

Department is committed to it, but no action has been taken on the question of gratuity. Then, medically unfit workers who have been working in the coalmines should be taken care of. People who have the knowledge known how they are affected with T B and various fell diseases. When they are medically unfit they should be given compensation, so that they can carry on with their life as long as they live. Now, Sir, gangster activities are going on. The management unofficially arm them with modern weapons and they go and kill the workers. They retrench workers en masse bringing in, through contractors, . . . new workers so that they may not pay the full amount. And in the Ranigun coal belt alone, 2436 workers have been evicted from the different collieries. The workers who have been evicted should be rehabilitated. These are the main demands which have been put forth by the different trade unions including the CITU which is working there. Now, the Government of India is sitting tight. No action has been taken. That is why I have taken your permission to mention it. I would like to see that the Labour Minister takes immediate action, Neither the Minister of Mines nor the Minister of Labour is present here. I do not know what action they will take. But as yet, nothing has been done except that some Regional Labour Commissioner had called a meeting which had failed because the employers had want only refused.

MR CHAIRMAN : You have mentioned all that.

SHRI MONORANJAN ROY : They are not going to pay the dearness allowance arrears, the current arrears. The arrears are a huge amount. Mr. Om Mehta, please inform the Labour Minister about the serious situation that will have to be faced by the entire eastern zone if the strike takes place. It is not the strike of a particular union but a strike of all the unions, the AITU, CINTUC, CITU and HMSC.

MR CHAIRMAN : You are repeating yourself. Please resume your seat.

SHRI MANORANJAN ROY : So, steps must be taken to protect the employees.

REFERENCE TO DEATHS DUE TO LOO

श्री नागेश्वर प्रसाद शाही (उत्तर प्रदेश) : श्रीमन्, मैं आपकी आज्ञा से इस सदन और सरकार का ध्यान इस बात की ओर दिलाना हूँ कि गत दस दिनों से आप सब लोग अखबार में पढ़ रहे होंगे कि उत्तरी भारत में, विशेषकर बिहार और उत्तर प्रदेश में हजारों आदमी लू से मर गये हैं। लू से वही लोग मरते हैं जिनके पेट में खाना नहीं होता है, घन हूनी होता और जिनके ऊपर छाया नहीं होती। कोई भी सम्पन्न आदमी लू से नहीं मरता है। गरीब आदमी, रिक़्शा खींचने वाला और मजदूर जिनके पास खाने को नहीं होता . . .

श्री सभापति : आपने कह दिया है और अब आप खतम कीजिये।

श्री नागेश्वर प्रसाद शाही : मैं सरकार का ध्यान इस बात की ओर दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि इन गरीबों लोगों के लिए राहत के कार्य सरकार की ओर से किये जाने चाहिये। सरकार की जो समाजवादी योजना है वह शोथी है।

संसदीय कार्य विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्री श्रीम मेहता) लू पर काबू पाने की अभी हमारे पास शक्ति नहीं आई है।

REFERENCE TO PRAJA SAHAKARI UDYOG BHARATPUR

DR BHAI MAHAVIR (Delhi) : Sir, with your permission, I would like to say— I am not asking about any thing new— that some days before I made a mention of a big firm which had fraudulently cheated people of lakhs of rupees and I had requested Mr. Mirdha to throw some light on it. He promised yesterday to give some information, whatever he has. If you permit, he may please tell us something on that.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Member raised this point a few days ago and he wanted to know as to what is happening regarding the point that he raised about Praja Sahkari Udyog, Bharatpur. This is essentially the concern of the State Government from whom we have obtained this information. On 3rd May, 1972 a case was registered under Section 420 IPC . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : 420 ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : . . . at Bharatpur with respect to some activities connected with this cooperative society.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR : A cooperative society ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : This concerns a cooperative society and not the State Government in any way. Later on, with the permission of the court, a case under Section 468 (forgery for the purpose of cheating) has also been added. The case is being investigated. Warrants of arrest have been issued against the persons concerned. One of them has already been arrested.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR : Have you frozen the funds ? People had deposited lakhs of rupees. Have you taken care to freeze the funds ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Our information is that the funds in the banks have been frozen.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Dr. Mahavir, are you satisfied ? Then, the Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 1972.

THE CRIMINAL LAW (AMENDMENT) BILL 1972

SHRI PITAMBER DAS (Uttar Pradesh) : Before Mr. Mirdha introduces his Bill, I have a submission to make. You can take it as a point of order or a mere

submission. Rule 69 clearly lays down that no discussion can take place until after the expiry of two days after the distribution of the copies of the Bill. As is very well known, the copies of the Bill had been distributed only yesterday. So, ordinarily no motion for consideration can be made today. At the same time the rule provides that the Chairman can allow a motion to be made, which means that the discretion vests in the Chair. But I also know that the Chair never exercises the discretion arbitrarily. It is supposed to be exercised judiciously. So, Sir, I would request you to take the House into confidence and tell us as to what were those considerations which prompted you to go out of the way and follow a procedure not ordinarily permitted by the rules. Although I know that it is not necessary for you to tell us that still I think it is better if you tell us as to why this Bill is being allowed to be introduced even against the rule.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yesterday, the House knew and it was for that reason that the session was extended for today because this Bill was coming today. I have permitted it. You cannot ask me the reasons. I have dispensed with the notice.

SHRI PITAMBER DAS : I would like to know one thing. So far as the question of the House knowing it yesterday that the Bill was to be taken up today is concerned, the Bill was put up on the Order Paper much earlier than the House knew it. The very fact that you allowed it to be put on the Order Paper, about that I would like to know as to what were the considerations that you allowed it to be put on the Order Paper of the same day.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes, Mr. Mirdha.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : I, beg to move :

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code, the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898 and the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967. . ."