

[श्री बी० सत्यनारायण रेड्डी]

के बाद, रात के 10-11 बजे तक उस पुलिस स्टेशन के कम्पाऊंड में बिठाया गया। दिन के बाई बजे गिरफ्तार करने के बाद रात के 10-11 बजे तक पुलिस के कम्पाऊंड में एक दरख्त के नीचे बगैर पानी के बगैर खाने के हमको बिठाया गया और रात के साढ़े 12 बजे हम को मेरठ ले जाया गया और रात के डेढ़ बजे मैजिस्ट्रेट के सामने पेश किया गया और फिर रात में साढ़े तीन बजे मुझको जेल पहुंचाया गया। सुबह से शाम तक न हमको पानी मिला, न खाना, कुछ नहीं। हमारे साथ बेरहमी के साथ बेदर्दी के साथ बर्ताव किया गया। अगर एक पोलियामेंट के मेम्बर के साथ ऐसा व्यवहार होता है तो मैं नहीं समझता कि आम जनता जो अन्याय और जुल्म के खिलाफ लड़ती है उसके साथ क्या रखा होगा, इसका आप अंदाजा लगा सकते हैं। मैं इस सदन में आपके जरिये सरकार को यह बर्ताना देना चाहता हूँ कि अगर यही तरीका रहा तो यह सरकार कुछ दिन भी नहीं रह सकती। जनता उठेगी और जैसे अंग्रेज इम्पीरियलिस्ट अपनी सारी ताकत लगाने के बाद भी हिन्दुस्तान की जनता को अमन के साथ हिन्दुस्तान को आजादी को हासिल करने में दबा नहीं सके उसी तरह से इस जुल्म को खत्म करने के लिए जनता के आन्दोलन को सरकार दबा नहीं सकती। जनता जुल्म का मुकाबला जरूर करेगी।

**RE. MISLEADING INFORMATION  
GIVEN TO THE HOUSE BY THE  
MINISTER OF ENERGY AND COAL  
REGARDING DISASTER IN PALA-  
STHALI COAL MINE**

**SHRI KALYAN ROY (West Bengal)**  
Sir, it is very shocking and repulsive that the Minister for Energy misled the House while replying to the Cal-

ling Attention in relation to the coal mine disaster in Palasthali coal mine that happened in June, 1980. In this accident three workers were killed and four seriously injured. Out of these three, one was a woman—a Santhal—aged 29. The whole matter came up as Calling Attention motion in this House on the 16th June, 1980, in the Rajya Sabha. The Minister stated in the House. And I quote:

An *ex-gratia* payment of Rs. 1,000/- is made at once. Then under the Life Cover Scheme, twenty months' salary that comes to about Rs. 11,000/- is paid. Then gratuity amounting to 15 days' wages for every completed year of service as per the gratuity rules is paid. In addition to it, pension to the dependents which varies from Rs. 40 to Rs. 150/- under the pension scheme, depending on the length of service, is paid. Immediate employment to one dependent of each of the deceased is given. The workmen's compensation is given according to the rules which may be about Rs. 30,000 depending on the length of service. Provident Fund accumulation with both the shares lying with the Coal Mines Provident Fund is followed up by the management for quick payment. All other legal dues like wages for earned leave is also paid."

He further stated. And I quote:

"I have directed that these payments may be made immediately. I have also instructed the authorities concerned that other possible help is given to the injured workers and I understand that they are receiving the best available medical attention."

I went to Asansol and verified and also got a letter from the Secretary of the recognized Union saying that (a) Rs. 500 will be deducted from the amount paid to each workman out of the total *ex-gratia* payment (b) No gratuity has been paid to any relative

of the workers killed in accident, (c) None of the dependents have been employed, (d) The compensation amount has not been paid to the workmen. It is reported that it has been deposited in Bhagalpur. The workers have no knowledge about it, (e) The workers injured are being discharged from the hospitals under the pressure of the management in order to show that their injuries were not serious.

The Minister of Energy deliberately misled the House, and I demand that his payment, etc., and jobs to dependents should be immediately made and the injured workers should be properly treated.

If it is not done within 48 hours, it becomes a matter of privilege. It is a shame that here is a Minister who gives the assurance that the payment has been made on the 16th June—today it is August 8th—that the workers have been paid the compensation, gratuity, leave wages, etc., and they have been hospitalised... (*Interruptions*). If the Minister deliberately lies in the House, I demand your protection. This should immediately be brought to the notice of the Energy Minister. This is a matter of privilege.

SHRI P. RAMAMURTI (Tamil Nadu): If the Minister takes the plea that this is the information he has got, then in that case he can only protect himself by ordering the dismissal of all those officers, otherwise he cannot take protection under the plea that he has been misled. If he has been misled, he must immediately dismiss all the officers who misled him. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal): I take serious note of what Shri Kalyan Roy has said. Now, certain things must be observed. We are supposed to have a Government that works. And we are having a Government that behaves in this manner in the shape of the Minister... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This is the information from the Union. The Minister has not made any statement on this. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I am not saying that. Kindly consider it. Ask the Minister as to why he behaves like this. Now, if he has another explanation, he can give under the cover of personal explanation. He should not get away. He should say whether what Mr. Kalyan Roy has stated is true or not.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: I put up a challenge here.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Let him come and challenge him, otherwise he should be branded as one who utters lies. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM (Tamil Nadu): I have a word about it.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, please.

SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM: I fully support what has been stated by my hon. friends... (*Interruptions*). This matter should be very seriously investigated and inquired into by you. If the Minister is in the wrong, there is a clear case of privilege against the Minister. You being the presiding officer, it is your responsibility to direct the Minister to make proper statements.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It has been brought to the notice of the Government. It will not be proper to take any step at this stage.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENT RE: GOVERNMENT BUSINESS ..**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SITA RAM KESARI): With your permission. Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business in this House during the remaining part of the Session will consist of:—