लिए हमारी सरकार कृत-संकल्प है, बीस-सूत्री जो हमारा प्रोग्राम है, उसमें भी इसके बारे में कहा गया है। आदिवासियों के विकास के लिए हमारी सरकार कृत-संकल्प है। अतः मैं चाहूंगा कि यह तिब्बती शरणार्थियों के द्वारा सरगुजा जिले में जो आदिवासियों का शोषण किया जा रहा है, उनकी जमीनें हड़पी जा रही हैं, बंधुआ मजदूरों की तरह से उनका प्रयोग किया जा रहा है और उनकी उचित मजदूरी भी नहीं दी जा रही है।

तो सरकार कृपया इन आदिवासियों के शोषण की ओर ध्यान दे और जल्द से जल्द ऐसे कदम उठाये कि इनका शोषण समाप्त किया जा सके।