

legislature has passed unanimous Resolutions more than twice. Late Prime Ministers – Shrimati Indira Gandhi and Shri Rajiv Gandhi – had also promised that this issue will be settled. In all the successive elections right from 1956, border areas are continuously electing. *Maharashtra Ekikaran Samiti* Members as MLAs. They are conducting their agitation in a peaceful and democratic way.

Now, what is happening is that one of the MLAs from Belgaum Shri V.Y. Chavan has given a threat, saying that in spite of the democratic elections, since their voice are not being heard by the Government, he would do self-immolation. If he does it, again there will be a serious problem. Their main grievance is that there is cultural and educational assault on their social life by the Government of Karnataka.

So, I demand that the Prime Minister must intervene, he must call the Chief Ministers of Maharashtra and Karnataka and sort out the issue once and for all so that these things would not continue and the people in the border areas can remain in a peaceful way. That is my demand and the Government should make a statement on this. Thank you.

SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADYAY (Kishnagar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is reported in today's Press that negotiation is going on with the World Bank in Washington the enhancement of loan for the National Renewal Fund and that the top officials of the Industry Ministry are conducting the negotiations. It is because of the fact that a number of, not only the sick and chronically sick public sector units, but also the profit making public sector units like BHEL, MMTC, STC, etc. are also going to be included in the hit list which will make a huge number of workers redundant. The number will be much more bigger than what was contemplated earlier. Hence the need for enhancement of the

National Renewal Fund. The so-called Fund is nothing but an integral part of obnoxious exit policy. All the national trade unions, including INTUC, along with a vast section of public opinion, are against this National Renewal Fund. But despite that, Government is negotiating on that. They are making appeals one after another.

I request you to ask the Government to desist from such activities.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): Sir, it is reported in a section of Press today that some officials of the Industries Ministry of our Government are currently in Washington and having negotiations with the World Bank representatives. The issue is the question of increasing the National Renewal Fund quantum. It is very much related with the proposed exit policy of our country. The exit policy has not been properly defined by the Government as yet. This Parliament has not had the opportunity of knowing what are the different components of the exit policy which is hanging as a Damocles' sword on the heads of the working class as a whole.

It is further reported that Industries Ministry has prepared a detailed note in the matter of this Renewal Fund. This note incorporates the legal aspects. It incorporates the anticipated legal aspects. It incorporates the anticipated contribution from the Central Government, State Governments, financial institutions and private industries also. This note also includes the unitwise estimates of the surplus workers in various public sector undertakings. It is also hinted that the list of surplus workers will go beyond the 58 chronically sick units prepared by the Department of Public Enterprises. A note on it was circulated to the Members of Parliament by the Ministry of Labour.

In this case, I again bring it to your notice. Since this is a matter of policy, this Parliament has got the right to discuss about

the policy to accept it, to reject it, to modify it. Instead of placing before the Parliament for the final approval of this Parliament on a subject like exit policy, which affects the very large section of the working population of our country, the Government goes on starting negotiations.

This is a breach of propriety. This is in violation of the norms. (*Interruptions*) Therefore, I want that immediately the negotiations should be stopped and exit policy should be revealed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

SHIR CHITTA BASU: After that, with the approval of the Parliament, the matter may be taken up. It should be discussed by the Parliament before negotiations with any foreign agency. This is a question of sovereignty of the Parliament.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): Mr. Chairman, from the last year, there have been reports of military operations by the military regime of Burma on the borders of India and Bangladesh in the Arakan area. There have been horrifying reports about massacres and shifting of villagers. Consequently, there has been a stream of refugees both into India and Bangladesh. That has created a new focus of tension in this sub-continent and a threat to regional peace and security. The international community is already seized of the matter in the sense that the relief operations are being carried out with the help of international organisation. Mr. Chairman, Government of India which is committed to the pursuit of democratic values and peace in the region, have expressed their concern. But they have done precious little. I would like to request the Government of India, through you Sir, that as the largest State in the sub-continent, we have a definite responsibility. Therefore, we must do much more than what we have done and we should help to create a situation in which the

refugees can go back from the Indian soil, from the Bangladeshi soil back into the Burma or Myanmar. We hope that the Government of India shall use all good offices at its command to take diplomatic initiative, both bilaterally and internationally, in order to calm the troubled waters in our neighbourhood. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): Sir, the issue raised by the hon. Member is not only the question of refugees going back to Myanmar but the whole question of what is happening in Myanmar is worrying all the democratic people of our country. It is violation of democratic rights and all other forms of democracy. Now, Sir, we have expressed our moral support to the democratic movement in Myanmar before in this House. We have been receiving so many letters and appeals. I have a news with me that 85 year old former Prime Minister of Burma, Mr. U No, was placed under house arrest. An appeal has been made that we should join to demand the release of the leader of the Burmese people and also the courageous lady Suu Kyi who is also under house arrest. So, as the biggest democracy in the neighbourhood, we should give our moral support to their democratic movement and unequivocally condemn the violation of democratic rights in Myanmar. That is how, we should support the democratic movement of the people of Burma morally.

SHRI G.M.C. BALAYOGI (Amalapuram): Mr. Chairman Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to raise the following matter of public importance through you Sir, in the Zero Hour.

Yanam in Pondicherry State is the most neglected part being far away from the main area. There are no communication facilities nor any developmental activities in this area. People belonging to SC/ST and BC communities are not given any encouragement for their upliftment either socially and or eco-