

[Shri Surendra Mohan]

press in the country. We are very strongly protesting and we want that he must withdraw it.

SHRI P. C. SETHI: We are very much for the freedom of the press. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ERA SEZHIYAN: We do not agree with this one, namely, that attempts are being made to stoke the dying members which can only help to create misgivings in the public mind and tarnish the fair image of our nation. Therefore, in protest we walk-out. You are trying to choke the press.

(At this stage some hon. Members left the Chamber)

SHRI P. C. SETHI: Now, as far as Assam is concerned, there were about 3.10 lakh people in the camps and I am happy to say that now only 1.12 lakhs have remained there and many of them are also likely to return back when the heavy rains start. But arrangements are being made to see that they do not suffer even during heavy rains.

SHRI KALYAN ROY (West Bengal): Are you sure?

SHRI P. C. SETHI: What I have said about the report is that most of the conclusions drawn are not very correct. It is also not correct to say that these wireless messages which were communicated between various police stations and district authorities were sent to the Central Government. As far as this report is concerned, this was written somewhere in the month of March when all the election process was completed by the Intelligence Bureau on the 21st of February. Now, of course, one or two copies are available in the office although they were not officially sent, but they are available in the office.

As far as the number of deaths is concerned, the Chief Minister of Assam himself has said that the number of those persons who are missing should also be counted as dead and

now according to him there are three thousand deaths and not 1700 deaths.

Sir, as far as the elections are concerned, I have more than once clarified the position about the elections and I need not repeat all that here.

I am grateful to Dr. Zakaria for putting the cards straight and I am really very thankful as far as his suggestion is concerned as far as a white paper is concerned. There is already some document and from time to time we have come out with documents. If any additions are necessary, we will certainly consider it.

As far as Mr. Goswami's points for resuming the talks are concerned, we have already taken the stand that let some normalcy be restored and we will certainly try to resume the negotiations, we are prepared for it.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, I did mention that the reference to the Press that has been made here is really regrettable. We would have liked from our party that such a reference had not been made by the Home Minister and the fact why we are not walking out is because the whole of Assam issue is involved. But it must be said that the language used is definitely vindictive of the press and such reference should not have been made. We on our part also request the hon. Minister to kindly withdraw this part of the statement at least.

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSIONS

On points arising out of answer to Unstarred Question No. 2272 given on 4th November, 1982 regarding industrial sickness

SHRI KALYAN ROY (West Bengal): Sir, we are starting it at 6.10; we should have started it at 6 O'clock. [The Vice-Chairman (Dr. Rafiq Zakaria) in the Chair]

One gets sick in discussing sick industry, where the Government and whoever becomes the Minister agrees

and admits and shows great concern at the phenomenon of industry after industry, unit after unit, many of them controlled and managed by MRTP concerns, getting sick everyday, and the Minister always assures the Parliament and the people that something will be done. But we find nothing but calculated callousness and criminal negligence on their part of to tackle the problem of sickness at the source.

The situation is so bad, the Minister, Mr. Poojary stated on 22nd February, and I quote: "Information in regard to sick industries, excluding small-scale industries in which institutional and bank finance is involved, as on 31st January, 1983 is not readily available." Mr. Tiwari stated on 7th October, in reply to a question, whether it is a fact that nearly 10 per cent of industrial units in the country are stated to be sick, and if not, what is the percentage—Mr. Tiwari stated: "Data are not available in this form. However, according to RBI, the sick industrial units accounted for 7.6 per cent of the total bank advances as at the end of March 1981."

This is the concern that we find in the Ministry. Sickness in units ever owned by MRTP concerns is spreading because sickness is highly profitable. It has become an epidemic. Greater the sickness, bigger is the profit. There is open collusion—I charge—between those who own and make the industrial unit sick, the banks and term-lending institutions bosses which give them loans and credit, and the bureaucrats of the Ministries of Industry and Finance who prosper in-between. The industry becomes sick, but not the industrialist. Hundreds of workers have committed suicide. Today, the Nav Bharat Times has given the names of 147 workers who committed suicide in Kumbhari Engineering Works, in Bhaishkar textile mill, in the Steel and Alloys Products, in the Indian Leno-leum Ltd., a concern of Birlas, Oriental Paper Mills; and all are sick. But what does that matter to our, if I may say so, two Brahmin Ministers, one is Tiwari ji, and the other is Mr.

Pranab Mukherjee. As a matter of fact, what alternative is left for the workers? The Minister stated when a question was asked as to what protection the workers are given when an industrial unit becomes sick or closes down because of above reasons, Mr. Chanana stated: "The workers are entitled to retrenchment compensation... whenever they are retrenched due to closure and lay-off." This is the concern that we find in the Ministry regarding millions of workers who are thrown out everyday because of industries and units getting sick.

On 3rd of August, 1982, the Minister of Finance stated: "About the distribution of sickness, that outstanding advances of scheduled commercial banks against sick units each having bank credit of Rs. 1 crore and above was, in 1978—Rs. 1060.96; it went up in 1979—Rs. 1158.48; in December, 1980 it went up to Rs. 1324.47 and as on March 1981, it went up to Rs. 1413.48 crores. It is not in relation to small and medium industries. As on 31st December 1979, 378 big industries were closed down and the outstanding debt was Rs. 1158 crores and on 31st December 1981, the number 378 went up to 422 large concerns, and the outstanding amount was Rs. 1478 crores. The number of small-scale units, as per the information given by the hon. Minister, becoming sick, is phenomenal. In 1979, according to the Minister, 22,366 became sick. In 1981, the number went up to 23,742 and Mr. Tiwari stated in this House and Mr. Poojary also stated that the sick industrial units at the end of March, 1981, accounted for 7.6 per cent of the total bank advances.

As on 31st March, 1979, out of the sick units, 45 belonged to monopoly houses and at the end of June, 1981, this 45 went up to 66 and all belonged to either Thapars or Birlas or Singhanias or Mafatlals. But what is the concern of the Ministry or of the Government in regard to this? Nothing at all. As a matter of fact, as I pointed out, a plunder is going on in

[Shri Kalyan Roy]

the name of sickness. In this connection, here, I would like to quote what has been stated by the Minister of Finance. I quote:

"The present system of data collection adopted by the banks and financial institutions does not yield information relating to the amount of taxes etc. due from each of the sick units."

This was stated on 3rd August, 1982. In other words, industrial units become sick because they can eat up the entire bank advances. This is a collusion between the two. Hundreds of crores have been written off every year in the name of sickness. And there is no data. No data has been kept either by the Ministry of Finance or by the Ministry of Industry. The result is, sickness is highly profitable. Sir, the real question is, who is responsible? A question was asked on the 29th July, 1982, as to who is responsible. The question was asked:

"Whether Government are aware that an in-depth study by the Reserve Bank of India regarding industrial sickness of large industrial houses has revealed that in the majority of such cases (about 52 per cent) internal causes like management deficiencies, diversion of funds, infighting among different interests are the major causes?"

The Minister replied:

"As per the causes of sickness perceived by the banks in respect of 378 large sick units as at the end of December, 1979, and reported to the Reserve Bank of India, 197 units, or about 52 per cent of the total, were sick due to mismanagement and management deficiencies, (including diversion of funds, infighting, lack of marketing strategy);"

This is the reason, not because of workers' trouble. This is because of

the failure of the management, inefficiency, diversion of funds, misappropriation and super profits. These are the root causes on account of which an amount of Rs. 5,000 crores of bank loans is locked up, 25,000 industries have become sick leading to the unemployment of about one million workers today. Now, Sir, this is what has been stated by the Ministry of Industry in their report for the year 1981-82. I quote:

"The Administrative Ministries will have a central role in monitoring sickness and co-ordinating action for revival and rehabilitation of sick units; in specific cases..... This is the crux of the whole question:

...they will establish standing committees for major industrial sectors where sickness is widespread."

On 21st October, the Ministry laid on the Table of the House a policy statement on sick units. This is the only important question which I am putting today and I would like to have a specific, clear and precise reply. In the policy statement on sick industries, it has been stated:

"The Administrative Ministries have been assigned a specific responsibility for prevention and remedial action in relation to sickness in industry sectors within their respective charge..."

In suitable cases, Administrative Ministries would establish standing committees for major industrial sectors where sickness is widespread. Such committees would not only review the extent of sickness and policy measures required to tackle the problem, but also analyse problems of individual units showing signs of sickness."

So, the question was asked on 21st October, 1982, 6th October, 1981, 15th July, 1982 and on 4th November, 1982. The same reply was given again and again. I am quoting the reply given on the 21st October, 1982:

"The guidelines issued in February 1982 to various State Governments and Central Government Ministries included suggestion to establish Standing Committees for major industries to monitor sickness in these industries."

It is further said that various suggestions including the setting up of the Standing Committees are still under their consideration and the matter is being pursued with them. On 21 October, 1982, Tiwariji replied that the question of setting up... (*Time-bell rings*). I am finishing.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): This is Half-an-Hour Discussion and you are making a marathon speech.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: For clarification people speak for half-an-hour.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): But you are going on reading questions and replies. You can make a reference and....

SHRI KALYAN ROY: This is the crux of the whole question. The Minister stated on 21st October that the question of setting-up of Standing Committees was still under consideration. Finally on the 17th March, 1983, Mr. S. M. Krishna, Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry, Stated, I quote:

"The Administrative Ministries have examined the matter but do not consider that there is need for setting up Standing Committees."

Why such a renege? Why such a volte face? You have laid it on the Table of the House that Standing Committees of individual units of industries facing sickness would be set up. For one year you went on stating that the Committees are going to be set up, two reports stated that they are being set up, but suddenly what has happened? Under whose pressure have you succumbed that on the 17th March you said that there was no need to set up Standing Committees? It is because your Administrative Ministries are not going to do it? In other words, this is a total volte face because—I

put it finally—it is due to the pressure of the big business houses whose units have been closed down. They are afraid of scrutiny, they are afraid of probe, they are afraid of investigation about the monies they have taken from the banks, about the monies they taken from the ICICI, from the IDBI—about 300 crores of rupees. That is why you have succumbed to their pressure and today surreptitiously you have withdrawn the industrial policy regarding sickness which you have announced with such fanfare in this House.

May I ask the last question? On page 9 of the statement on Industrial policy by Dr. Charanjit Chanaana, it is stated, I quote:

"It is also the view of the Government that deliberate mismanagement and financial improprieties leading to sickness should be dealt with firmly."

Before I sit down, I would humbly ask Mr. Tiwari: Show me one case, one instance in which you have taken serious and stern action against one unit which has been responsible for financial impropriety or mismanagement. You cannot give answer. You cannot face the millions of workers who have been thrown out by these corrupt entrepreneurs who have taken monies from the banks and have closed down. You cannot defend the industry. That is why you have surrendered to the monopoly pressure and in spite of the resolution, in spite of the declaration regarding sick units policy, today you have meekly surrendered to the big business houses, to the Birlas and to the monopoly houses. That is why you are saying that you are not going to set up these Standing Committees. Otherwise, the truth will come out and they will be exposed, your officers, the bank bosses and the corrupt entrepreneurs will be caught. You are in league with them. Where there is corruption, where there is mismanagement, the only way is to take over and take stern action against those who are responsible for the mismanagement.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA): The Minister will reply at the end. I hope you agree to this. Yes, Mr. Ladli Mohan Nigam.

श्री लाडली मोहन निगम (मध्य प्रदेश) : जो कल्याण राय जी ने कहा मैं उस से मुत्तफिक हूँ। मुझे सब से बड़ी चिन्ता यह है कि मजदूरों को [हड़ताल की वजह से या सरकार की उपेक्षा की वजह से या कानूनों की वजह से हिन्दुस्तान का कोई भी कारखाना बीमार नहीं होता। कुछ योजनाबद्ध साजिश चल रही है हिन्दुस्तान में जानबूझकर कारखानों को बीमार करने के लिए कि उनको बीमार करो और सरकार के गले मढ़ दो। फिर अच्छी हो जाये तो ले लो। तो मंत्री जी कम से कम यह तो फैसला करें कि क्या आप इस स्थिति में हैं कि अगर कोई भी कारखाना जो निजी क्षेत्र का है, वह अगर बीमार होता है तो उसको सरकार ले लेगी, मजदूरों के हित में, देश के हित में और उत्पादन के हित में लेकिन साथ ही साथ उस आदमी या संचालन मंडल के जो और कारखाने होंगे, उनकी जो परिसम्पत्ति होगी उसको भी सरकार अपने कब्जे में करेगी। जब तक आप ऐसा करने के लिए तैयार नहीं होते तब तक कारखानेदार एक कारखाने से मलाई निकाल कर दूसरे में लगा दगे और फिर उसको बीमार कर देंगे : एक एक को बीमार करते जायेंगे और आपके गले मढ़ते जायेंगे :

बंगाल पोटर्री के बारे में आशवासन था वित्त मंत्री जी का उस जमाने में कि हम उसे ठीक करेंगे। उसमें बहुत घपले हैं। मैं यह नहीं कहता हूँ कि क्या क्या घपले हैं, मैं एक ही चीज आपके सामने रख देना चाहता हूँ : जो उनके आडिटर्स हैं, जो उनके खुद के आडिटर्स हैं उन्होंने अपनी रिपोर्ट में खुद कहा है—

—I quote from the letter of the auditors written to the Chairman, Punjab National Bank on 14th December:

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Regarding which factory? Bengal Potterries?

SHRI LADLI MOHAN NIGAM: Yes, Bengal Potterries. It says:

"We are also at a loss to understand how the bank has allowed such types of bill discounting exceeding the limit set by the Reserve Bank of India. It has also come to our knowledge that even after detection of such irregularities, both the Punjab National Bank and IRCI (Indian Reconstruction Corporation of India) are further advancing money to the same management".

20 करोड़ का घपला तो हो चुका है, आडिटर की रिपोर्ट में लिखा है। उन्होंने यह भी लिखा है कि किस तरह से खाते में वपला किया गया। इसके साथ ही यह भी कहा है कि यह बंगाल पाटरीज जो चीनी मिट्टी के बर्तन बनाती है वह खुद बाजार से माल खरीदती है और किसी को उपहार में देना हो तो बाहर से माल खरीदकर देती है। इससे ज्यादा और हास्यास्पद बात और क्या हो सकती है? एक दूध बेचने वाला, दूध पैदा करने वाला बाजार से दूध खरीदकर दूसरे को दे।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, यह भी रिपोर्ट में है कि कार है लेकिन उसका उपयोग नहीं होता है, उसकी जगह टैक्सी का उपयोग होता है। आपको मालूम है कि किन किन कारखानेदारों ने ऐसी किया है। तो मेरा प्रश्न यह है कि इस बंगाल पोटर्री को आप अपने कब्जे में लेने जा रहे हैं कि नहीं? आप कैसे अपना पैसा वसूल करेंगे? आपका पसा देश का पैसा है। तो यह करोड़ों रुपया कैसे निकले अगर आप राष्ट्रीयकरण करने की स्थिति में नहीं हैं और समझते हैं कि उस पर

काफी पैसा खर्च करना पड़ेगा तो क्या आप इस बात के लिए तैयार हैं कि इस कंपनी के मालिकों की जो परिसम्पत्ति है जैसे मेरे ऊपर बकाया होता हो तो मेरे ऊपर कुर्की करके पैसा लिया जाता है, क्या आप घोषणा करेंगे कि किसी भी उद्योगपति ने यदि किसी उद्योग को बीमार बनाया तो आप ऐसा करेंगे ? जैसे एक जयपुरिया एक मिल को बीमार बनाता है तो दूसरे से कमाता है, तो आप क्या उनके खिलाफ ऐसी कार्यवाही करेंगे । मैं आपकी नीयत पर शक नहीं करता हूँ चाहे वह लोहिया मशीन हो या दूसरी हो । आपकी ईमानदारी को मद्देनजर रखते हुए आपसे यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि देश की दौलत आपके काबू में है, हिन्दुस्तान की 53 फीसदी जनता गरीबी की रेखा के नीचे है, हर साल लाखों लोग बेरोजगार बना दिये जाते हैं कारखाने बन्द करके । तो क्या सरकार इस स्थिति में है कि वह यह घोषणा करे कि अगर कोई मालिक अपना कारखाना बीमार करायेगा तो उनके जितने भी दूसरे कारखाने हैं उनको आप कब्जे में ले लेंगे ? दूसरे यह कि बंगाल पाटरी में जितना भी घपला हुआ है उसे आप कैसे वसूलेंगे और क्या आप उसका राष्ट्रीकरण करेंगे ? यह दो प्रश्न हैं ?

श्री अश्विनी कुमार (बिहार) : माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपके मध्यम से माननीय उद्योग मंत्री जी से स्पष्ट जानना चाहता हूँ कि बीमार मिलों को लेकर एक चर्चा हो रही है और अभी मेरे मित्र कल्याण राय जी ने उसका विशुद्ध विश्लेषण किया और मैं उस विशुद्ध विश्लेषण से सम्बन्ध रखते हुए केवल एक उदाहरण उनके सामने रखकर, एक स्पेसिफिक उदाहरण रखकर उनकी राय जानना चाहता हूँ कि वह इस सब के बारे में क्या कहने जा रहे

हैं । एक मिल है जिसने धोटेला किया है । 19 करोड़ रुपये वहां के मालिकों ने खा लिये हैं और जब मालिक ने 19 करोड़ रुपये खा लिये तो एक दिन आकर कह दिया कि आज से वेतन नहीं दिया जायेगा । इस घटना को चार साल हो गये हैं । लोक आउट नहीं है, रिटेंचमेंट नहीं है, रोज हाजिरी हो रही है । अगर आप नहीं जायेंगे तो आपसे एक्सप्लेनेशन काल की जायेगी, अर्जी ली जायेगी, सस्पेंड किया जायेगा । रोज उनको बुलाया जा रहा है । मैं "कुमार घोषी इंजीनियरिंग वर्क्स" के बारे में चर्चा कर रहा हूँ । चार साल हो गये हैं । जुलाई, 79 से वेतन नहीं मिला जब कि पिछले साल तक अफसरों को वेतन मिल रहा था । यह क्यों घपला है ? सरकार ने इस पर क्या कार्यवाही की ? हमने उनसे दौड़-धूप करके कहा कि उनसे पैसा वसूल किया जाए तो सरकार ने कहा कि बड़े उद्योगपतियों से पैसा वसूले करने में हम असमर्थ हैं , जितनी मिलें बीमार हैं उनके मजदूरों की रक्षा करने के लिये, उनके प्राणों की रक्षा करने के लिये आपने मिलों का अधिग्रहण किया है तो क्या यहां पर भी मजदूरों की जिन्दगी बचाने के लिये आपकी वही नीति चल रही है या सरकार में उसके लिये परिवर्तन आ गया है ? इसमें सीधी सी बात यह है कि मालिकों ने पैसा लिया और मिल बंद कर दी । इस सारी घटना के लिये केन्द्रीय सरकार की बिहार सरकार से चर्चा हुई । केन्द्रीय सरकार ने कहा कि बिहार सरकार इसका अधिग्रहण कर ले । मैं आपकी जानकारी के लिये बताना चाहता हूँ कि 26 जुलाई, 82 को बिहार विधान सभा ने सर्व सम्पत्ति से, सारे हाउस ने "विद्वाउट एनी डिसेंट" बिल पास कर दिया कि 'कुमार घोषी इंजीनियरिंग वर्क्स' का अधिग्रहण कर लिया जाए । प्रावधान में यह भी

[श्री अश्विनी कुमार]

था कि सरकार चाहे तो उसको प्राइवेट सेक्टर में चला सकता है। 6 अगस्त, 1982 को यह बिल केन्द्रीय सरकार के पास आ गया जो 10 महीने तक लटका रहा। केन्द्रीय सरकार के दफ्तरों में लालफोता शाही चल रही है। चार हजार मजदूर और उनके 20 हजार परिवार रोज हाजरी देकर कोई और काम न करके घर न जाकर वहीं भूखे पेट पड़े रहते हैं। आज के "नवभारत टाइम्स" में साफ-साफ लिखा है। 147 लोगों का नाम लिखा है टिकट नम्बर भी लिखा है कि ये लोग मौत के घाट उतारे जा चुके हैं। जिन्होंने सू-साइड कर लिया है उनके नाम भी हैं। ये मजदूर तो मरे ही हैं, उनकी पत्नी, उनके बच्चे भी मरे होंगे। तकरीबन हजारों लोग मर गये होंगे। हम खुद जाकर देख कर आये हैं कि हजारों लोग मरने के कगार पर हैं। उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, स्थिति इतनी विकराल हो गयी है कि महिलाएँ पेट पालने के लिये अपना शरीर बेचने के लिये मजबूर हो रही हैं। यह सब हो रहा है। बिहार सरकार ने बिल पास कर दिया है इसलिये मैं सरकार से स्पष्ट जानना चाहता हूँ।

[उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री लाडली मोहन निगम) पीठासीन हुए]

जहाँ मजदूरों पर अत्याचार होंगे, मिल मालिकों का अत्याचार होगा उनसे मजदूरों की रक्षा करने के लिये क्या सिक मिलों को टेक-आवर करेंगे? मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि यह नीति आपकी है या बदल गयी है? उद्योग मंत्री जी कहते हैं कि हम मजदूरों के हकदार हैं, हमदर्द तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि उनकी

रक्षा के लिए आप उम मिल को अधिग्रहण करेंगे या नहीं? बिहार सरकार इस बारे में बिल पहले ही यानि 10 महीने पहले पास कर चुकी है आप इस बिल को पास करेंगे या ऐसे ही छोड़ देंगे? जो बिहार सरकार ने बिल पास किया है मैं समझता हूँ वह केन्द्रीय सरकार की राय से सारी चर्चा करके, कैसे आगे चलेंगे, नहीं चलेंगे यह सारी बात करके किया होगा। मैं ऐसा मानता हूँ कि अधिकतर बिल अगर है तो यह प्रश्नवाचक चिन्ह होगा। इट वाज ओनली पार्लिटिकल स्टैंड आफ द बिहार गवर्नमेंट। इसलिए मैं आपसे जानना चाहूँगा कि 6 अगस्त 1982 को जो बिल आपके पास भेजा गया है, जिसको दस महीने आपके पास भेजे हुए हो गये हैं उसको आप क्या पास करेंगे और अगर पास करेंगे तो कब पास करेंगे? ये तीन मरे स्पष्ट प्रश्न हैं जो मैं आपके माध्यम से उद्योग मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहता हूँ और यह चाहता हूँ कि मंत्री जी कुमार घोषी इंजीनियरिंग वर्क्स के बारे में हमें जानकारी दें।

DR. MALCOLM S. ADISESHIAH (Nominated): It is very difficult to follow Mr. Kalyan Roy and Mr. Ladli Mohan Nigam in this debate. But I will ask three marco questions to the Minister.

First question is, can he give us the latest number of sick units? The figures that I have, coming from a statement made by him last year, is 24,051 units as—at June, 1981. This is the figure I have, Is there a more up-to-date figure of the total number of sick units?

Second question is, how much bank credit is locked up in these sick units? In the Reserve Bank report, the last one, that I saw, Rs. 2,064 crores are locked up as on December 31, 1980. Is there a more up-to-date figure of the total amount of the bank credit looked up in the sick units?

Thirdly, in addition to the solution suggested by Mr. Kalyan Roy which was going back to what the Minister himself said and what the Annual Report says, I would like to make three suggestions for action, which will help Parliament in its work on sick units, with which my friends are concerned.

First of all, can he ensure that someone like the Reserve Bank publishes every six months the number of the sick units and the total amount locked up, unit by unit, giving us the actual figures, because we are now two to three years behind in respect of this information?

Secondly, would you agree that when a unit does not generate a minimum surplus for a period exceeding a year, it is becoming sick? That is the good definition of a unit which is going to be sick. A unit which does not generate a surplus for over a year, should be placed under some monitoring by the Ministry of Industry by cause it is going in the direction of becoming sick.

The third solution is that the Tiwari Committee of 1981 recommended a quasi-judicial authority to be set up to deal with the four options which are open when a unit is getting sick:

The first option is revival of the unit.

The second option is take-over by the Government.

The third option is sale as a running company.

And the fourth is liquidation.

What is the Government doing about this recommendation of the Committee which seems to be very sensible, which will enable the Government to denotify certain companies and enable the banks to collect their dues as they would from any debtor of the bank.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, I will be very brief. It seems that in answer to a

ness is due to two kinds of reasons: question it has been said that sick—One of the reasons are related to management efficiency—inefficiency, financial control and diversion of resources. I am interested to know from the Minister this, I admit that death and sickness is not an abnormal feature of a capitalist society. It is quite normal. For instance, in the United States every year some 2 lakh units die and 2 lakh units die and 2 lakh are born. So that is perfectly normal. Despite what is written in the Constitution, ours is a capitalist society.

But the point is, what is relevant here is, the mode of getting sick. This mode is very interesting, and perhaps very peculiar to Indian genius. Now is this mode what happens is this. There is something called a related person in our income-tax affairs. It is the operation via this related person that all these sickness really grows. Now we know the history. There was a report a few years ago of a Committee of Parliament headed by Jyotirmoy Bosu on the Jute Industry where in it was said that while buying there is a related person, that when the jute mill buys raw jute, it is from a related person, and that seller of raw jute to the jute unit buys at a very low price from the farmer and then in the books of account shows a very high price as the selling price as the selling price to the jute factory. And then once again there is a related person to whom that jute unit sells its finished goods. And there again he says there is no market and he sells it at a price whereby, by taking into account his purchase price of raw jute and his sale price of jute manufactures, he declares a loss. Once again this related person make a profit both when raw jute is being sold to the unit and when the jute manufactures are being purchased. The industry is declared a sick unit and what happens? The owners of the industry via the related persons have amassed huge fortunes, while the farmers have suffered and the worker have suffered. The unit

[Shri Nirmal Chatterjee]

is closed and the whole money goes into devious channels. It would be our good fortune if it goes into productive channels. But most often it does not go into productive channels. It goes into trade channels which we cannot discover afterwards. Now it is in this mode, combined with, as you all know, the underinvoicing and overinvoicing of our imports and exports that our industries have a tendency to become sick.

It has also been mentioned, as Mr. Kalyan Roy has profusely illustrated and Nigamji has also illustrated—at least he has given one instance—that the whole arrangement of the society, dominated by the Government and these big business sharks, is such that when some MRTP unit goes sick, tax concessions are offered to the same house, saying if you take over that sick unit, then you will be granted tax concessions. Now these tax concessions are being utilised by the same big houses whose units have gone sick and there is no provision of penalty to be imposed on these houses. My question is, are you, Mr. Minister, prepared to introduce such legislation that if any unit goes sick, belonging to a large house, adequate compensation from the shareholding of that large house would be made in order to make that sick unit a viable one? Would you introduce such legislation that if any of the units of the large houses, which are known to all of us, which are either FERA or MRTP houses, goes sick, then in compensation some other units would be taken over? Are you prepared to go to this extent? Only then you prevent these suckers of all funds, suckers of all productive forces in the country from continuing to suck the blood either of the workers or of the growers of the citizens at large.

उत्सभाध्यक्ष (श्री लाडली मोहन निगम) : श्री शिव चन्द्र झा आधा घंटा हो चुका है बल्कि 15 मिनट कौर हो चुके हैं । इसलिये आप प्रश्न पूछ लीजिये ।

श्री शिव चन्द्र झा (बिहार) :

बिल्कुल मैं प्रश्न ही पूछ रहा हूँ । मेरा पहला सवाल यह है, मैं सारे देश कि सिक यूनिट्स का हिसाब नहीं मांगता हूँ, लेकिन जो मोनोपली हाउसेज हैं, बोथ टाप हाउसेज हैं, उनकी कितनी सिक यूनिट्स हैं, उनके मातहत कितनी सिक यूनिट्स हैं और इसके नाम पर उनको ठीक करने के लिये, जिन्दा करने के लिये कितना क्रेडिट, लोन आपने दिया है ? लोन देने के पहले क्या आपकी यह नीति है कि आप वारिग दे दें टाइम वाइंट कि पैसा लेते हो तो आपको इतने समय तक इसको सिकनेस खत्म करनी है, इसको अपने पैरों पर खड़ा करना है । ऐसा आपने क्या कहीं किया है और किसी के खिलाफ कोई कार्यवाही की है ?

दूसरा प्रश्न मेरा है कि एन० के० चमरिया जूट मिल कटिहार में जो है, उसने आपसे बहुत पैसा लोन में लिया है । लेकिन वहाँ की हालत दिन प्रतिदिन बरस से बदतर होती जा रही है, मजदूरों की तनख्वाह की बात है, हड़तालें हो रही हैं । तो इस एन० के० चमरिया, जूट मिल, जिसकी ऐसी हालत है उसको क्या आप ले रहे हैं ? यह जो परिस्थिति हो रही है वह इनकी जो पंचवर्षीय योजना देश में चली है आजादी के बाद उसी की प्रोडक्ट है, कांसीक्युसेज है जिससे कि मोनोपली हाउसेज बढ़ते गये हैं सिकनेस भी बढ़ता गया है और आप कर्ज भी देते जा रहे हैं । यह सारी बीमारी जो है जो आपकी पंचवर्षीय योजनाएँ चली है इनकी वजह से है । कहा जाता है कि इनसे केपिटलिज्म बढ़ा है क्या आप इसको कबूल करते हैं या नहीं ? भारतीय पूँजीवाद आजादी के बाद पंचवर्षीय योजनाओं के मातहत और आपकी इंडस्ट्रियल पालिसी के मातहत बढ़ा है, इनसे पूँजीवाद का

जो रूप है, करेक्टरेस्टिक बड़े हैं इसको क्या आप कबूल करते हैं ? अन्तिम सवाल मेरा यह है कि टाप मोनोपली हाउसेज में तो कहेंगे कि आप इनको नेशनलाइज कर लें यदि नेशनलाइज नहीं करते हैं तो गांधी जी की जो ध्योरी है ट्रस्टीशिप की गांधी जी का जो विचार ट्रस्टीज का था उसके मातहत सिद्धान्त रूप में मोनोपली हाउसेज के मनेजमेंट को लेने का क्या आपका कोई कार्यक्रम है, जो कि गांधी जी का दर्शन है यह विचार है या नहीं ?

श्री दुष्मन्तदेव नारायण यादव (बिहार) : मेरा प्रश्न यह है कि जब तक बीमार मिल को सरकार अस्पताल में भर्ती करती रहेगी तब तक मिलें बीमार होती रहेगी और सरकारी अस्पताल भी चालू रहेगा । तो सरकार से मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि कब तक इनका अस्पताल खुला रहेगा और यह पूँजीपतियों की बीमार मिलों को इसमें भर्ती करते जायेंगे । दूसरे यह है कि जिस समय से कारखाने बनना शुरू होते हैं तो उसी समय यह बड़े-बड़े उद्योगपति एकाधिकारवादी घराने जिस उद्योग के लिए रुपया लेते हैं बैंक से वह उसमें न लगाकर के वहाँ से रुपया चोरी करना शुरू कर देते हैं और दूसरी तरफ उसको ट्रांसफर करने लगते हैं तो क्या सरकार रिजर्व बैंक के जरिये से कोई इस तरह का उच्च स्तरीय आयोग बनायेगी, कमेटी बनायेगी जो इस बात की शुरू से जाँच करे और ऐसे लोग जहाँ चोरी में पकड़े जायें उनको दूसरे उद्योगों के लिए रुपया न दें । जैसे की लाडली मोहन निगम जी ने कहा अगर किसी उद्योगपति की एक इकाई बीमार होती है तो उसकी दूसरी सम्पत्ति को लेने में सरकार को क्या आपत्ति है इस बात को स्पष्ट करें क्यों कतराती है, उसकी दूसरी सम्पत्ति

नहीं लेंगे ? आखिरी बात यह है कि अस्थायी तौर पर देश के जो बड़े जानकार अर्थशास्त्री हैं, विद्वान लोग हैं, उनकी ऐसी उच्चस्तरीय कमेटी सरकार बनावें और उस कमेटी के आगे इस बात को दें कि इस तरह जो बीमार उद्योग बनते जा रहे हैं जो प्रक्रिया चालू है और सरकार के साथे पर यह बीमार उद्योग बढ़ते चले जा रहे हैं और सरकारी खजाने का जो दुरुपयोग हो रहा है अनन्त काल तक कब तक चलाते रहेंगे द्रोपदी की साड़ी की तरह कब तक उद्योग बीमार बनते जायेंगे और सरकारी खजाने पर बोझ बनते जायेंगे तो उसको रोकने के लिये कोई उपाय आप करना चाहते हैं या नहीं और यदि कोई कदम नहीं उठाना चाहते हैं उसके लिये कोई कमेटी नहीं बनाना चाहते हैं तो क्यों नहीं बनाना चाहते हैं जो इस बात, को मुझसे और सरकार उस पर दृढ़ता से कदम उठावे ? सरकार इसके लिये तैयार है या नहीं ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): Shriman, first of all, I would like to compliment my friend and colleague, Shri Kalyan Roy, for having raised this important question through this Half-an-Hour Discussion. I agree that this is a very important subject and this is one of the major problems that has been bothering us. I am also thankful to Shri Nirmal Chatterjee for having pointed out that this phenomenon of industrial sickness is not confined to our country but it is an international phenomenon, it is a world-wide problem. He quoted figures of the United States also; not only the United States, technologically advanced countries like Japan are witnessing the same phenomenon. I do not want to go into the statistics of it. But I would say what Mr. Chatterjee said is correct in this context. That does not mean that

[Shri Narayan Datt Tiwari]

we should be complacent. We have not been complacent, as the honourable Member himself knows. We are very much concerned about it. Our policy statements have focused serious attention on this problem and we have tried our level best to see that industrial sickness is reduced. We cannot just say that we can eliminate it. No country in the world has been able to do it. But we should be able to contain it and reduce the incidence of industrial sickness. And that has been our constant endeavour.

I am also thankful to Dr. Malcom Adiseshiah. He is an erudite scholar in his own right. Of course, his suggestions, I am sure, will not be acceptable to my friend, Shri Kalyan Roy. He has made three suggestions for revival and he said if revival is not possible, either take over or sell or liquidate. Dr. Adiseshiah knows that this has been the corner stone of our industrial policy statement on the aspect of how to deal with industrial sickness. You would agree that we should not give the impression that each and every unit is bound to be nationalised if it goes sick. Then it gives premium to sickness. It encourages sickness and then again any management would be inclined to do whatever has been said by many of the hon. Members. The management will think: If at any cost the unit is to be nationalised, it will be nationalised and, therefore, you should we care about management? Labour also becomes complacent.

Three or four reasons were mentioned by my friend. Mr. Jha also did this. One of the factors that has led to industrial sickness is the infra-structural constraint, especially difficulty in getting adequate supply of power. So, power has been a major constraint in the recent years. As soon as most of these small units are concentrated in the urban areas, newly developed urban areas or as agglomerate even in rural areas and backward areas, the power constraint

is felt. Supply of power is often cut and they get it only for five or six hours and the whole productivity is hamstrung and this leads to incipient sickness. When it goes on and on for months and years, the electricity boards cannot fulfil their commitment and then industrial sickness is confirmed whether it is large, medium or small. This constraint of power adds to the other constraints such as raw-material constraint, constraint of quality oriented supply of coal, etc. All these factors create circumstances which lead to sickness. According to the RBI figures while the number of sick units and outstanding credit to them has increased in absolute terms till 1981 sickness in relative terms does not seem to have increased. Between December, 1979 and December, 1981 the outstanding credit to sick units as percentage of the total bank advances came down from 7.9 per cent to 7.7 per cent. I am trying to answer Mr. Jha also. The RBI has examined the viability aspect also. RBI examined 422 units and out of 378 sick units they found 329 to be economically viable. These are large units out of which those which are economically viable account for 85 per cent, but they continue to be sick large units.

The RBI has also examined the viability of 15,956 small scale units. And it has found that 5,075 of them would be economically viable. Now, I agree that the financial institutions have to exercise greater caution and care at the point of financing and they have to exercise much stricter scrutiny of rehabilitation schemes submitted by these units. As you are aware, Sir, and as the honourable Members are aware, in each and every State we have a Co-ordination Committee which should meet as often as needed to monitor the sickness in the medium-scale and the small-scale units and the State financial institutions are also represented adequately in these and I think in most of the States these Co-ordination Committees are functioning and are trying to do their job.

Now, Sir, how do we define sickness? One honourable Member asked this question. According to the RBI, sickness is defined like this: When cash losses occurred in the previous year and the unit is likely to incur losses in the current year and also in the next year, when the current ratio is worsening and when the debt-equity ratio is also worsening, the financial institutions or the commercial banks know that this unit is going to be sick or has become sick and then they try to monitor.

DR. MALCOLM S. ADISESHIAH: What is that current ratio?

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI: It is the debt-equity ratio.

DR. MALCOLM S. ADISESHIAH: No; you said 'current ratio' earlier to that.

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI: That is the current ratio of cash losses. Even according to the guidelines issued, as the honourable Members know, each and every financial institution has been asked to have a monitoring cell to take remedial action and they have been asked to take necessary corrective action on the basis of diagnostic studies. Even the financial institutions have been asked to consider exemption of the management responsibilities based on the guidelines which have been issued by the Ministry of Finance, after assessing the viability of the unit, provided they are confident of restoring the unit to a healthy state.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Tiwariji, I am sorry to disturb you. There is one point to which I would like you to react. Sir, the Minister is consistently avoiding this naked dilution of the October Resolution, the policy on sick industries, which is a part of the Industry Ministry's Reports for 1981-82 and 1982-83, and the policy was that they would set up, the administrative Ministries, would set up committees industrywise and unit-wise and these questions were repeated from last year to this year and they say that it is under consideration. Suddenly, what happened and what

pressures have been brought, that on the 17th March you said that the administrative Ministries would not set up these committees?

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI: I am coming to that; I am coming to that point. If you want, I will answer that first.

You see, the guidelines announced in October, 1981 said that the administrative Ministries might "consider" setting up such committees. You see, it is not mandatory. They have used the word "consider", and it has never been said that they must set up standing committees in every Ministry. The word used has been "consider" only and they have considered the question of setting up or establishing standing committees and I am happy to inform the House and the honourable Members that the standing committees have been set up in the jute and textile industries, which industries account for a large part of the sick unit component of the statistics that we have. In textiles, there are now 99 units with an outstanding amount of Rs. 450 crores and in the jute industry, there are 36 units with an outstanding amount of Rs. 110.97 crores. So, already the standing committees have been set up in the jute and textile industries.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Unit-wise?

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI: No; these standing committees have been set up.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Your resolution says that unit-wise they will be set up.

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI: That the standing committees will consider and we cannot frame guidelines for each and every State from Delhi.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: But that is what you have said.

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI: They will consider setting up these committees. Now, the question is that we cannot claim and it is up to each and every administrative Ministry to

consider what is appropriate for the units under their charge. Of course, it is mainly for commercial banks and financial institutions and the State Government to do the job. My hon. friend asked for figures for small-scale units and others. I have all the figures if my friend wants them. Now, regarding the large and small-scale sector units the figures are: 23299 with outstanding dues of Rs. 313 crores. Out of these 5393 could be viable with outstanding dues of Rs. 146 crores. For large-scale units I have already given the figures. For small-scale units, viability is yet to be decided; 6694 units with outstanding dues of Rs. 60 crores; for large-scale units, 42 units, viability is yet to be decided with outstanding dues of Rs. 86 crores. The number of units which have been put on nursing schemes is 235 large-scale units—outstanding Rs. 919 crores. For small-scale industry units, the number is 2021 with Rs. 109 crores as outstanding dues.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: These are for 1981-82. What are the latest figures?

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI: These are the latest.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: That shows the concern of the Government.

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI: Of course, I agree that we have to put more concern about data collection and, therefore, we have asked the administrative Ministries. The Reserve Bank is also concerned about it. We should have more accurate data on this and we should have a system by which...

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Current.

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI: I agree. That is why we are trying to establish a mechanism by which we can collect information from all the units, because if even one unit out of 100 does not give the data properly, then the whole cannot be processed. This is one of the difficulties.

Now, as far as the question of Kumar Dhobi is concerned, I am thankful to Mr. Ashwani Kumar for having raised it. He was good enough to meet me also on this. Other hon. Members also expressed their concern. This is under discussion with the financial institutions because they have already given a large amount to them and they are finding out what else might be required. The Bihar Government wants to nationalise it. But they are not concerned about the financing pattern as to what would happen to the liabilities that they have already incurred. It is not a question of taking it over. It is also a question of providing finance to run it in future. When you take it over, if you cannot provide for all the raw materials required, the salaries required, then the whole revival plan of action cannot work. Therefore, the whole question has been under discussion.

श्री जगदम्बी प्रताप यादव (बिहार):

अभी तक क्या किया गया है। यह तो हर इन्डस्ट्री को लिया जायेगा तो लिया जायेगा। लेकिन कुमारडुबी में जहाँ हजारों लोग मर रहे हैं और जहाँ के लिये राज्य सरकार को भी स्वीकृति है और आप के भी है और वह आप से मिल भी गये हैं उस सिलसिले में आप किस निर्णय पर पहुँचे हैं?

श्री नारायण दत्त तिवारी : मैं माननीय सदस्य से आग्रह करूँगा कि यह कुमारडुबी का ही प्रश्न नहीं है। जो भी बीमार संस्थान हैं वह सब धन की आकांक्षी हैं और धन की लूट हो रही है। जो चाहता है वह रुपया ले रहा है। तो अगर सावधानी से इस बात का प्लान नहीं बनेगा और बिना योजना के कोई चीज बनेगी तो फिर आरोप लगाया जायेगा कि यह रुपया यूँ ही दे दिया गया और बेकार चला गया। इसलिये चूँकि यह पैसा जनता का है इसका दुरुपयोग न हो और इसका सदुपयोग

हो और कारखानों को चलाने में उस का विनियोग हो इस लिए यह आवश्यक है । सदन की यह राय है कि बिना इसके लिये ठीक से योजना बने काम नहीं हो सकता । बहरहाल, हम फाइनेंशियल इंस्टीट्यूशन्स से कह रहे हैं कि वह जल्द से जल्द इस संबंध में निर्णय लें ताकि कुमार डुबी के संबंध में उसके भविष्य का निर्णय हो सके ।

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : वहाँ हजारों लोगों की जान खतरे में है इस-लिये मैं चाहता हूँ की आप समय की कुछ पाबन्दी करें तो हम निश्चित हो जायें । उसके बाद ही हमारी समस्याओं का हल हो सकेगा ।

श्री नारायण दत्त तिवारी : मैं माननीय सदस्य की भावनाओं का आदर करता हूँ लेकिन इसी सदन में बंगाल पाटरीज का उल्लेख हुआ है, चमरिया जूट वर्क्स का उल्लेख हुआ है, तीन-चार और नाम लिये गये हैं और श्रीमन आपने बंगाल पाटरीज का उल्लेख किया जिसका प्रश्न हमारे सामने विचाराधीन है । देश में बहुत से बीमार संस्थान हैं जिन को वित्त पोषण की आवश्यकता है । बहुत से राष्ट्रीयकरण के प्रश्न भी विचाराधीन पड़े हुए हैं और मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि The Government announced the policy regarding these sick units. We have already nationalised five taken-over units after the announcement of the policy. At present 49 units were being managed under the IDR Act. आप देखें अश्विनो कुमार जी और यादव जी से मैं आग्रह करूंगा कि 49 यूनिट्स हैं जिनको आई० डी० आर आई० एक्ट में हम एडमिनिस्टर कर रहे हैं । हम चाहते हैं कि यह चलें । हम

को मजदूर यूनियन्स के सहयोग की भी आवश्यकता है क्योंकि Because of multiplicity of unions, because of bad industrial relations, these units go sick. That is also counter-productive as far as rehabilitation or revival of the sick units is concerned. Therefore, the question is not regarding one unit. But there are 49 units already which are being managed under the IDR Act. Now, out of these 49 units, we have decided to nationalise eight of these units. And the Government has already approved proposals for nationalisation of the Grant Ford Electrical India Limited and proposals for nationalisation of four other units are before the Cabinet. The State Governments have also been...

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Which are those four units?

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI: I will give the names later on. We have also prevailed upon the State Governments to take the necessary steps, and they have already decided to nationalise 29 of the units being managed by their nominees under the IDR Act. 14 of these are to be nationalised by the State Government of West Bengal. Final disposition of the remaining 11 units is yet to be decided. Five of these are managed by the nominees of the State Government and five are being managed by the IFCI and one by the nominee of the BHEL. The decision on the units is likely to be taken soon. And I may inform the honourable. House and the Hon. Members that a Cabinet Committee has since now been constituted to consider the question of the future of these sick units which have been already taken over under the IDR Act

Sir, I think that on the point of substance, I have tried to answer in my own humble way most of the questions that have been raised by the hon. Members. I would like to assure my hon. friend and colleague, Mr. Kalyan Roy, and all other Members who have participated in this debate that we will do whatever is

[Shri Narayan Datt Tiwari]

possible under the circumstances to rehabilitate the sick units and to see that this poison of sickness does not spread.

श्री अश्वती कुमार : कुमार डुबी में वहां रोज मजदूरों की हाजरी ली जा रही है। मजदूरों को रोज बुलाया जा रहा है। मजदूर कहते हैं कि हम बकाया पैसा नहीं लेंगे। यूनियन के मजदूरों ने लिखकर दे दिया है कि हम पांच साल तक हड़ताल नहीं करेंगे, बकाया पैसा नहीं लेंगे। यह एक अनोखा युनिट है भारत में और इसलिये मैं चाहूंगा कि इस की आप विशेष चिन्ता करें।

श्री नारायण दत्त तिवारी : मैं नम्रता के साथ कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह निर्णय बिहार सरकार का है। बिहार सरकार की संसृति पर विचार हो रहा है।

ये जो वित्तीय संस्थाएं हैं, ये इस बारे में निर्णय ले रही हैं।

श्री हकमदेव नारायण यादव : बिहार सरकार के मंत्री जी को बुलाकर आप इसमें कुछ करिये।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री लाडली मोहन निगम) : यह जो बहस है ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय की, चूंकि देर बहुत हो गयी है कितनी देर तक बैठा जा सकता है? कई सदस्यों के नाम हैं, अभी एक ही सदस्य बोले हैं, इसलिये सभी लोगों को मौका न मिले तो अशुभ होगा। तो मैं समझता हूँ की यह बहस अगले वक्त के लिए मुलतबी कर दी जाए। इसी सत्र में यह बहस होगी और सभवतः 10 तारीख को होगी।

अब सदन की कार्यवाही कल सवेरी 11 बजे तक के लिए स्थगित की जा रही है।

The House then adjourned at eleven minutes past seven of the clock till eleven of the clock on Thursday, the 5th May, 1983.