

यह स्थिति है कि अनाज के बदले काम में लगभग सारी बेकारी गावों में मिट चुकी है, मजदूर भी बहुत कम संख्या में बाकी रह गये हैं जो कि बेकार हो इसलिए मैं मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि राजस्थान ने अब तक कितना अनाज उठाया है, इस योजना के अन्तर्गत और उसकी कितनी मांग अभी बकाया है जिसकी पूर्ति नहीं जा रही है। इसके परिणामस्वरूप जो वहाँ पर काम चल रहे हैं वे काम लगभग रुक गये हैं। इसलिए मैं मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि उस मांग की पूर्ति कब तक करने का उनका विचार है ?

श्री भानु प्रताप सिंह : राजस्थान सरकार ने कुल 2,61,000 टन की मांग की थी जिसमें से उन्हें 2,28,000 टन दिया जा चुका है और शेष 31,000 टन आजकल में दिया जाने वाला है। इस प्रकार से जो उनका साल का अनुमान था वह पूरे का पूरा दिया जा रहा है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

SHRI AMARPROSAD CHAKRABORTY: Sir, one clarification.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now 20 minutes have passed.

SHRI AMARPROSAD CHAKRABORTY: I am only asking for one clarification.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please tell me how many questions I should take up in the whole hour. (Interruptions) All right. Then don't complain that I have not covered more questions. Put your supplementary. (Interruptions) They themselves come and complain that I am not taking up more questions and they insist... (Interruptions).

SHRI AMARPROSAD CHAKRABORTY: The sand accumulated as a result of floods arising out of a natural calamity in Bengal has to be removed. Just now he said whether the *thika-*

dari system would be introduced or not, would be decided by the States. But in the case of removal of sand and construction of buildings, why this double standard?

AN HON. MEMBER: Next question.

SHRI AMARPROSAD CHAKRABORTY: Yes, next questions. But I only want to ask the clarification and he has allowed it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you want to clarify?

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH: Sir, I have nothing to clarify except to state again that flood relief or relief from any other calamity is undertaken under some other separate scheme. This scheme is meant for creating durable assets for community use in the villages.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has already replied to the same thing. Next question.

Bifurcation of the North-Eastern postal zone and telecommunication circle

*222. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Director-General, Posts and Telegraphs issued Orders to the Postmaster General, Shillong to bifurcate the present North-Eastern postal zone and telecommunication circle and constitute a separate postal and telecommunication circle at Gauhati;

(b) what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when the proposed Assam Circle at Gauhati is likely to come into operation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR SHARMA: Now, Sir, the hon. Minister's categorical answer to part (a) of the question is 'No'. Now as back as 1972, this demand for a separate Circle at Gauhati was accepted by the then Minister of Communications and also approved by the then PMG of the North-Eastern Circle. It is a very surprising thing to note that the Minister now says that there is no proposal for bifurcation. May I take it that there is some conspiracy going on in the PMG's office or in the Secretariat here to stop that bifurcation and make the whole posts and telegraph system inefficient in that area? This region comprises about 97,000 sq. kilometres consisting of five States and two Union Territories. The present Circle at Shillong has completely failed to function efficiently. In that whole area, a letter takes seven to eight days just to cover 200 kilometres and the telegrams are also more often than not sent by post; and about the telephones the less said the better—for 12 hours in a day the telephones remain dead. May I ask the hon. Minister to look into his departmental decision taken earlier and give the correct information to the House?

श्री नरहरी प्रसाद सुखदेव सई : सभापति जी, इस मामले में जो भूतपूर्व मंत्री थे उन्होंने एगजामिन करवाया था लेकिन जहाँ पर वर्क लोड नहीं है वहाँ इसको स्वीकार नहीं किया गया है और ऐसा कोई आदेश शासन की तरफ से नहीं हुआ है कि यह वाइफरकेट हो। इस समय शासन ने यह निर्णय लिया है, डिसेंट्रलाइजेशन की पालिसी के तहत में कि गोहाटी में पोस्टल डाइरेक्टर की नियुक्ति की जाएगी और टेलीफोन के बारे में वहाँ के डाइरेक्टर की नियुक्ति की जाएगी जिससे कि जो असन्तोष है उसका निराकरण हो जाएगा और यह एक अप्रैल से चालू हो जाएगा।

SHRI AJIT KUMAR SHARMA: I want to know specifically from the Minister whether in 1972 this proposal was taken up and a decision was

arrived at, and the PMG there approved the decision to have a separate circle at Gauhati.

श्री नरहरी प्रसाद सुखदेव सई : ऐसा कोई डिसेजन नहीं लिया गया है।

SHRI KHYOMO LOTH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the only remedy for making the postal and telecommunication system in the North-Eastern Zone efficient is to shift the head office, the zonal head office from the Regional Head Office from Shillong to another place, that is, Dimapur which is a central place of the North-Eastern region. Sir, all the regional and zonal offices are in Shillong or in Gauhati. The North-Eastern region is not Shillong and Gauhati only. We have to locate this office, the headquarters, in a centrally located place. The North-Eastern region has five States and two Union Territories. We have to see to this. Therefore, I want to ask from the Minister whether for making it efficient and improving the working of the telecommunication and postal system, the centre of the regional zonal headquarters will be shifted from Shillong to Dimapur in Nagaland.

श्री नरहरी प्रसाद सुखदेव सई : सभापति जी, यह जो नार्थ-ईस्टर्न सर्किल है उसका हेडक्वार्टर जहाँ पी० एम० जी० रहते हैं, वह शिलांग ही है। जवा कि माननीय सदस्य ने कहा कि जहाँ तक वर्कलोड है, वर्कलोड फुलफिल नहीं होता है जितना होना चाहिये, इसलिए पी० एम० जी० के आफिस को अभी शिलांग में ही रखेंगे और जो जो भी मुख्य स्थान है वहाँ हम डायरेक्टर पोस्ट करेंगे और उसको यह पावर देंगे कि वह पोस्टल साइड और टेलीफोन साइड में भी इस एरिया की पूरी रजिस्ट्रेशन देखें।

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Sir, it is always said by the Central Government that the North-Eastern region is a sensitive region, but we have got a feeling that the Ministries are extremely insensitive to this region.

Sir, yesterday, I made a phone call to Gauhati at 6 o'clock in the afternoon. I was told at 9 o'clock in the night that the line was out of order. This morning I made a phone call. I was told that the line was out of order. When I rang 188, I was told that the line was in order. When I rang again after two hours, I was told that the line was out of order. Now this is the position to which we have been reduced. I would like to have a categorical answer from the hon. Minister whether it is the policy of the Government to decentralise the P&T Circle Headquarters on an all-India basis and whether it is their policy that the existing Circle Headquarters should also be decentralised to relieve pressure from the increasing workload caused due to the phenomenal expansion and development of the P&T activities.

The Minister has said that there was no workload. I would like to know what the workload is in Assam and what is the workload in the other four States. Is it not a fact that out of the entire workload, 80 per cent earning comes from Assam and that you do not want to shift the headquarters from Shillong—I am making a definite allegation against the General Manager, Telecommunications Circle, Shillong, Mr. A. K. Gupta and others—because they do not want to come from Shillong because of its cool and salubrious climate and because if they come to Gauhati, they would be in the glare of public scrutiny? Therefore, I want to know what the justification is for not shifting the Headquarters from Shillong to Gauhati in spite of the fact that the entire workload is in Assam and 80 per cent of its earnings comes from Assam.

श्री नरहरी प्रसाद मुखर्जी : जैसा मैंने कहा है, वहाँ वर्कलोड नहीं है। इसलिए अभी गोहाटी में नहीं दे सकते हैं और आपने जो स्पेसिफिक . . .

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him reply.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Will he give workload in different regions?

श्री नरहरी प्रसाद मुखर्जी : सर्किल वहाँ गोहाटी में नहीं कर रहे हैं।

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: He has said that there is no workload. Will he say what the workload is? Let us know that. By merely saying that there is no workload, I will not be satisfied.

MR. CHAIRMAN: When he says that there is no workload, what can I do? (Interruptions).— He will look into it.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: I am asking a definite question.

श्री नरहरी प्रसाद मुखर्जी : सभापति, जी, सर्किल के लिए वहाँ वर्क लोड नहीं है। इसलिए गोहाटी में हम नहीं खोल सकते हैं।

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Why is he avoiding my question. Will he kindly tell us the workload in Assam and the workload in the other five States and the two Union Territories? This is a specific question that I am asking.

श्री नरहरी प्रसाद मुखर्जी : अभी हमने जो पालिसी ले डाऊन की है डिसेन्ट्रलाइजेशन की, उसके अन्तर्गत जो मुख्य-मुख्य स्थान है वहाँ हम डाइरेक्टर की पोस्ट कर रहे हैं और ये 1 अप्रैल से हो जायेंगी . . .

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: Has he understood the question?

श्री नरहरी प्रसाद मुखर्जी : . . . और उनको पूरे पावर्स दिए जायेंगे।

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has understood the question.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: He has not understood.

MR. CHAIRMAN: His point is about the work-load. Have you studied the comparative work-load? Or, do you want notice?

श्री नरहरी प्रसाद सुखदेव साई : अभी नहीं दे सकता ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: He requires notice.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Let him say that he wants notice.

श्री नरहरी प्रसाद सुखदेव साई : अभी उसकी स्टेटिस्टिक्स मेरे पास नहीं है । नोटिस चाहिये ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has said it.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: I have made a specific allegation. He has not answered that question. I made a specific allegation that your officers do not want to come out of the salubrious and cool climate of Shillong because it is a hill resort and because, if they come out, they will come under the glare of public scrutiny at Gauhati. That is why the officers are not willing to come out. This is a specific allegation which I am making in this House with a certain amount of responsibility. Let him deny it.

श्री नरहरी प्रसाद सुखदेव साई : जिस अधिकारी के बारे में कह रहे हैं मैं वह एग्जामिन करवा लेता हूँ कि क्या है ?

श्री खुरशेद अलम खान : क्या मंत्री जी बतायेंगे एक वर्क-लोड है कि नहीं है ?

श्री यनुमाई यटेल : सभापति महोदय, कुछ पहाड़ी इलाके हैं जहाँ वर्क लोड के ख्याल से नहीं करना है क्योंकि वहाँ हमारी सीमा विस्तृत है, सरहद विस्तृत है, इसलिए डिफेन्स की दृष्टि से ख्याल करके सोचना है । तो

वर्कलोड का मेजर लाने की बजाए डिफेन्स का ख्याल कर के वहाँ कोई अलग सर्किल बनाने के लिए सरकार सोचें ?

श्री नरहरी प्रसाद सुखदेव साई : सभापति जी, मैंने स्पष्ट कर दिया है यह जो विकेन्द्रीयकरण किया है, डिसेंट्रलाइजेशन किया है, उसकी निस्वत हम लोगों ने इस बात पर विचार करके कि जो मुख्य मुख्य जगहें हैं वहाँ पर हम डाइरेक्टर पोस्ट करें हम कार्यवाही कर रहे हैं और जैसा आपने कहा उस पर भी विचार करेंगे ।

SHRI G. LAKSHMANAN: Sir, decentralisation has worked well to some extent. But I would make a suggestion to the Minister. Will he also agree that in each of the hill States, we must have a Division under a Director of Postal Services? If, instead of following the criterion or formula that is followed in other areas, you have in each hill State a Director, that is a Circle office but under the jurisdiction of a Director, if you accept this proposal, then everything will be solved and the complaint made by my colleague, Mr. Goswami, can be removed. Therefore, you must give special importance to the hill areas. There are a lot of complaints from the public and also from the workers. Therefore, will you agree that each hill State shall be under the jurisdiction of a Director?

श्री नरहरी प्रसाद सुखदेव साई : सभापति जी, जो हम लोगों की डिसेंट्रलाइजेशन की पालिसी है वह इसी नीयत से की गई है और इस पर भी विचार किया जा रहा है जो माननीय सदस्य ने कहा ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Have you followed? He is considering it.

SHRI G. LAKSHMANAN: Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.