

is, it comes to a situation like this. I do not want to highlight the failure of the employment exchanges as the main contributory factor.

*345. [Transferred to the 30th June, 1980].

*346. [The questioner (Prof. Ram Lal Parikh) was absent. For answer vide col. 33 infra].

Sale of Commercial Space by M/s. Nehru Place Hotel Ltd., Nehru Place, New Delhi

*347. SHRI SYED RAHMAT ALI: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that M/s. Nehru Place Hotel Ltd., Nehru Place, New Delhi has collected Rs. 89,67,236.35 from public in the form of earnest money for sale of commercial space in the plot originally auctioned by the DDA on 17-3-76 for the construction of a 3—5 star hotel;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to safeguard the money deposited by public as earnest money?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI MOHAMMED USMAN ARIF): (a) Government are not aware that Messers Nehru Place Hotel Ltd., Nehru Place, New Delhi has collected Rs. 89,67,236.35 from the public in the form of earnest money for sale of commercial space in the plot auctioned by the D.D.A. on 17-3-1976. However D.D.A. has reported that it had come to their notice that the auction purchasers were selling commercial space without obtaining the permission of the D.D.A.

(b) and (c) It is understood from the DDA that there are some court cases in this connection and the matter is *sub judice*.

श्री संयद रहमत अली : क्या यह सही है कि लैंड यूज के चेंज करने में बी० डी० ए० ने इन मसलहतों को काम में लाया है और यह जानता चाहता हूँ कि

क्रिमिनल कंप्लेंट्स जो कोर्ट में कम्पनी के खिलाफ फाइल किये गये हैं, उसमें बी० डी० ए० की जानिब से रिलेवेंट डाक्यूमेंट्स पेश करना पब्लिक मफाद के खिलाफ जाहिर किया गया है ?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Any privilege claimed about the document in the court?

SHRI P. C. SETHI: I do not have any such information that the DDA has claimed any privilege. To the best possible extent I will take the information from them and pass it on to the hon. House through the supplementary.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Any further supplementary?

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: The hon. Minister has not answered part (c) of the question, namely, what steps Government propose to take to safeguard the money deposited by public as earnest money? I know this being a matter for DDA, the Government may not directly come into the picture. But has the Government any indirect way of protecting the interest of the public?

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is a very important question.

SHRI P. C. SETHI: Yes, Sir. You have guided me and, therefore, it has become much more important.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have said it very correctly. Now, what is the answer?

SHRI P. C. SETHI: This is a deal between the company and those who have paid the money to them. If they have given more money to the company, then on that issue both of them are in the court. That is a court case between them and the party. Therefore, the DDA on their part cannot protect those who have paid more money. What the DDA can do and what they are trying to do is that in terms of the original lease deed if the person has not completed the building within three years and if he has not

yet started it, the total land use incidental to the Hotel we would like to permit only that much. Whatever has transpired, 25 per cent was agreed to by some authorities. We are examining that issue. The Nehru Place Hotel Ltd. is given five acres for development of a five-star hotel and 5 acres are required only for that.

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: What about the money deposited by the people? To that question he has not given a reply.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Pardon me for my pun. Mr. Reddy, you are always ready with a question. But take my permission first. All right. Now, you go on.

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: He has not given any clear answer to part (c). What steps Government propose to take to safeguard the money deposited by public as earnest money? What about that money?

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is the question which Mr. Goswami has asked.

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: But he has not replied.

SHRI P. C. SETHI: I have explained it very clearly. That earnest money or whatever they have paid, they have not paid to DDA. Therefore, DDA does not take the responsibility for what they have paid to the party. What we are concerned about is that this site was given for the hotel in a requisite form and if that condition is not fulfilled we are even prepared to go to the extent of cancelling the licence. The whole matter is under review and examination.

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: So, the public has to suffer.

SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD NANDA: The Delhi Development Authority came into existence in 1957 and I understand that rules have not been framed to settle land with people. The DDA settled this land with the Nehru Place Hotel Limited and they were given 5 acres for a specific purpose. This company has

collected huge amount which is mentioned in the question itself. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what steps the Government has taken, apart from instituting a criminal case against the Nehru Place Hotel Limited. What steps has the Government taken to recover this money from the hoteliers and to give back this money to the persons who have given the money to the hoteliers for settlement with regard to this piece of land?

SHRI P. C. SETHI: We have no idea as to how much money they have given to the concerned people or to the auctioneers.

SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD NANDA: You have no idea?

SHRI P. C. SETHI: How can I have? It is a deal between two parties and they have paid some money.

SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD NANDA: But the DDA is directly under the Government.

SHRI P. C. SETHI: Sir, if the honourable Member pays something to somebody else. I am not responsible.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes. Next question. Question No. 348. One more question we can go through. Yes, Mr. Chathunni Master.

Support Price of Agricultural Products

***348. SHRI K. CHATHUNNI MASTER:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the support price fixed for wheat, paddy, sugarcane, cotton, onions, potatoes and other cereals and pulses in various States, State-wise; and

(b) what is the difference between the support price and market price of the said item, State-wise, during 1st January, 1979 to March, 31st 1980 month-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(b) The procurement/support price relates to fair average quality of each of the above agricultural commodities whereas market prices vary from