

RAJYA SABHA

Tuesday, the 5th February, 1980 | the
16th Magha, 1901 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the
clock, Mr. Chairman in the Chair.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the All India Handloom Fabrics Marketing Cooperation Society Limited, Bombay for the years ended the 30th June, 1977 and 30th June, 1978 and related Papers.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

(i) Twenty-second Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the All India Handloom Fabrics Marketing Cooperative Society Limited, Bombay for the year ended the 30th June, 1977. [Placed in Library See N. LT-334|80].

(ii) Twenty-third Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the All India Handloom Fabrics Marketing Cooperative Society Limited, Bombay, for the year ended the 30th June, 1978.

(iii) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) and (ii) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-80 for (i) and (ii)].

Summary of Conclusions and Recommendations, as contained in the Report (January 25, 1980) of Shri Justice C. A. Vaidialingam.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH): Sir, on behalf of Shri Yogendra Makwana, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Summary of Conclusions and Recommendations, as contained in the Report (January 25, 1980) of Shri Justice

C. A. Vaidialingam, Special Judge, regarding the corruption charges against the family members of the former Prime Minister (Shri Morarji Desai) and the family members of the former Home Minister (Shri Charan Singh), together with a statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for not laying simultaneously the Hindi version of the document. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-336|80]

SHRI DINESH SINGH (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, on this subject of papers laid on the Table, in respect of the paper laid by Shri Bhishma Narain Singh on behalf of Shri Makwana, I would like to make a request. Since the House is adjourning today and there would not be an occasion to lay the full report on the Table of the House till the next session of Parliament, may I make a request to the Government that a copy of the full report is placed in Parliament Library so that Members could make a reference to it?

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI (Maharashtra): Sir, I have to submit to you that we gave a privilege motion yesterday. What is your decision on that privilege motion? I wanted to know about it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have not acceded to that privilege motion.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: You have not accepted it?

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. I have not given my consent. I have given my opinion on it.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: The point that I had raised should be disposed of first.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal): Sir, I have a submission on that point. Sir, you said you would consider the Rajya Sabha Resolution of August 10, 1978 on the subject on which Shri Makwana has laid on

the Table a summary of the report, namely, the Report of Shri Justice C. A. Vaidialingam. What I submit to you is, you should kindly consider the Resolution. Sir, the Resolution has two aspects—(1) that the Chairman should appoint a Committee of this House. You said, the earlier Chairman...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I assure you that the file came to me yesterday, but it came in connection with a privilege motion. But I will get hold of that file now and before the House assembles again, I shall have gone through it.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I am not talking about the privilege motion.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no, I shall go through the file, see the Resolution to which you refer; see the whole history of the thing and then decide what action is open to me, and what action is open to the Government.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: It is for your consideration. Now that the Government has laid on the Table of the House a summary, I make a submission to the Government through you. You decide whatever you have to say; we shall naturally obey. My submission to the Government through you, apropos the report of the summary he has laid is this that I do not know as to why the summary should be laid only. The full text should have been made available to the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I may tell you that the report is of several hundred pages, 500 pages. The Government wants to study it and then, for the moment, you know the conclusion.

SHRI PILOO MODY (Gujarat): Provided it has not come in the press. Having come in the press, the study is severely restricted by public information...

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: We want to know why...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Mody, the bulk of that report is very frightening; it would not be possible...

SHRI PILOO MODY: You know, I have never been frightened by the bulk, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I refer to the bulk of the volume.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I demand, Government should consider this; Government should consider the suggestion of the Rajya Sabha which has two aspect. One is, a Committee of the House or a Commission. Now, I find Shri Vaidialingam recommended a Commission. Hon. Members also want it. I have no objection if a Commission is appointed. Therefore, if the Government does not agree to suggest to you that a committee of the House should be appointed to go into these allegations, then the Government should *suo motu* immediately appoint a commission under the Commissions of Inquiry Act. Sir, I have before me—and that would be very edifying for the House—transcript of the tape-recorded statement of Mr. P. N. Balasubramaniam which would throw more light on this report. I will just read it to you. I am ready to place it on the Table of the House. Sir, it is said by Mr. Balasubramaniam, who claims to be a friend of the Morarji Desai family for twenty years, how he got four Gupta brothers of Jalpur, took them to the residence of the High Commissioner in London, made them meet Mr. Morarji Desai and Mr. Kantj Desai, and the deal was that COFEPOSA warrants against them would be withdrawn provided they paid Rs. one crore to Mr. Kanti Desai. (Interruptions) The money was paid.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Gupta, you have only a copy of the summary in

your hand. May I request you to study the whole report?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: The Government should make the position clear.

MR. CHAIRMAN: At the moment the Government would not be in a position to say what action would be taken on it.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, I have got copies of letters dated the 29th October, 1979 addressed to the President of India and the 19th August, 1979 addressed to the then Prime Minister, Mr. Charan Singh, confessing it. Now, Sir, these letters are revealing. It is a very serious matter, and should be immediately looked into. I do not know what will happen. Mr. Balasubramaniam says he got out of that Rs. 33 lakhs as his share and he says many other things. It is said in the presence of the Indian press materials worth Rs. 1,55,000 were presented to Mr. Kanti Desai and those were brought in the baggage of the then Prime Minister. (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Home Minister, if you give an assurance to look into it, that would be quite enough.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, this is a very serious allegation. I demand immediate action in the light of the statement that I have got. You can read that statement. It is the text of a tape-recorded statement.

MR. CHAIRMAN: May I tell you that your eloquence is being wasted? They have had only 48 hours with that 500-page report. So what action they are going to take, they will decide. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Therefore, we are asking that they should decide it. That the report is a 500-page report is not the issue. All these matters have been brought before the House. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: People on this side, Mr. Rabi Ray and others, have been Ministers in the other Government. You know that you cannot decide matters instantly. Therefore, you must give them a little breathing time also.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, I understand we are adjourning today. (*Interruptions*) Since we are adjourning today, the Government should announce that a commission of inquiry will be appointed. (*Interruptions*) He said he will inquire into it. Inquire into what? (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am afraid, you cannot out-talk Mr. Bhupesh Gupta. You better sit down while he finishes.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, I am very grateful to you. You please sit down. Let me deal with them. You will not be able to deal with them in a mild manner.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: All that I am saying is that now that a summary has been placed on the Table of the House, what is the difficulty in placing a copy of the report in the Library of Parliament?

SHRI PILOO MODY: Unless there is something *mala fide*, what is the difficulty? (*Interruptions*) What is the difficulty in placing it there? (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just a minute. It is a small point: if you have placed the summary, why not place the report itself? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I suggest, pending an enquiry, the Gupta brothers of Jaipur should be immediately interrogated. One crore of rupees they paid to Mr. Kanti Desai.

श्री नागेश्वर प्रसाद शाही (उत्तरप्रदेश) :
100 पेज की हो या 5000 पेज की उसको

यहाँ रखने से सरकार के विचार करने में कोई बाधा उत्पन्न नहीं होगी। (Interruptions)

श्री सभापति : अरे भाई, सुनो तो कुछ।

गृह मंत्री (जानी जैल सिंह) : सभापति जी, कल मैंने प्रार्थना की थी कि यह सारी रिपोर्ट छपवा कर या साइक्लोस्टाइल करवा कर अगले सेशन के पहले दिन सदन के पटल पर रख दी जाएगी। लेकिन डिफ़िकल्टी यह है कि 500 पेज की रिपोर्ट है और एक ही कापी मेरे पास पहुँची है। गवर्नमेंट ने उसको देखना भी है लीडर आफ़ दी अपोजीशन जानते हैं उनके पास बड़ी बड़ी रिपोर्ट्स आती रही हैं। पहले गवर्नमेंट उसकी कंसीडर करती है और फिर सदन के सामने रखती है। लीडर आफ़ दी अपोजीशन ने कल माना था और मैंने आपके आदेश और हाउस के सेंटिमेंट्स को ध्यान में रखते हुये उस रिपोर्ट की समरी आज सदन के पटल पर रख दी है। हमारे सी० पी० आई० के लीडर श्री भूपेश जी ने कुछ बातें कहीं हैं सरकार उनकी बातों को ध्यान में रखेगी। किसी के साथ गैर-मुतासिब कार्यवाही नहीं करेंगे, न किसी के साथ विडिक्टिवनेस करेंगे और न ही किसी का लिहाज करेंगे।

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I am very glad that he has referred to my name.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think it is a very fair statement which the hon. Minister has made. He has only one copy. If that is placed in the Library, what is the Government going to do?

SHRI RABI RAY (Orissa): Why did he not get three copies?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I volunteer. If you do not have your Secretariat, let the copy be given to me. I will have it multiplied.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I can see your point. (Interruptions)

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: It is not a matter of copying.

SHRI RABI RAY: The copy can be xeroxed immediately.

SHRI PILOO MODY: It was not a fair statement at all.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I want an assurance that a commission of inquiry will be appointed. The Gupta brothers should be immediately interrogated. Here, Sir, is a confessional statement about the Gupta brothers. They have paid one crore of rupees in the residence of the High Commissioner of India in London. Mr. P. N. Balasubhamanian himself took him to his house.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please hear me. I do not think the hon. Home Minister can on his own responsibility give an assurance of any type. It is a Cabinet matter. I do not think that you can get any assurance from him, nor do I invite him to do so.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: All right, Sir. After a fortnight.

SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN (Uttar Pradesh): I do not know whether the hon. Home Minister has ever heard of Xerox and Xerox copies. If he has heard of it, then, in that case, he must know that even a 500-page book can be Xeroxed in one day and that, therefore, there should not be any difficulty. The Government can go on studying that report and think of what action it wants to take. But there should be no difficulty in placing a Xerox copy of that report in the Library of Parliament within a single day or two days.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I have your permission Sir? May I lay these papers on the Table of the House?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Till yesterday nothing was to be placed on the Table

except on the opening day of the next session, for reasons which I do not wish to give here because it is not necessary—The leader of the Opposition was also there—it has been very good of them to have at least placed the summary so that you do not have to read the newspapers. And having done that, give them a little time. I know Xeroxing can be done, but then probably the newspapers will publish the report before everybody else.

SHRI PILOO MODY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, may I make one submission to you? (*Interruptions*) This report has emanated from a resolution of this House. This report has not emanated from any action taken by Government.

THE LEADER OF THE HOUSE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): No, no.

SHRI PILOO MODY: It has emanated from a resolution of this House. Therefore, any consideration of this report by Government is something that has nothing to do with whatever is required in order to pursue the resolution of the House.

श्री योगेन्द्र शर्मा (बिहार) : सर, मेरा निवेदन यह है कि हमारे गृह मंत्री महोदय सिर्फ सिंह ही नहीं हैं सिर्फ जैल ही नहीं हैं बल्कि ज्ञानी भी हैं और इसलिए हम इनसे यह ज्ञान चाहते हैं कि इनके पास सिर्फ जो एक कापी है वह टाइप कापी है, साइक्लोस्टाइल कापी है या मैनुस्क्रिप्ट कापी है। एक कापी तभी हो सकती है यदि यह मैनुस्क्रिप्ट हो। जरूर वह कापी टाइप की हुई होगी और यदि टाइप की हुई होगी तो कई एक प्रतियां होंगी और जब कई प्रतियां होंगी तो हम यह बात मानने के लिए तैयार नहीं हैं। यह सामान्य बुद्धि की बात है कि एक ही कापी इनके पास नहीं है।

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Sir, would you allow me? (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you believe anybody's word or not in this House? The hon. Minister for Home Affairs . . .

SHRI PILOO MODY: Certainly not the Minister.

MR. CHAIRMAN: . . . is a respectable member of this House at the moment. He is making a statement that he has got one copy. I will accept that statement.

SHRI PILOO MODY: Three copies have to be submitted to the Government. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think that is enough. We shall proceed to the next item. Special Mentions. Mr. Shahi.

एक माननीय सदस्य : श्रीमन्, यह
बाब . . . (*Interruptions*)

श्री सभापति : आ जाएंगे आपके पास।
काहे को परेशान हैं।

श्री योगेन्द्र शर्मा : मान्यवर, मैंने पूछा है कि वह मैनुस्क्रिप्ट कापी है, साइक्लोस्टाइल है या टाइप कापी है। ज्ञानी जो से ज्ञान चाहता हूं।

श्री सभापति : सुनिये, इतना जब झगड़ा होता है तो मुझे महेन्द्र सिंह वेदी का एक शेर याद आता है जो सुनाता हूं :

पहले बेचैन था उस बज्ज में जाऊं क्यों कर।
अब पशेमान हूं कि काश न आया होता ॥

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, one thing you have not clarified. We wanted to know if the copy is a typed copy or a cyclostyled copy. If it is a cyclostyled copy, many copies must have been taken. One does not make a few copies by cyclostyling. You understand it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, I understand it.

श्री रबी राय (उड़ीसा) : उन्होंने बड़ाहट से कह दिया कि एक कापी है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing precludes the hon. Home Minister from giving a copy even earlier than the date which he has mentioned, namely, the first day of the next session. If he can manage it, he will do it.

SHRI B. D. KHOBRAGADE (Maharashtra): That is entirely a different question. The question is whether the hon. Minister has got more copies. If it is a cyclostyled copy, then he has got more copies and there should be no difficulty. The question is very simple, whether it is a manuscript copy or a typed copy or a cyclostyled copy.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am quite sure that if a copy is placed in the Library, out of 244 Members, 240 will not have read it.

SHRI B. D. KHOBRAGADE: That is a different question.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: That is not necessary.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now I will call Mr. Shahi.

SHRI PILOO MODY: I assure, Sir, the Home Minister will never read it.

श्री नागेश्वर प्रसाद शाही : चेयरमैन साहब, मैं स्पेशल मेंशन शुरू करने के पहले यह जरूर निवेदन करूंगा कि आप इस सदन के कस्टोडियन हैं। आप सुप्रीम कोर्ट के जज रह चुके हैं। आप जानते हैं कि आप जब जजमेंट स्टेनो को डिक्टेट करते हैं और वह जाता है तो एक कापी नहीं टाइप करता है। यह कहना कि एक ही कापी है, अनुचित बात है। इसलिए यह सदन के साथ ज्यादाती है।

श्री सभापति : आप कोई दूसरा काम करेंगे या इस रिपोर्ट को ही लिए बैठे रहेंगे।

श्री नागेश्वर प्रसाद शाही : यह कहना कि एक ही कापी है, यह सदन के साथ ज्यादाती है।

श्री भा० दे० खोबरागडे : क्या साइक्लो-स्टाइल कापी है, यह पूछिए ?

REFERENCE TO THE REPORTED SHORTAGE OF DIESEL FOR IRRIGATION IN UTTAR PRADESH

श्री नागेश्वर प्रसाद शाही (उत्तर प्रदेश) : श्रीमन्, मेरा स्पेशल मेंशन यह है कि जैसे सभी को ज्ञात है कि सूखे के कारण उत्तर प्रदेश में खरीब की सारी फसल बर्बाद हो गई है। अब लोगों का सहारा केवल रबी की फसल का रह गया है। रबी की फसल के लिए आवश्यक है कि सिंचाई की पूरी व्यवस्था हो और सिंचाई की व्यवस्था के लिए क्योंकि पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश में विशेषकर के नहरों की बहुत कमी है, पब्लिक ट्यूबवैल्स की भी बहुत कमी है, लोग अपने प्राइवेट ट्यूबवैल्स और पम्पिंग सेट्स डीजल से चलाते हैं और डीजल के सहारे ही सिंचाई हो रही है।

इधर, श्रीमन्, लगभग दो हफ्ते से डीजल की सप्लाई बिल्कुल बन्द कर दी गई है। उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार ने केन्द्रीय सरकार और केन्द्रीय मंत्री महोदय से निवेदन किया कि जैसे भी संभव हो, उत्तर प्रदेश को डीजल की आपूर्ति की जाये। इस सिंचाई में दिसम्बर महीने में लगभग एक लाख टन डीजल खर्च हुआ था। उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार ने निवेदन किया कि कम से कम पचास हजार टन हमको जनवरी के लिए दिया जाए और करीब इतना ही फरवरी के लिए दिया जाए। अगर यह डीजल नहीं मिलेगा तो रबी की फसल के सूख जाने से करीब 500 करोड़ रुपए का अन्न जो है वह बर्बाद हो जाएगा।