

about 15,000 people are employed. The question of unemployment is seriously coming up there. The Andhra State is already in a state of drought. The question of unemployment there is coming up seriously, the reason being that the traffic in the port is gradually dwindling. I would like to mention a few figures in this connection. The figures in respect of the foodgrains in 1969-70 were 2,26,791 tonnes, whereas in 1970-71 these are 1,90,726. For fertilizers, the figure was 2,39,157 in 1969-70; in 1970-71 it is about 2 lakhs only, for Ferro Manganese in 1969-70 it was 55,904, in 1970-71 it is 46,418, for Chrome Ore it was about one lakh and seven thousand in 1969-70, whereas in 1970-71 it has come down to about 92,000, for big iron the figure for 1969-70 was 2,45,720, whereas for 1970-71 it has come down to 1,90,288, for iron and steel exports it was about 1,97,000 for 1969-70, whereas for 1970-71 it is about 1,71,000; and general cargo has come down from 55,000 to 49,000 tonnes. The total exports in 1970-71 were of the order of Rs 5,74,000 lakh these have now come down to 5,29,000. The employment ranged from 3 days to 10 days in a month. In some categories it is 6 days in a month; in some it is 4 days in a month. The maximum is 20 days; the lowest is 3 days in a month. The traffic is coming down. And serious steps must be taken by the Government in this regard. The main problem is that whereas the average requirement is 140 wagons a day, they supply only 40 wagons. Consequently, the cargo is not being removed from the port. Ships are being diverted to other ports.

I would like to mention one fact. At Kovur there is a fertilizer factory which imports sulphur from the Vizag port which is about 120 miles from Vizag port. Now efforts are being made to send them to Madras which is about 300 miles away. This should be stopped. The Government should take serious steps to see to it. Otherwise the whole handling by the mechanical process will cut down the employment to only one thousand, one thousand persons can manage the whole thing. So a serious situation has developed today. I bring it to the notice of the House as well as the Government to take necessary steps to avert this calamity.

REFERENCE TO TAKING AWAY OF SHRI DEEPAK BANERJEE, INDIAN JOURNALIST, BY PAKISTANI TROOPS

MR. CHAIRMAN · Mr. Mani.

SHRI A. D. MANI (Madhya Pradesh) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I had once raised the question of Mr. Deepak Banerjee, an Indian journalist, who was seized by the Pakistani troops on our territory and taken to Pakistan. The Minister of External Affairs stated in this House that according to his information Mr. Deepak Banerjee is alive. Mr. Deepak Banerjee's parents are here in Delhi and they are extremely anxious to know his whereabouts. It is not known in which jail he has been confined and under what law he has been detained. May I appeal to the Government that this matter should be immediately taken up by the Minister of External Affairs with the Pakistani authorities and he should be asked to tell us where Mr. Banerjee is detained and under what law he is being detained, so that his family may feel assured that Mr. Banerjee is alive?

I would also like to raise the question of payment of compensation to the family of Mr. Banerjee. Mr. Banerjee was an earning member of the family. But so far compensation has been paid to the family for the seizure of Mr. Banerjee from our territory by Pakistani troops.

REFERENCE TO AGITATION OF THE WEST BENGAL HEADMASTERS' ASSOCIATION FOR INTRODUCTION OF MONTHLY PAY PACKETS IN NON-GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE (West Bengal) : Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that the West Bengal Headmasters' Association is running a movement demanding the introduction of monthly pay packets in non-Government schools. Already 250 Headmasters and Headmistresses have courted arrest including Mr. Sitaram Mohato, one of the Ministers of the last Democratic Coalition Government.

The demand of the Headmasters' Association is not much; they want that

[Shri Pranab Kumar Mukherjee]

the Government should take the responsibility of paying the teachers in all non-Government schools on the first day of every month. Otherwise the entire education system, particularly the secondary education system in West Bengal is going to be paralysed. As at present West Bengal's administration is being done by the Government of India and as one of the Cabinet Ministers is in charge of West Bengal Affairs, I would request the Government of India to take up the matter immediately and come to a settlement with the Headmasters' Association so that the demonstration is withdrawn.

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REFERENCE TO REPORTED PAKISTANI FIRING, SHELLING, ETC., AT THE HALDIBARI BORDER IN WEST BENGAL

SHRI CHITTA BASU (West Bengal) : Sir, with your kind permission I wish to draw the attention of the House and particularly of the Minister of Defence to a telegram I have received from the Secretary, Haldibari Thana Forward Block, which reads :

“Pakistan firing, looting, kidnapping women and shelling on Haldibari border everyday. Yesterday they fired on civilians and B O P killing some. People feel panicky and moving inside. No defence from our side. Demand immediate military protection.”

Sir, I think this is not the only incident. The bellicosity of the Pakistanis is increasing and this House has already had the opportunity of discussing that matter. Since the House is adjourning *sine die* today, I urge upon the Government and, particularly, the Minister of Defence to immediately issue orders so that the people may not feel panicky and their morale could be boosted up.

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REFERENCE TO REPORTED MURDER OF FOURTEEN OR FIFTEEN PEOPLE IN CALCUTTA AND ITS SUBURBS

SHRI NIREN GHOSH (West Bengal) : Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the House to the newspaper

reports today which speak of gruesome murder of 14 or 15 people in Calcutta and the suburbs. It is reported by Mr. Debi Roy, Head of the Detective Department, that the mass murder was a sequel to the murder of a New Congress worker by Naxalites. In that reprisal some ten people have been murdered in Cossipore and there has been looting and arson also.

The reports do not speak of the party to which the murdered persons belong. I am afraid our boys have been murdered because the situation all over the State is such that whenever there is any conflict with the Naxalites, those of the Naxalites who do not listen to them,—with whom the Government of India is in dialogue—any reprisal is taken against our party. That is happening times without number.

[MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair]

I think it is time that the ruling party and the Government of India stopped this politics of murder. It is time they retraced their steps. In this connection I would like to know how these things take place because, at one time, two years back, the police stormed into the Assembly. They made mincemeat of chairs, microphones, etc. inside the House. Certainly, disciplinary measures were taken against some of them. But recently all of them have been reinstated, whereas those of the policemen who acted according to law, impartially, without any partisan behaviour, are being dismissed. 40 such policemen, including the General Secretary and other office-bearers of the Non-pageted Police Karamchari Samiti have been dismissed. 90 policemen have been murdered. Who are those? Those are the policemen who wanted to act according to law, in an impartial manner. And the members of this Samiti because they want to work in an impartial way, and not in collusion with the Naxalites or any other anti-social elements to murder political workers, that is their only offence for which 40 policemen have been dismissed. I wish the Government to take up this matter. It is not a matter of joke. These even when there is a President's regime, 90 policemen have been murdered, because they wanted to stop political murders and perhaps they acted in an impartial way to maintain law and order. That is the thing. Sir, to you I would like to hand over a memorandum